



ACTIVITY IA3.12: Lovely Lucy

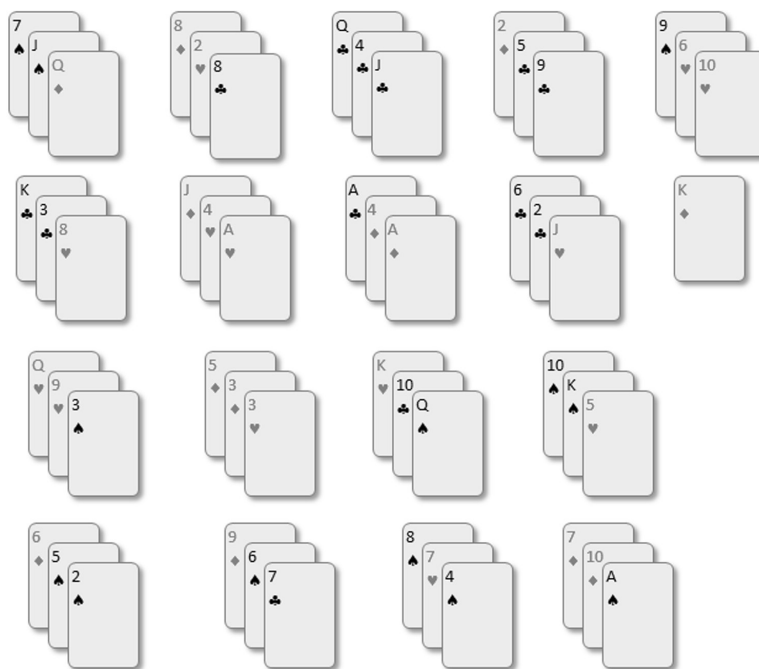
Intended learning: To build facility with forward and backward number word sequences. To sequence numerals.

Instructional mode: Longer, rehearsal mode for individuals or partners.

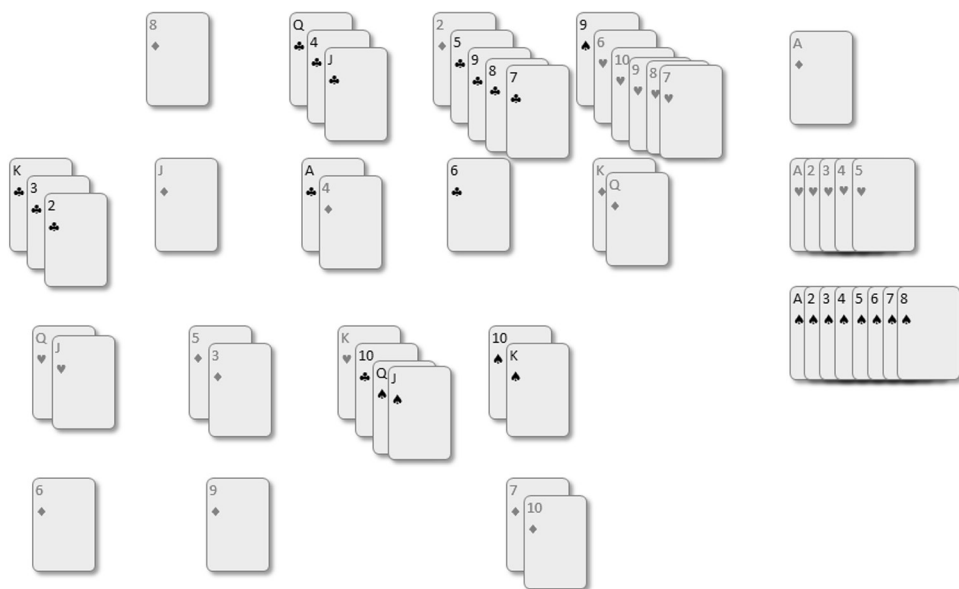
Materials: One deck of standard playing cards.



Description: Shuffle cards well. Deal all 52 cards face up in 17 overlapping triads with one single card (see Figure 3.8a). Move one card at a time. Cards may be played in a descending order by suit on another stack or in ascending order, A, 2, 3, ... K, in a new stack (see Figure 3.8b). Ascending stacks are 'safe'. The goal is to move progressively all cards onto the appropriate ascending stack. Descending stack cards may be shuffled and dealt again twice in an attempt to move all cards to the ascending stacks. One *merci* move is allowed during the last round. This involves extracting any card from a descending stack to play it on any stack. See Resource CD for detailed directions sheet.



Figures 3.8a Lovely Lucy card layout



Figures 3.8b Lovely Lucy game underway

Responses, variations and extensions:

- This game may be played with any Four Kings deck. For less challenge when playing with multiples decks, descending stacks need not follow suit. For greater challenge, all stacks must follow suit.
- Strategy and logic play a large part in being successful with this game.
- Partners may discuss strategy while cooperatively playing the game.
- A hint for success with the game is to begin the stack with the highest card possible, since once a card of a lower value is played in descending order, the sequence cannot be moved except to play each card individually on the ascending stack.

Reference: 'La Belle Lucie', from *The Encyclopedia of Games*, edited by Brian Burns (1998). London: Amber Books Ltd. pp. 23–27.