



Instructional Strategies in Correctional Education

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Session Overview

Safety and security in the classroom

Consistency and predictability

Structure

Content in context

Routines and schedules

Materials and supplies

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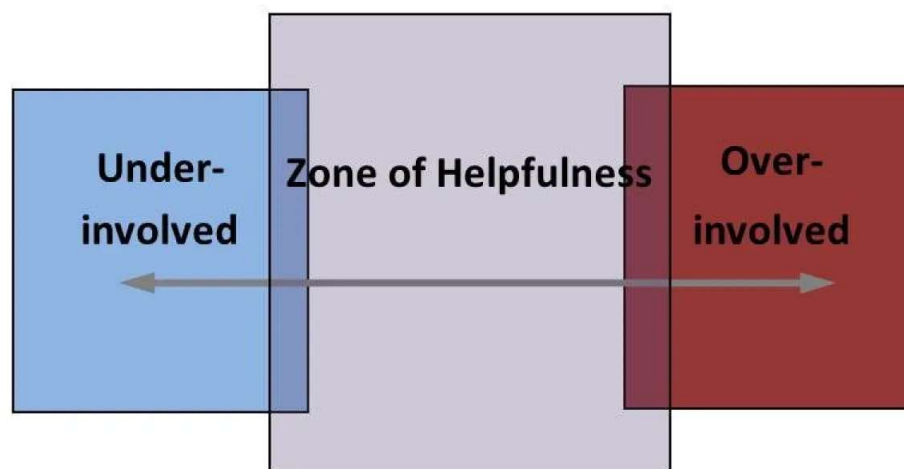
Safety and Security

Boundaries

Keep in mind, you can only be helpful to your students, if you remain in the zone of helpfulness.

Being under-involved does not allow for the type of professional relationship that you should have with your student.

Being over-involved can result in moving from a professional to a personal relationship is inappropriate and can be dangerous or illegal.



Keep yourself safe: Setting boundaries with inmates

[Lorry Schoenly, PhD, RN, CCHP](#)

<https://www.corrections1.com/correctional-healthcare/articles/>

A Document You'll Want to Read

"**Ducking**" is a prison slang term for a technique prisoners use to modify the behavior of correctional officers through manipulation and coercion.

The prison slang term for a prison staff member that has been manipulated is a "**duck**".

Ducking occurs when a prisoner becomes friendly with a prison staff member and then persuades the employee to break prison rules and laws.



Downing a Duck

<https://www.scribd.com/document/975228901/Downing-a-Duck-Manipulation-of-Prison-Staff>

Understanding the “Downing the Duck” Process

Signs of Staff Manipulation

- Over-familiarity
- Favoritism
- Isolation
- Defensiveness

Prevention Rules

- Maintain strict professionalism
- Enforce all rules equally
- Report every setup attempt

Structure in the Classroom

The Importance of Structure

Structure helps

- Minimize distractions
- Supports student engagement in learning
- Facilitates learning, especially for students who have problems with self-regulation

Classroom Layout

1. Arrange the room in such a way that you can see students at all time.
2. Set up traffic patterns so that movement is easy and does not result in distracting or disrupting other students.
3. Label and organize all materials so they can be easily accessed by the teacher and students.
4. Set up a process that everyone follows for accessing materials.



New Students

- Set expectations the first day
- Share schedule
 - Example Weekly Schedule:
 - Math Monday/RLA Tuesday
 - Science/Social Studies (weekly group activity)
 - Distance Learning due the same day every week (if available)
- Set up student materials
- Explain expectations for working independently, small group, whole group, and on computer

Routines and Schedules

1. Plan how you want students to transition to and from class. Check with jail staff to ensure that you follow all necessary routines that ensure security and safety for students and yourself. How will students
 - a. sign-in to class, if required
 - b. select materials that they will be using during class
2. Set up a class schedule so students know what is expected of them, including
 - a. how the class will start
 - b. time set aside for computer learning vs working with books
 - c. transitions from individual to group work

Consistency and Predictability

The Need for Consistency and Predictability

Many of the students in corrections' adult education classes have had little if any consistency or predictability in their own lives.

Think of what has brought them to where they are – behind bars.

It is important that teachers provide consistency and predictability in the classroom.

The Difference

Consistency focuses on repetition or sameness

Predictability focuses on the likelihood of an outcome

“Excellence is not a singular act, but a habit. You are what you repeatedly do.”

—Shaquille O’Neal

Routines

Set a Routine for the Entire Class

- Pick 3
- Set aside 20-30 minutes
- Work as a group
- Adjust reading to skill level

Reading Activity

- Timed Reading
- Silent Reading

Writing Activity

- Learning Journal (non-graded)
- Write about what they read

Math Activity

- Brainteaser
- Problem of the Day

Graphic of the Day

- Editorial Cartoon
- Map Skills

Learning Journals

- Boost memory retention
- Encourage critical thinking
- Aid in knowledge organization
- Enhance reading comprehension

Provide students with a separate notebook or notepad to use as their journals. Keep any other homework or classwork separate from the journals. Rather than traditional grading, provide written responses to the students. Respond based on the student's ideas and how they respond to the questions not the technical aspects of the writing.

Learning Journals

You can use them as

- an opening activity to determine student's background knowledge
- a review of a skill or concept from the previous class
- an after large group activity to gauge what students feel/think was the most important information learned
- a critique of an article or passage including what parts they like/disliked

Check out the following resources

- Edutopia: <https://www.edutopia.org/pdfs/stw/edutopia-stw-replicatingPBL-21stCAcad-reflection-questions.pdf>
- University of Worcester, Study Skills Advice Sheet: <https://vetmed.illinois.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2017/06/learning-journals.pdf>

Math Problem

An oil storage tank has a capacity of 16,000 gallons and is filled using a pipe that carries 40 gallons of oil per minute. The tank currently holds 9,600 gallons of oil. How many minutes will it take to fill the tank to capacity?

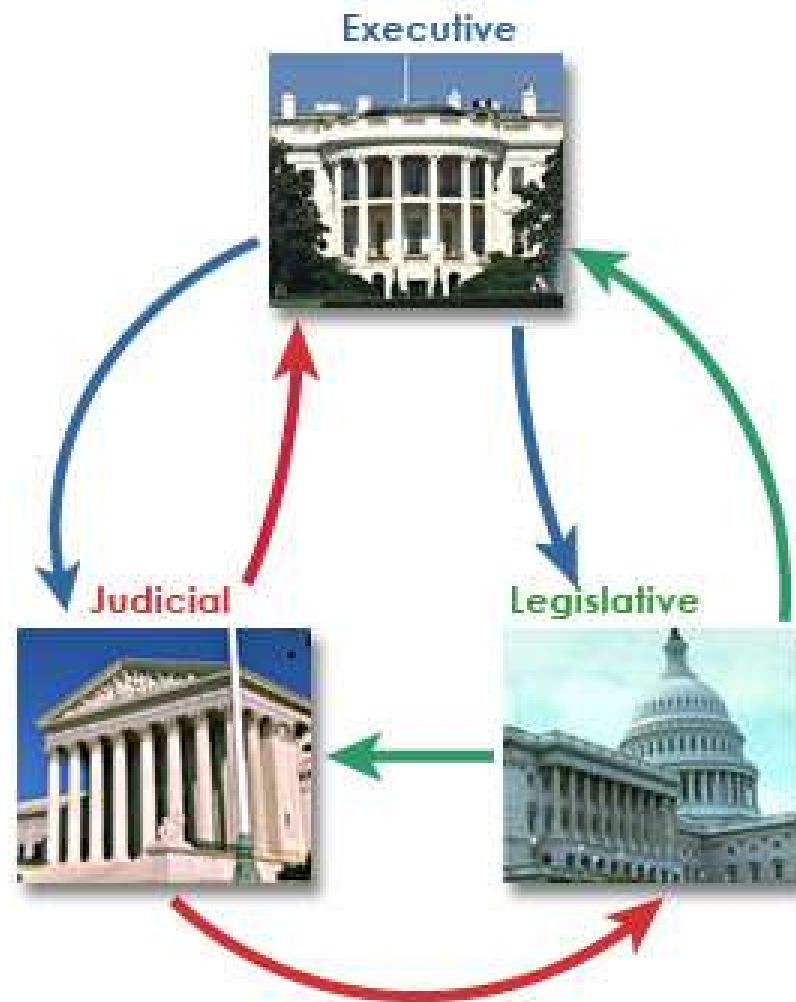
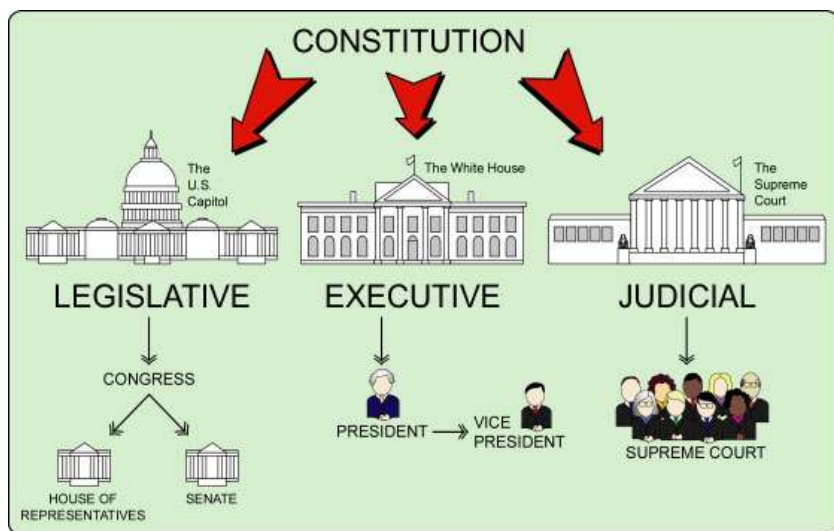
Task: determine number of minutes

Information:

- total capacity
- current amount
- rate of fill

Mathematical language: how do I translate the text into mathematical quantities and relationships, and how do I use those relationships to complete the task?

Graphic of the Day



What constitutional concepts are represented by the diagrams?

Content in Context

Consider Whole Class Instruction

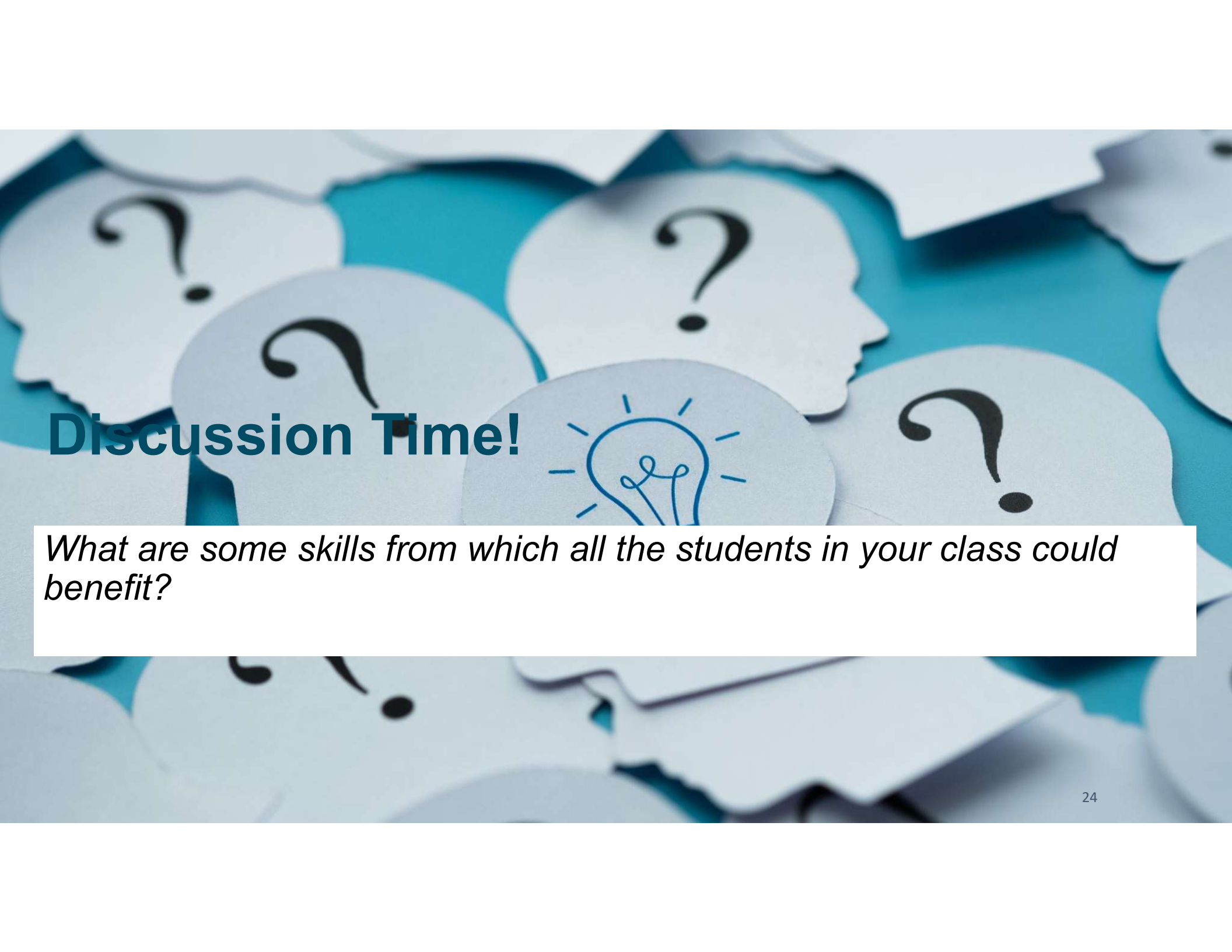
Social Studies and Science

Reading skills

Content and vocabulary

Scientific investigations
and tools

Data and Graphics



Discussion Time!

What are some skills from which all the students in your class could benefit?

Representing Data in Different Formats

Below is data that shows the length of nails found in a packet of assorted nails.

Length of Nails (mm)								
11	22	29	15	17	27	21	23	27
26	19	16	11	10	16	15	21	21
17	15	23	20	16	17	25	16	21

At your tables, identify different ways that you could organize and represent that data.

Arrange in Increasing Order

One way is to arrange it in increasing order.

Nails arranged in order of increasing length (mm)								
10	11	11	15	15	15	16	16	16
16	17	17	17	19	20	21	21	21
21	22	23	23	25	26	27	27	29

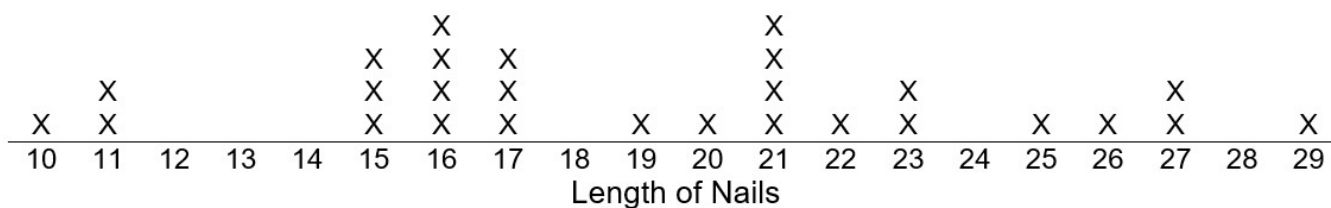
Tally Table

Nails arranged in order of increasing length (mm)								
10	11	11	15	15	15	16	16	16
16	17	17	17	19	20	21	21	21
21	22	23	23	25	26	27	27	29

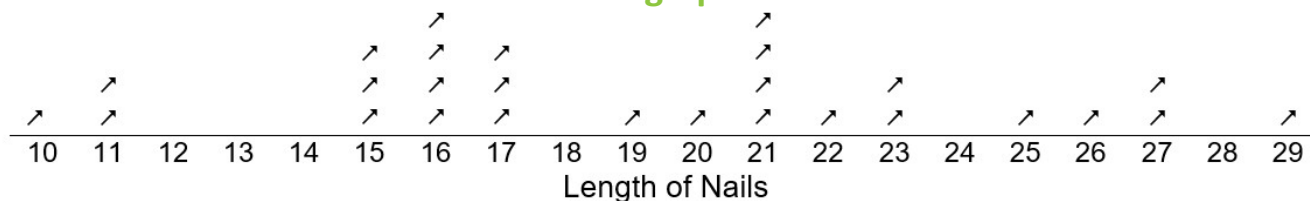
Length	Tally	Length	Tally
10	I	20	I
11	II	21	IIII
12		22	I
13		23	II
14		24	
15	III	25	I
16	IIII	26	I
17	III	27	II
18		28	
19	I	29	I

Line Plot or Pictograph

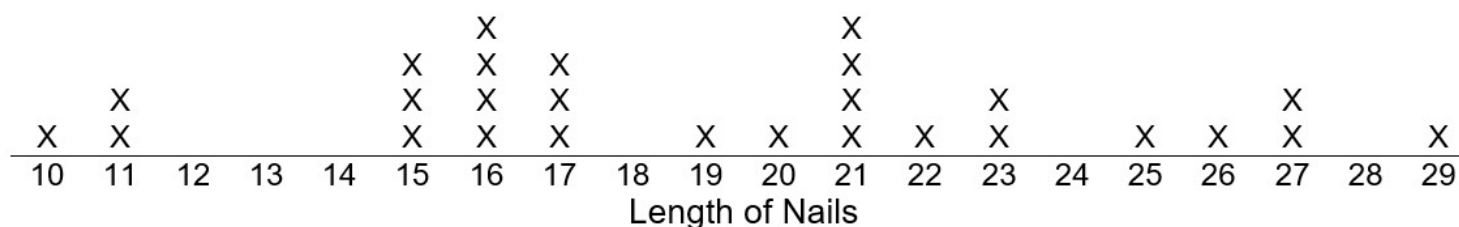
Line Plot



Pictograph



Frequency Table

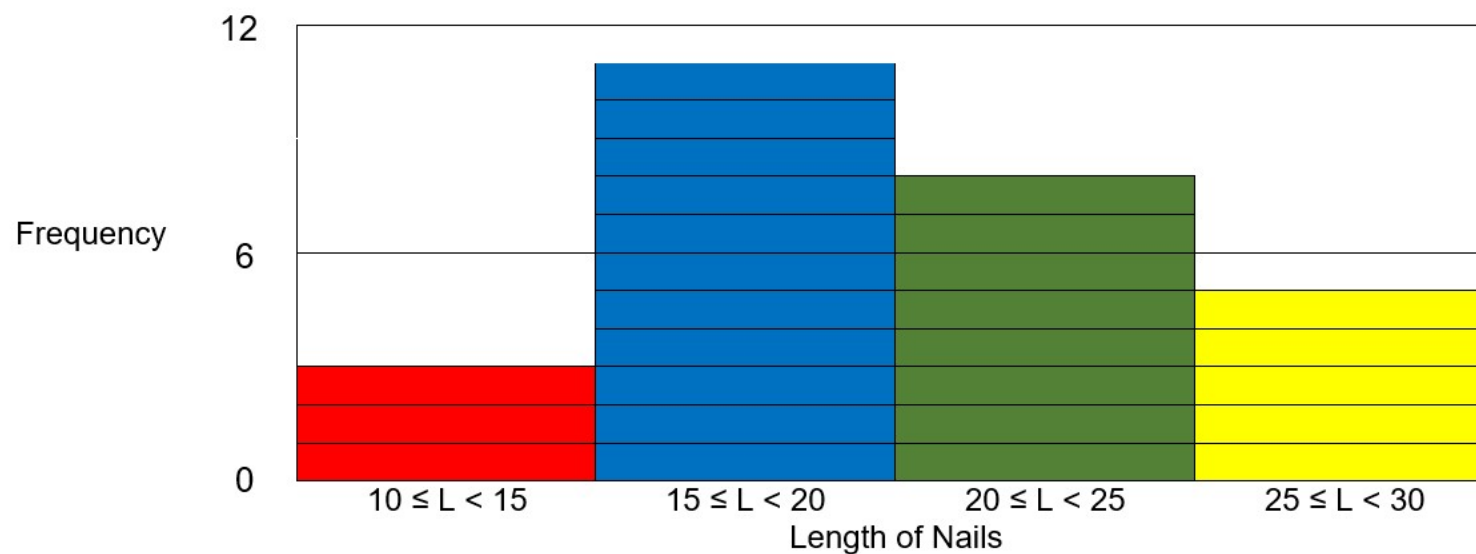


Frequency Table

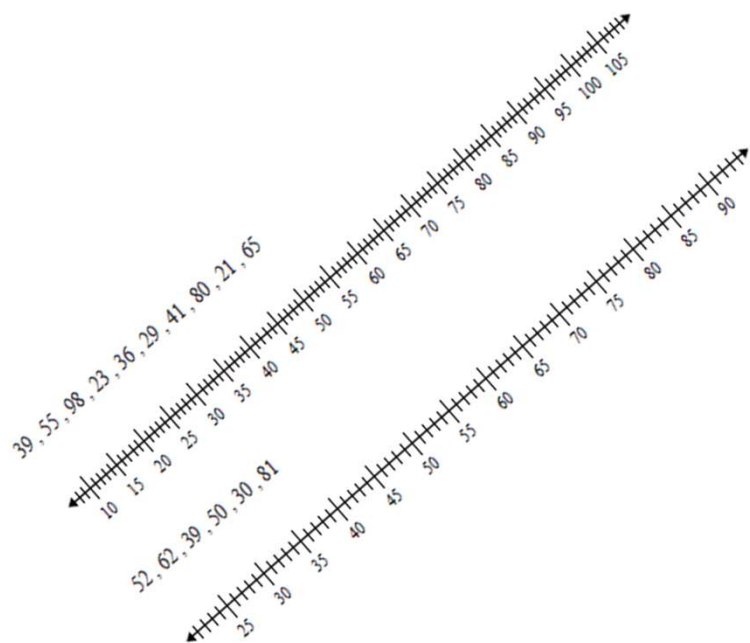
Length of Nails	
Length	Frequency
$10 \leq L < 15$	3
$15 \leq L < 20$	11
$20 \leq L < 25$	8
$25 \leq L < 30$	5

Length of Nails				
Frequency	3	11	8	5
Length	$10 \leq L < 15$	$15 \leq L < 20$	$20 \leq L < 25$	$25 \leq L < 30$

Histogram



	Length of Nails			
Frequency	3	11	8	5
Length	$10 \leq L < 15$	$15 \leq L < 20$	$20 \leq L < 25$	$25 \leq L < 30$



Box Plots

By Brainiaccamp Math Software

Video by Brainiaccamp Math Software

www.brainiaccamp.com

Essential Skills for Box Plots

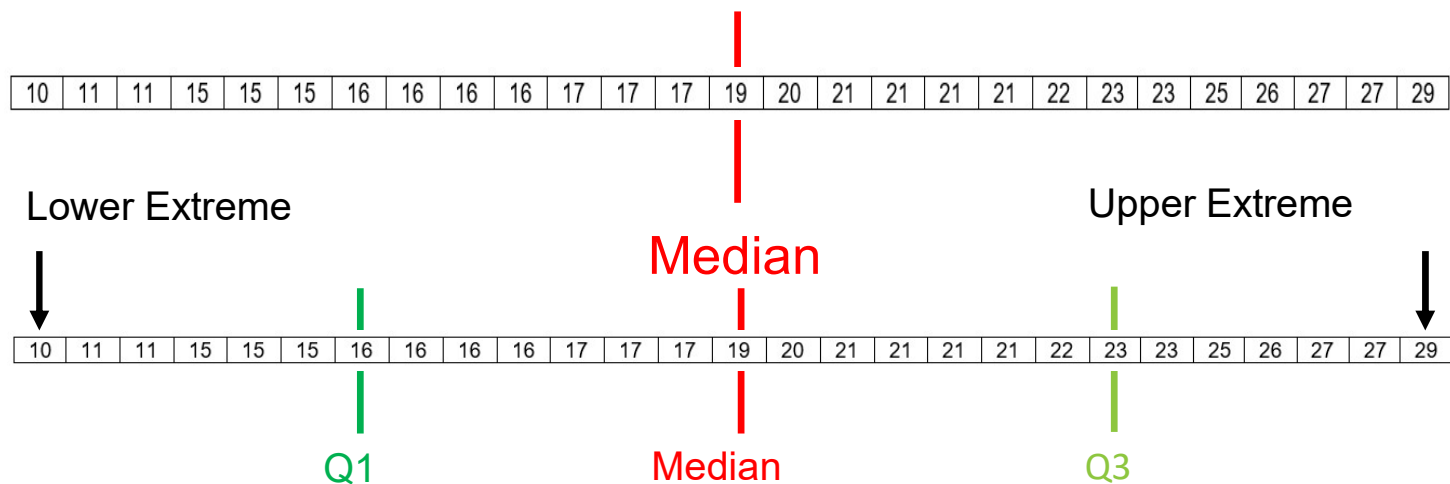
Arrange data in order

Find median for all data

Find median for lower quartile

Find median for upper quartile

Find the range of the extreme values



LEVEL UP 2026 GED CONFERENCE Number Lines and the NFL

<https://unctv.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/mket-math-ns-ratnumb/football/#.WU0tDGgrKUk>



In this interactive, students add and subtract plays on a football field to practice working with negative and positive integers on the number line. Each set of randomized drives consists of seven to nine plays and ends with a touchdown. Plays are represented with equations. When students place the football at the correct point for each play, the answer to the corresponding equation is automatically filled in.

Making Sense of the Math Practices

We should use this practice **ALL THE TIME!**

**MP1: Make sense of problems
and persevere in solving them**



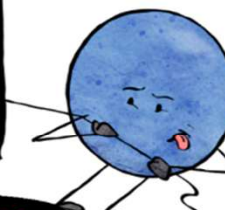
Use these practices to **ENTER A PROBLEM**

**MP2: Reason
abstractly &
quantitatively**



**MP7: Look
for and make
use of
structure**

**MP8: Look for
and express
regularity in
repeated
reasoning**



Use these practices while **WORKING THROUGH A PROBLEM**

**MP3: Construct
viable arguments
and critique the
reasoning of others**

**MP4: Model
with
mathematics**

**MP5: Use
appropriate
tools
strategically**



**MP6:
Attend to
precision**

Adapted from: Routines for Reasoning: Fostering the Mathematical Practices in All Students

C-S-A

Concrete Abstract

The “**doing**” stage

At the concrete level, tangible objects, such as manipulatives, are used to approach and solve problems.

Examples of concrete tools include: unifix cubes, Cuisenaire rods, fraction circles and strips, base-10 blocks, double-sided foam counters, or measuring tools. Almost anything students can touch and manipulate to help approach and solve a problem is used at the concrete level.

Semi-concrete

The “**seeing**” stage

At the pictorial level, representations are used to approach and solve problems.

These can include drawings (e.g., circles to represent coins, pictures of objects, tally marks, number lines), diagrams, charts, and graphs. These pictures are visual representations of the concrete manipulatives. It is important for the teacher to explain this connection.

The “**symbolic**” stage

At the abstract level, symbolic representations are used to approach and solve problems.

These representations can include numbers or letters. It is important for teachers to explain how symbols can provide a shorter and efficient way to represent numerical operations.

Write Captions

A Caption

Draws attention of reader

Provides context

Tells a story

Captures a moment in time

Matches the tone of the image

Write Captions

A Caption Includes

Who

What

When

Where

Why

How

Create A Caption EXAMPLE



Fall has begun to turn the leaves orange and yellow. These four children have fun jumping over the fallen leaves in their back yard.

Brainstorm

Who? What? When?
Where? Why? How?

- 4 children
- leaves
- fall
- jumping
- throwing
- back yard
- yellow and orange

Example from: <https://ey.westside66.org/language-arts-mini-spark-61-caption-this/>

Practice Time



1-6-6

Practice with
PowerPoint

Make it Concise

1 Idea

≤6 Main Points

≤6 Words per Point

Electric Vehicles (EVs) Proving to Be Better Deal for Consumers

1. Average owner saves \$6000 during lifespan
2. Maintenance, repair and fuel cost less
3. 16% higher trade-in value
4. Maintenance costs 4¢ less per mile
5. EV batteries have 15-20 years lifespan

Excerpt from Joy Hakim's - *A History of US*, Book 4, Chapter 3 – The Parties Begin

Those two opposites—Jefferson and Hamilton—had ideas that needed balancing. They helped found the country's first political parties. They respected, but didn't understand, each other.

"Mr. Jefferson," wrote Hamilton, "is at the head of a faction decidedly hostile to me and...dangerous to the union, peace, and the happiness of the country."

Jefferson replied that Hamilton's ideas "flowed from principles adverse to liberty, and...calculated to undermine and demolish the Republic."

Whew! Those are strong words. "Dangerous," "hostile," "adverse to liberty"—did they really mean it? These were men who had built the country together. What was going on?

Excerpt from Donald Mackay's "The Building of Manhattan"

Artists are lucky. Once they are seen to be actually drawing something, they are generally accepted as part of the landscape. Busy Manhattan construction sites are no exception, if the artist keeps out of the way, and once it has been determined he is not an inspector. He can stand around, tolerated, in all kinds of places, for long periods of time, doing nothing, but watching other people work. Of course, he may not be making any money but that's another part of being an artist. What he may be doing, even if he's not yet aware of it, is accumulating material for a book like this.

Excerpt from John Steinbeck's "Travels with Charley"

"When I was very young and the urge to be someplace else was on me, I was assured by mature people that maturity would scratch this itch. When years described me as mature, the remedy prescribed was middle age. In middle age I was assured greater age would calm my fever and now that I am fifty-eight perhaps senility will do the job. Nothing has worked. Four hoarse blasts of a ship's whistle still raise the hair on my neck and set my feet to tapping. The sound of a jet, an engine warming up, even the clapping of shod hooves on pavement brings on the ancient shudder, the dry mouth and vacant eye, the hot palms and the churn of stomach high up under the rib cage. In other words, once a bum always a bum. I fear this disease incurable. I set this matter down not to instruct others but to inform myself. A journey is a person in itself; no two are alike. And all plans, safeguards, policing, and coercion are fruitless. We find after years of struggle that we do not take a trip; a trip takes us."

“I’m sorry, but you can’t use
that in the classroom.”



Material and Supplies

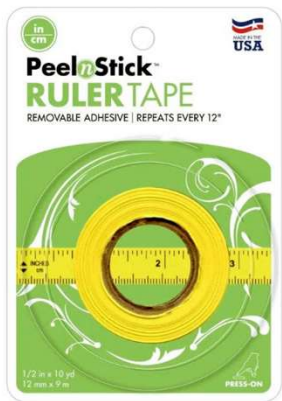
Resources for the Classroom

Materials & Supplies

- Staple-free stapler!!
- Folder for every student (check to make sure if you can only use white)
- Reference sheets on neon colored paper
 - Formula Sheet, Place Values, Grammar Rules



LEVEL UP 2026 CONTEST Materials & Supplies



Peel n Stick Ruler Tape

1/2" x 10 yds

☆☆☆☆☆ Write the First Review!

The Peel n Stick Ruler tape is perfect for adding quick and convenient measurements to your sewing or craft space. Use it to measure fabric, space home décor projects, line up workbench tasks, and more. Designed in classic yardstick yellow, it can be easily applied, trimmed to size, removed, and repositioned whenever needed.

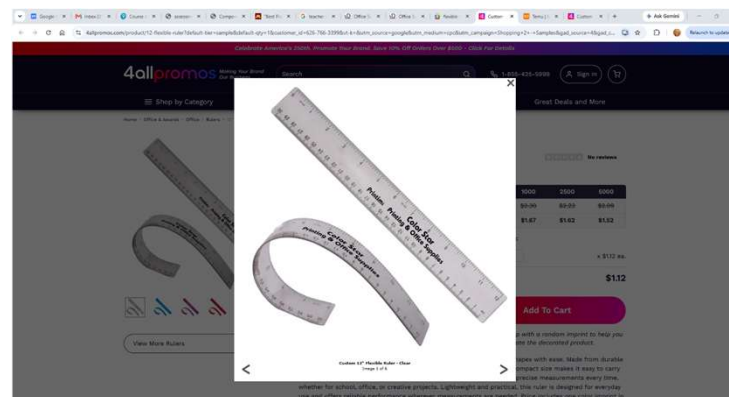
- 1/2" x 10 yds
- Inch & metric markings
- Perforated 12" segments

\$5.99 (Loyalty members earn \$0.18)

Qty 1

ADD TO CART

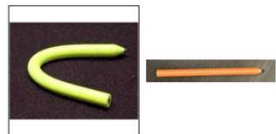
♥ Add to Wish List



<https://www.4allpromos.com/product/12-flexible-ruler>

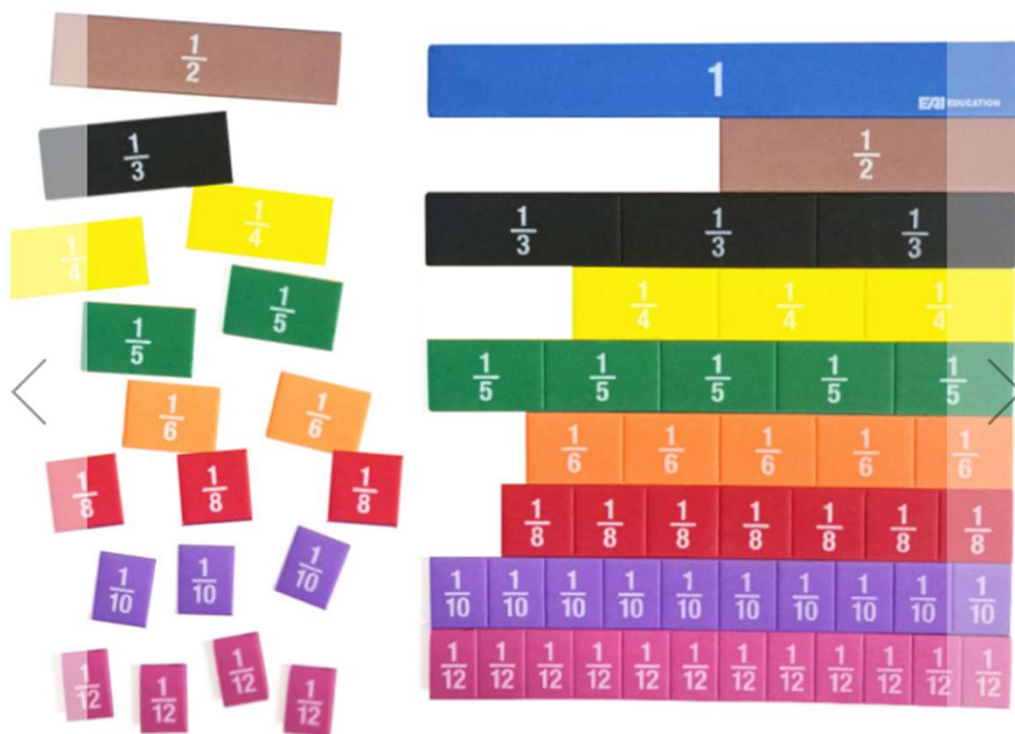
No-Shank NSPC-1001 Super Flex Pencil

No-Shank NSPC-1001 Flexible Safety Pencils



<https://www.americandetentionsupplies.com/products/no-shank-nspc-1001-super-flex-pencil-case>

Materials & Supplies



QuietShape® Foam Fraction Tiles: Numbered - 30 Sets of 51

Grade(s) **2-12**

\$94.00

Item#: 535419B

Select Product Option : 30 Sets

1 Set

30 Sets

30 Sets in a Tub

Materials & Supplies



QuietShape® Foam Base Ten Intermediate Classroom Se...

\$99.95

<https://www.eaieducation.com/>

Front Side

Measurement lines are color-coded to assist younger children, as well as those with special needs.

3 Inches Wide

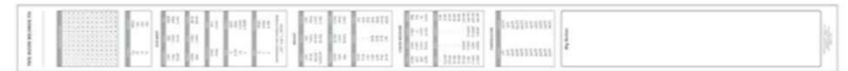


36.5 Inches

Measures up to 36" or 90 cm

Back Side

Measurement conversion chart



Area to print students' names

Section for notes

Paper Ruler - 36" Bulk Yardsticks for Classroom, STEM, Easy-to-Read Numbers, White Cardstock, 24 Pack, Hygloss Products

Brand: Hygloss Sold By: TopSelected

\$38.02 In Stock

Materials & Supplies

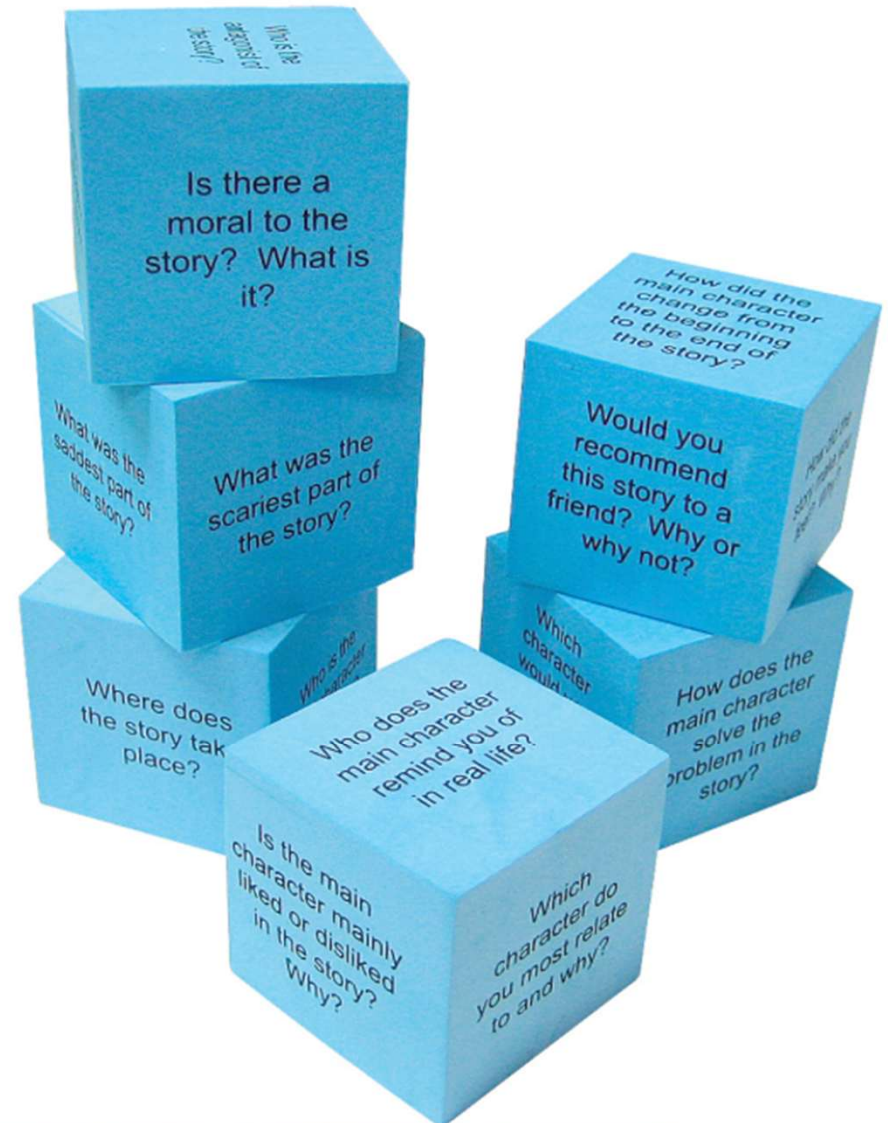
Foam Reading Comprehension Cubes

Grade(s) **K-12**

\$9.49

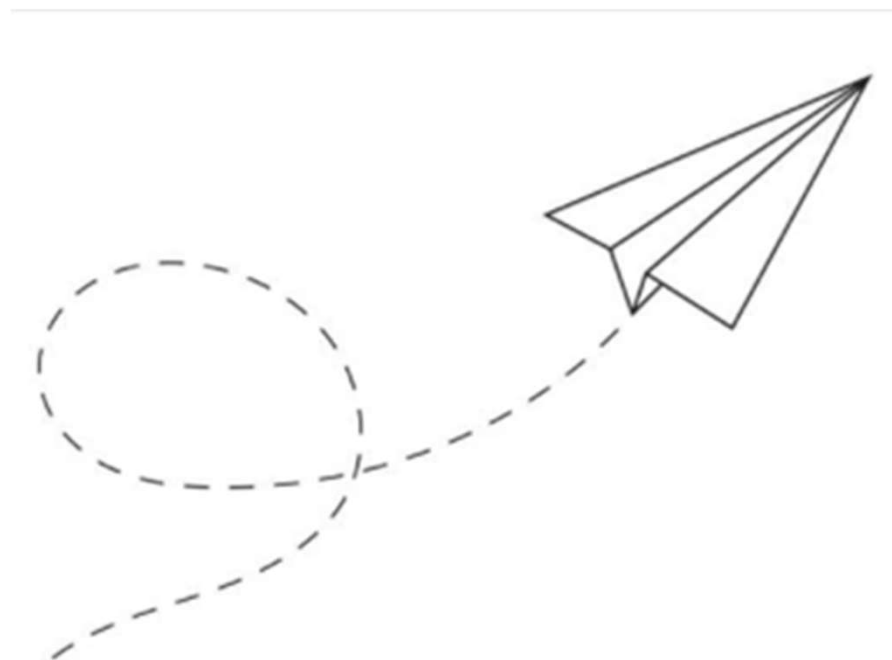
Item#: 106299

<https://www.eaieducation.com/foam-reading-comprehension-cubes-106299>



My Favorite Learning Activities

- Paper Airplane Experiment
- Graphing Colors of M & M's (get permission to bring in Fun Size bags)
- Graphs Lie!
- Fraction Strips (student created via EmPower math)
- Mystery Graph Pictures
 - Super Teacher Worksheets
- Pythagorean Theorem with squares
- Sequencing Stories
- Arrestipes (there's a story with this one)



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QR CODE PLACEHOLDER

