

PATH GAMES

How They Support Development of Math Concepts

- Moving from space to space supports one to one correspondence
- Dice allows for counting with meaning
- Spinner with numeral allows for numeral recognition and counting practice
- Encourages social interaction and turn taking
- Incorporates thinking strategies that are needed for more difficult games

What are the rules of the path games?

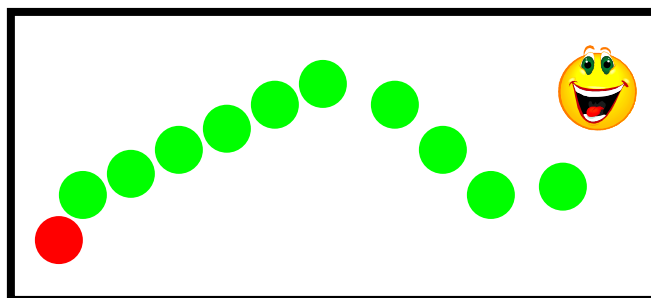
- There are no specific rules for path games
- Children are encouraged to decide among themselves as long as all children agree
- Rules can be changed to increase level of difficulty

How to Make Your Own Path Games

- Place dots in a path on a piece of poster board. Path should be clear and not confusing.
- The path can have as many “spaces” as you want. Level of difficulty can be determined by how many paths and the length of path.
- Use dice to determine how many “spaces” the child moves. You can also use cards with dots on them.
- Decorate the game with stickers or other items you find that would make the pathway look fun but not confusing.

Variations for Children at Different Levels

- Make your dice or cards with fewer dots on them.
- Add a second die for larger numbers.



Resources: Sally Moomaw and Brenda Hieronymus, *More Than Counting*;
Cutler, Gilkerson, Parront, & Bowne, *NAEYC Spotlight Young Children: Math Developing Math Games Based on Children's Literature*