

Make a Number Fish

Intended learning: to give experience in learning addition facts to 10.

Materials:

- Playing cards (or numeral cards on different colored cardboard).
- Card holder (as shown in the diagram).

Description:

- Pairs, threes or fours.
- This is played the same as traditional Fish.
- The court cards are removed.
- The cards above the 'special' number are removed. If the game is *Make 7 Fish*, then the cards above 7 are taken out. Remember the Ace is one (the children will need to be told this).
- The stack of cards is placed face down.
- Five cards are dealt to each player.
- These are put down in each player's card holder (because young children have difficulty holding cards in their hand – see diagram below).
- The object is to make pairs of numbers that add together to make a given number.
- The players take turns to ask another child if they have a certain card (which would give them a pair). For example, if the game is *Make 8 Fish* and a player has a 5 he/she would ask another player if they have a 3.
- If the child to whom the request has been made has the card, then this is given to the player who places the pair face up on the table.
- If the child to whom the request has been made does not have the required card, the player is told to *fish* which means the top card from the stack is selected.
- The game proceeds until one player runs out of cards.
- Players can count up their pairs.

Note: instead of using the traditional cards, teachers can make up their own packs using colored cardboard.