

Baseball Trading

Objective:

To create the best baseball team possible by trading cards.

Key Concepts:

Data analysis, measurement, comparison

Real World Application:

Every day we have to make decisions such as which product is the better buy. By looking at a set of criteria and thinking through what makes a strong team, children can further develop an ability to make wise choices.

Target Age:

8 and up

Activity:

Materials:

CMH baseball cards

1. Talk about what makes a good baseball team.
2. Decide how many rounds of trading you will conduct in this session.
3. Deal 12 cards to each player.
4. Trade cards the number of rounds agreed upon.
5. Examine the team you built. Justify why your team will win the World Series.

Hints/Sample Questions:

What makes a strong team? Talk about individual player's strengths as compared to the entire team.

What is the advantage of trading one card for another card? Is there ever an advantage to trading two cards for one card?

What criteria might you use for deciding if your team was going to win the game?

Terms:

statistics
trading

Extensions:

1. Create other kinds of teams such as soccer, football, basketball or hockey teams.
2. Track the statistics of real players and build your own team. (baseball, hockey, football)

Differentiating for varied learners and settings:

Need more experience with this concept:

- Do an example before you start.
- Start with a smaller number of cards (just the infield or just the outfield).

Ready for more:

- Use real baseball cards (or other sporting cards) to construct a team.
- Devise a system for picking the best team no matter what the sport. Present it to others. Convince them that your system will always pick the best team.

Supplemental Resources

Tiger Math by Ann Whitehead Nagda

This innovative book uses graphs to tell the story of T.J., a Siberian tiger cub born at the Denver Zoo using real world terms. The story is accompanied by graphs on facing pages that chart T.J.'s growth. Different kinds of graphs track a variety of data.

Kidbits: More than 1,500 Eye-Popping Charts, Graphs, Maps, and Visuals

By Blackbirch Press Editors

An all-visual reference to present vital facts and statistics about kids specifically for kids. Kidbits lets kids see and understand more about interesting subjects that touch their lives.

Lemonade for Sale by Stuart J. Murphy

The Elm Street Kids' Club decides to sell lemonade to earn money to fix up their clubhouse. They use a graph to keep track of their sales.

