

Ten-Twenty-Thirty

Try this single-player addition game! All you need is a deck of playing cards to get started. Try to find sums of 10, 20, or 30 in order to clear cards. Practice your adding, and double check your work. If you can clear all of the cards, you'll win! "Ten-Twenty-Thirty" is a great way to have fun while practicing simple addition facts. After you've mastered the instructions, check out the variations for new ways to play.

Skill:

Addition

What You Need:

One deck of playing cards

What You Do:

1. Play against a partner. Each person has their own deck of cards.
2. Shuffle the deck. Create a row of seven cards, face up. Place two cards on top of each of the seven so you have seven piles of 3 cards each. Arrange the cards so you can see the face value of every card.
3. Place the rest of the deck to the side, to be used later.
4. The object of the game is to remove a pile when the sum of all of its cards is 10, 20, or 30. All face cards equal 10. For example, if a pile has an ace, 9, and jack in it, it could be removed because its sum is 20 ($1 + 9 + 10$). Go ahead and remove all of the piles that equal 10 to start.
5. Deal a fourth card on top of every pile that remains. Remove any stacks that now equal 10, 20, or 30
6. Deal a fifth card on top of every pile that remains. Remove any stacks possible.
7. Continue adding cards and removing stacks until your deck is depleted or the stacks have all been removed.
8. If you remove all the stacks first, you have won! If your deck is emptied first, try again.

Variations:

Remove two sets of cards at once if their combined sum is a multiple of 10.

Look for different sums, let's say 9, 19, and 29. Or multiples of 6

Note for Parents:

This game is effective for teaching and practicing number sense and numeracy skills with your children. Before you know it, your children will become addition masters! Set a goal for yourself to play this game once a week with your child to practice and refresh simple addition facts.

Race to 100

This card game is a fun way to practice addition. Compete for the highest score as you flip over cards. Add up your cards until you reach 100 points. The first one there wins! Ready for a challenge? Check out the variations at the bottom of the page!

Skills:

Addition

Subtraction (see variations)

What You Need:

Deck of cards

Pencil and paper for every player (to add up scores)

What You Do:

1. Place a well shuffled deck of cards, face down, in the center of the playing area.
2. Each player begins by drawing one card and placing it face up in front of themselves. Players write the value of this card down at the top of their papers. (Aces are worth 1, and face cards are all 10.)
3. When all players are ready, everyone draws a second card. They add the value of these cards to their totals.
4. Keep playing until one player reaches 100.

Variations:

Play until the deck runs out. The player closest to 100, without going over, wins.

Add jokers into the deck. If a player draws a joker, their score drops back to zero.

Start with 100 points, and subtract your way to the finish (Race to Zero).

Need a challenge? Use multiplication to reach 1000. (This is a good adaptation for a fourth grader!)

Note for Parents:

This game is effective for teaching and practicing number sense and numeracy skills with your children. Before you know it, your children will become addition and subtraction masters! Set a goal for yourself to play this game once a week with your child to practice and refresh simple addition and subtraction facts.