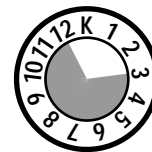


Today's Date

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

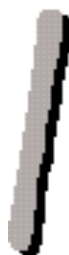
Note: This lesson plan will cover the numbers 1 – 31. In this issue we will start with 1 – 5 and will continue with the rest of the numbers in upcoming issues. The author welcomes suggestions to add to each number. Please send your ideas to her at the email listed above or to your TOMT editors.

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.



It is a fact that...

- All prime numbers are divisible by only one and themselves.
- In Australia, the number one topping for pizza is eggs. In the United States it is pepperoni.
- One is the only digit that, when pronounced in English has exactly the same number of syllables as its value.
- One is the second number that stays the same when written upside down.
- A cyclops is a creature with one eye.
- An ace is number one in playing cards. French playing cards are marked "1" instead of "A."
- A unicycle has only one wheel.
- A monorail is a railway where the track consists of one rail.
- The letters A, B, C, D, E, M, T, U, V, W and Y have one line of symmetry.
- Female elephants produce only one calf every five years.
- A mole can dig a tunnel 300 feet long in one night.
- A Möbius strip has one edge and one surface.



Möbius strip

It is a fact that...

- Two is the only even prime number.
- The average adult guinea pig weighs two pounds.
- Two is a Fibonacci number (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13...).
- Two-dimensional means that something has just length and width, but no depth.
- Elephants sleep only two hours a day.
- Sea otters inhabit water but never get wet because they have two coats of fur.
- The letters H, I and X all have two lines of symmetry.
- At the end of a lobster's second year, it will have grown to only about two inches long.
- A two-day-old gazelle can outrun a full-grown horse.



3

It is a fact that...

- A triangle has three sides.
- Three is a Fibonacci number (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13...).
- A rhinoceros has three toes on each foot.
- Camels have three eyelids to protect themselves from blowing sand.
- The letters A, E, H, K, N, Y, and Z are all made up of three lines.
- Three-dimensional means that something has length, width and depth.
- There are three barleycorns in an inch.
- There are three feet in a yard.
- A blue whale is as long as three Greyhound buses.
- The triceratops dinosaur had three horns.
- All the colors you see on a television screen are mixtures of these three colors of light: red, green and blue.

4

It is a fact that...

- The word four has four letters. In the English language there is no other number whose number of letters is equal to its value.
- Four is a square number (2×2).
- African elephants only have four teeth to chew food with. Each tooth is 12 inches long.
- A snake is capable of eating an animal four times larger than the width of its own head.
- A tetragram is a word with four letters (like four itself).
- A quadruped is a four-footed animal like an aardvark, or almost any mammal for that matter.
- At birth, a panda is smaller than a mouse and weighs about four ounces.
- There are four suits in a deck of cards (hearts, diamonds, spades, and clubs).
- There are four points of the compass (north, south, east and west).
- The moon has four phases (new, 1st quarter, full and last or 3rd quarter).
- A bee has four wings.
- The four seasons are spring, summer, fall and winter.

5

It is a fact that...

- A shrimp has five pairs of legs.
- Five is a Fibonacci number (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13...).
- Five is a prime number.
- We have five digits on each hand and foot. V, the Roman symbol for five may originate from the image of a hand with the fingers spread.
- A pentasyllabic word has five syllables, like the word pentasyllabic itself.
- A pentagon is a figure with five sides and five angles.
- A tiger's paw prints are called pug marks. A tiger's forefeet have five toes and the hind feet have four toes.
- To prevent waste, overeating and pollution of the water, feed the fish in a aquarium twice a day an amount that takes them five minutes to completely clean up.
- There are five rings in the Olympic symbol.
- There are five vowels in the English alphabet (a, e, i, o, u).
- There are five senses (sight, touch, taste, sound and smell).
- When you cut through an apple 'the wrong way' you get a five-pointed star.

To be continued....