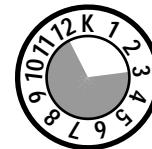


Today's Date

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Learn fun facts about the number in today's date!

Note: This lesson plan covers the numbers 1 – 31. In this issue will be 17 – 24. (The author welcomes suggestions to add to each number. Please send your ideas to her at the email listed above or to your *TOMT* editors.

Lesson Goal: To develop a meaning for numbers

Materials: None needed except a chalkboard or overhead.

Instructions for

this Activity: Write on the board or overhead (or verbally share) a fun fact about the number in today's date. This idea can be extended if you wish to take advantage of the opportunity to explore further the math vocabulary/concept, related science mentioned, or historical point introduced by the number fact.

17

It's a fact that...

- Seventeen is a prime number.
- Apollo 17 was the sixth and last Apollo mission in which humans walked on the lunar surface. It landed on December 11, 1972.
- The B-17, the Flying Fortress, first saw combat in 1941. Its prototype, financed entirely by Boeing, went from the design board to test flights in less than a year. It was the first Boeing military aircraft with a flight deck instead of an open cockpit. Boeing built a total of 6,981 B-17s, and another 5,745 were built under a nationwide collaborative effort by Douglas and Lockheed (Vega).

18

It's a fact that...

- There are eighteen holes on many golf courses.
- Australian Rules football is played with teams of eighteen players.
- In the city of Reykjavik, Iceland one can see the stars eighteen hours a day during the heart of the winter. During the summer, sunlight is visible 24 hours a day.
- Eighteen degrees Celsius is usually considered a comfortable room temperature.
- The two eighteen letter words, "conservationists" and "conversationalists" are anagrams of each other. They are the longest pair of anagrams in the English language if scientific words are excluded.

19

It's a fact that...

- Nineteen is a prime number.
- The statue of Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial is 19 feet tall.



20

It's a fact that...

- A score is another name for twenty.
- A dart board is divided into twenty sectors numbered from one to twenty.
- An icosahedron is a solid with an equilateral triangle on each of its twenty faces.
- Parrots, most famous of all the talking birds, rarely acquire a vocabulary of more than twenty words. However, Tymhoney Greys and African Greys have been known to carry vocabularies in excess of 100 words.
- A dodecahedron is a solid with twenty corners (or vertices).
- Human infants normally grow twenty teeth, which are replaced by 32 adult teeth as they grow up.
- In Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator*, one pill of Wonka-Vite has the effect of making you exactly twenty years younger.

21

It's a fact that...

- Twenty-one is a triangular number ($1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 = 21$).
- Twenty-one is a Fibonacci number (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21...).
- The total number of spots on a normal die is twenty-one.
- A game of ping-pong is won by the first player reaching twenty-one points.
- Twenty-one is a card game where the object is to have a total score in one's hand nearest to, but not exceeding, twenty-one.

22

It's a fact that...

- The distance between the wickets on a cricket pitch is twenty-two yards.
- There are twenty-two players on the field in a football match.
- "Superextraordinarísimo" with twenty-two letters is the longest word in the Spanish language. It means "extraordinary."
- The average adult opens the refrigerator twenty-two times a day.



23

It's a fact that...

- Twenty-three is a prime number.
- When twenty-three people are in the same room, there is a better than even chance that at least two of them share the same birthday.

24

It's a fact that...

- Twenty-four is the smallest number to have eight different factors (1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 and 24).
- Twenty-four furlongs make one league. Furlongs and leagues are old imperial units of distance.
- Twenty-four is the number of ways in which the letters of the word MEAT may be arranged. Only five arrangements produce words, though.
- Twenty-four frames per second are projected in most animated films.
- Twenty-four karat gold is not pure gold; there is a small amount of copper in it. Absolutely pure gold is so soft that it can be molded with the hands.

To be continued...