

4.6 Project A: Learning Mathemagic Tricks

Date :

Situation You and a partner are to select a magic trick or a puzzle that involves math. You will perform it in front of your classmates and explain the maths behind it.

Possible strategies Watch several videos, and pick a trick that you like or that you think is easier to perform.

Notes

- Ask teacher for material or make a sample of your game.
- Practice makes perfect! Try the trick to be able to perform it with ease.
- Prepare your introduction. You need to capture the audience's attention.
- Use the video explaining the trick to understand its mechanics and some of the math behind it.
- Prepare clear diagrams if necessary to illustrate.

Magic tricks Following are a small selection of some tricks and the math behind them.

- **The Government Strikes Back!** <https://youtu.be/TN9pZWXmgmk>.
(Pigeonhole principle, number of permutations).
- **A truly random prediction that always makes cents** <https://youtu.be/0FpermM9NaA>
(Divisibility rule of 9) (alternative <https://youtu.be/-6cUIWjJGtE>)
- the **21-card trick** <https://youtu.be/d7dg7gVDWyg>
(Arithmetic, logic)
- the **27-card trick** <https://youtu.be/l7lP9y7Bb5g>
(Arithmetic, base-3 numbers)
- **The unbeatable Game of Nim** <https://youtu.be/EiqJcQ7YxHw>
Simple NIM <https://youtu.be/9KABcmczPdg>
(Arithmetic, logic)
- **Josie learns the secrets of advanced NIM** https://youtu.be/vt0ZddT_kBQ
(logic, devising a strategy)
- **a New Monty Hall Variation!** <https://youtu.be/v0SOG3tYebM>
- 🌿 **Same size card trick** https://youtu.be/V3uNDe_i_1Y

Project A : Games people play.

Date

Name(s)

Picked theme

Teacher assessment

Content & teamwork	/2
• Used only english and was fully involved during preparation	/1
• All the elements required are present	/1
The quality of English	/9
• Grammar	1 2 3 /3
• Syntax	1 2 3 /3
• Vocabulary	1 2 3 /3
Pronunciation	/6
• Stress pattern	1 2 3 /3
• Phonology	1 2 3 /3
Overall quality of the presentation and interaction	/3
• Student is addressing the audience and not reading his/her notes.	/1
• The performance of the trick is fluid.	/1
• Student understands and answers the audience's questions.	/1
Total	/20

Student Self-assessment To assess your work and what you have learned during this project, answer the following questions.

1. What did I like about this project?
2. What did I not like about it?
3. Was the math hard to understand?
4. Is my work sufficient? Could I have provided more? How?