COMPARE THE NEGATIVE 3 DIGIT CARD GAME

Age range: 3rd Grade + Number of players: 2+

Learning: Comparing negative numbers to -999

You will need

- a sets of digit cards (0-9) per player

a Game board for each player

Before you play:

Print out enough game boards so that each player can have one (each sheet contains two game boards) and cut them out. Make sure each player also has a set of digit cards.

Instructions

- Shuffle both sets of digit cards and place them face down in a pile.
- Player 1 takes a digit card from the pile. Player 1 then places the digit card on their number board to try to make the lowest value (negative) number possible.
- Player 2 then takes a digit card and places it on their board to make the lowest value number possible.
- Player 1 then takes a second card, and places on one of the remaining spaces on their number board.
- No player can move any digit card once they have placed it on their board.
- The winner is the player to get the lowest value (negative) number once all the digits have been placed.

Variations

- Alternative winning rule the player with the highest value negative number is the winner once all the digits are placed.
- Alternative winning rule the winner is the player who gets closest to a given target number e.g. -500, -750, etc.
- To make the game harder the winner is the player who scores with the highest odd number, or the lowest even number, etc. If a player does not make the correct sort of number, their number is discounted!



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Example of play – lowest number wins

1st round

Player 1 gets the digits 4 and places the card in the tens place. Player 2 gets a 7 and places the card in the hundreds place.

2nd round

Player 1 gets a digit 2 and places the card in the ones place. Player 2 gets a 9 and places the card in the tens place.

3rd round

Player 1 gets a digit 9 and places the card in the hundreds place. Player 2 gets a 1 and places the card in the ones place.

Final numbers

Player 1's final number is -942.

Player 2's final number is -791.

Player 1 has the lowest value number, so Player 1 is the winner of this round.

