

Number Boxes

The game can be played with dice and maths books

The focus can be place value, or one of the 4 operations, measurement or algebra.. There are lots of options for differentiation.

Watch the video for the online game to see how it’s played and use the online version to demonstrate.

Sembl Boxes game: video explainer and online version which is great for teacher demo.

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The Boxes Game

Strategically place digits to form numbers or build equations as close as possible to your target. Strengthen your math logic, arithmetic fluency, and critical thinking skills with every move!

Start Game

Boxes Student View

Target
700

Score: 0

3

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0:00 / 0:56

In boxes, students choose where to place

cc

YouTube

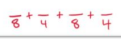
Read the **blog post** on the different ways to use this game and the mathematical thinking behind each option here and copy or **download the slides to use in class here**.

This link will also give you several different ways of using this game, to reinforce different skills and concepts.

Number Boxes

“Closest to ___ wins”



Arrangement	Closest to ___ wins	Special Note
$_ + _ + _ + _$	10	
$_ + _ + 1 _$	20	The “1 ___” forces a teen number like 15
$_ 0 + _ 0 + _$	60	The “___ 0” forces groups of 10 like 50
$_ 0 + _ _ + _$	75	The “___ 0” forces groups of 10 like 50
$_ _ + _ _ + _ _$	100	
$_ 9 + _ 9 + _$	80	The “___ 9” forces unfriendly numbers like 59 and might inspire kids to find easier ways to add
$_ _ _ + _ _ _ + _ 0 0$	1,000	The “___ 0 0” forces groups of 100 like 500
$100 - _ _ - _ _$	50	
$(_ \times _) + _$	20	
$(_ \times _ 0) + _$	150	The “___ 0” forces groups of 10 like 50
$(_ \times _) + (_ \times _)$	30	
$(_ \times _ 0) + _$	1,000	The “___ 0” forces groups of 10 like 50
$(6 0 0 \div _) + _ 0 0 + _ _$	525	The “___ 0 0” forces groups of 100 like 500
$_/2 + _/4 + _/2 + _/4$	3 1/2	Write these in upright fraction form. For example, for “ $_/8 + _/4 + _/8 + _/4$ ”, write: 
$_/8 + _/4 + _/8 + _/4$	2	
$(_ \times _/4) + (_ \times _/8)$	3	
$0 . _ + 0 . _ + 0 . _ + 0 . _ _$	1.14	Last number is different than the rest!
$(_ \times 0 . _) + (_ \times 0 . _ _)$	2	The “0 . ___” forces numbers like 0.43

Most math topics can be adapted into a “Number Boxes” arrangement. Have fun making your own!

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