

Cat Time

Introduction: It can be difficult to teach first graders how to tell time. With digital clocks in most homes, most students are not familiar with the regular clocks showing hands moving around the face of the clock. This activity gives students a chance to practice telling time the “old fashioned” way and a chance to move.

Grade Level and Subject: 1st Grade Math and P.E.

TEKS: Math – 8B
P.E. – 1B, 1C, 3B, 7A, 7B, 7C

Materials: Chalk, individual clocks with movable hands for each student

Resource: *201 Games for the Elementary Physical Education Program* by Jerry D. Poppen.
ISBN: 0-13-042061-1

Activity: The teacher should mark a long line (long enough for all students to stand on) at one end of a large playing area, and mark another line of similar length 30-40 feet away from the original line.

The teacher begins by calling himself or herself the bulldog and stands in the middle of the playing field. The students (now known as the cats) are to stand on one of the long lines with clocks in their hands.

The bulldog calls out a time, such as one o'clock. The students are to show the time on their individual clocks. The bulldog will then check all clocks for the correct time. The cats with the correct time will then get a chance to run to the line on the opposite side of the bulldog. Those students (cats) should place their clocks on the ground and run, on a signal, to the other line while the bulldog tries to catch the cats. Any cat caught will have to hop back to the starting line. The cats who made it to the opposite line successfully get a point. All cats are then to move back to the starting line. The teacher might want to assign a different locomotive skill (such as galloping, skipping, etc.) to the cats moving back to the starting line. Once all students are back at the starting line, the bulldog will call out another time, and play will continue in the manner described above. After the activity is finished, the cats can count their points to determine which one has the most points.

If the teacher does not want to physically participate in the activity, he or she can choose a student to be the bulldog.

Evaluation: The teacher will be able to determine which students still need individual help with telling time during this activity. Additional instruction can then be provided to those still needing help.



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