

Addition Chain

Introduction: During the primary grades in school, students are asked to perform many pencil and paper tasks to show their proficiency in addition. This Addition Chain activity gives the students a chance to review some fundamental addition facts on the playground while moving their bodies and staying healthy.

Grade Level and Subject: 2nd Grade Math and P.E.

TEKS: Math – 3A
P.E. – 1A, 1B, 3A, 3B, 6A, 6B, 7A, 7B

Materials: None

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

Activity: The teacher should take the students to a large area that provides room for the students to move freely, whether it is the playground or a large gym.

The activity begins with the teacher appointing one student to be “it.” The regular game of tag should be played at this point, with the student appointed “it” chasing the other students. Once he or she tags another student, that student is to freeze in front of the student who is “it.” The teacher then calls out an addition problem. If the student who was tagged answers the problem correctly, he or she can continue playing tag as normal. If the problem is answered incorrectly, he or she is to attach himself or herself to the tagger by getting behind the tagger. He or she should hold onto the waist of the tagger and run with him or her as the game of tag continues.

Once the person deemed “it” has tagged other people, the same rules written above apply for all persons tagged. If the addition chain becomes too long (five to six people or more), the chain should break and become two chains, with the first person of each chain becoming “it.” Play continues in this way until the teacher stops the activity.

Evaluation: The teacher should call out addition problems as needed. He or she should also monitor the game closely to ensure the rules are being followed.



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