



# FAMILY MATH NEWSLETTER

## JUNIOR EDITION

### Issue 15: April 2025



### Math Riddle

“What is the probability of one in five million?”  
“Zero. There is no 1 in 5 000 000. Only a 5 and six zeros”



### Game: PIG

**PIG** is a game for 2 to 6 players. All you need is a pair of dice. The goal of the game is to be the first player to score 100 points. Players take turns with the dice. On your turn, roll the dice and find the sum. You can choose to record your points now or keep rolling, adding onto your previous sum. When you choose to stop, write down your total to “bank” your points.

Now it is the next player’s turn. Continue until one player reaches 100!

**BUT**, here is the catch! If you roll a 1, you automatically get 0 points for that turn and your turn is over. If you roll two 1s on your turn, you lose all your points, even your “banked” points. What will you do? Will you risk another roll?

Try Multi**PIG**ation! - similar to PIG but players multiply the two die. If the product is even, bank the points. If it is odd, lose the points and your turn.

Watch this video to see it in action!

Pig

### Math Talk



What do you notice?  
What do you wonder?  
What can you tell me about this pattern?

### Visual Patterns

### Problem Solving: Conducting Experiments

For this activity, if you do not have coloured counters, you can create your own using an old cereal box by cutting out and colouring in 12 circles of the same size, or you could even use Skittles or Smarties.

- Take 12 counters of the colours shown.
- Suppose the counters are in a bag and you take one counter without looking. List all the possible outcomes.
- What is the likelihood/probability of each outcome?
- Which colour is most likely to be taken? Least likely? Will colour will never be taken?
- Predict what will happen if you conduct the experiment 50 times, replacing the counter each time
- Conduct the experiment. Record your results. What do you notice?
- Combine your results with someone else’s at home. What do you notice now?



### Outdoor Math: Scavenger Hunt

Earth Day, Everyday! Take some time to get outside, connect with nature, and build environmental awareness.

Create a Scavenger Hunt checklist - a list of items or features for your child to find and observe in nature. Some ideas include: different types of leaves and cones, various flowers and insects, animal tracks or signs (feathers, nests, etc.), rocks, a body of water, pencil rubbings of different types of bark, etc. Before going on the hunt, explain the importance of respecting nature. Remind them to observe rather than disturb living creatures and to avoid picking plants. Head outside, to a park or forest, and begin the hunt. Encourage your child to take their time, look carefully, and be observant. Check off items as they find them. Rather than collecting them, try taking photos of them. After completing the scavenger hunt, talk about what they found, what they noticed, what they wonder, and what they learned. Ask your child what patterns they saw in the things they found? (Consider bringing gloves and a garbage bag along for a mini clean-up with parent supervision)



### April is Earth Month

Check out [this link](#) for a Earth Month calendar full of ideas for all grades and ages of activities that families could consider to get involved with Earth Day.