

Identify the Pattern

Introduction: Third graders are expected to identify and extend patterns to make predictions and solve problems. By using bean bags in this activity, students will develop patterns that other students will try to duplicate.

Grade Level and Subject: 3rd Grade Math and P.E.

TEKS: Math – 6A (*STAAR Supporting Standard)
P.E. – 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1I, 3A, 3D, 7A

Materials: A bean bag for every 2 students

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

Activity: This activity will need to be completed after students are comfortable with and have had paper/pencil practice with developing patterns.

Each student will be asked by the teacher to develop a pattern, using a bean bag, for another student to complete. For example, a sample pattern might include kicking the bean bag in the air with the right (or left) foot a certain number of times, throwing the bean bag from one hand to another a certain number of times, tossing the bean bag under a leg a certain number of times, bouncing the bean bag off of an elbow a certain number of times, etc. The teacher should allow each child to be creative with developing the pattern. The only requirement will be that the pattern components have a physical type of activity, such as tossing, kicking, etc. The teacher might even want to provide bean bags and have the children develop their patterns while using the bean bags for guidance. A certain number of activities with the bean bags should be determined by the teacher, and he or she should ensure that all students have the required number of activities in their patterns before the activity begins.

On the day of the lesson, the teacher should take the students to a place with plenty of room, such as the playground or the gym. The teacher will pair the students into groups of two, with each group having a bean bag.

On the starting signal given by the teacher, one of the students in each pair will show the other student his or her pattern. The students should not talk to each other at this time. Once the pattern has been shown, the other student will receive the bean bag and try to duplicate the pattern. If he or she is successful, that student will then show the first student his or her bean bag pattern. The first student will then try to duplicate the pattern. Should either of the students in each pair not complete the pattern correctly, the originator of the pattern will again show the other student how to complete the pattern. This will continue until the patterns have been completed successfully.

Once the two members of each group have completed both patterns successfully, the teacher will create new groups of students. These new groups will then show each other their patterns, and the activity will continue as described above. The teacher will end the activity once everyone has had a chance to try to duplicate at least two patterns with the bean bags.

Evaluation: The teacher will monitor the activity and give assistance wherever needed.



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