

Ten Spins for 10-sticks

Number of Students: Small groups

Materials:

- Large number of multilink cubes (about 50 per person)
- 1 game board per person
- 1 Score Sheet per person
- 1 Spinner (1 – 9) per group
- 1 paperclip per group
- 1 pencil (or whiteboard marker if game board laminated) per group

Preparation:

Photocopy or print sufficient score sheets so that there is one for each person

Both spinner sheets and game board sheets can be laminated for longevity, although this is not strictly necessary.

How :

Students take turns at spinning a spinner, then collecting the corresponding number of unifix or multilink cubes and placing them along one of the ten-strips located in the ones column of the game board. Cubes are added to a single ten-strip until it is filled. If a strip is filled on a given throw, remaining cubes are used to start filling the second ten-strip, while the cubes on the filled ten-strip are snapped together to make one '10-stick' which is placed into the tens column. At the end of each turn, each student must determine how many cubes they have on their board altogether and then write this number in the space provided on their score sheet.

The winner is the student with the highest total after ten rounds. Students should be encouraged to work out their totals by first counting the number of 10-sticks they have and converting this to a number – for example if they have three 10-sticks, they need to understand that this means thirty cubes.