

MATH = FUN!



Stuart J. Murphy

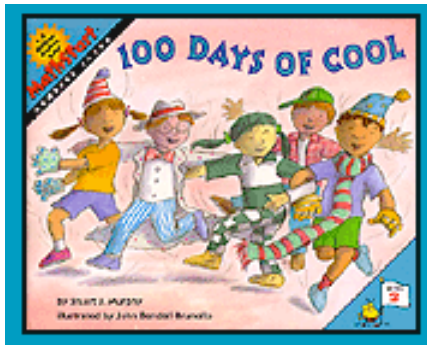
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HELP YOUR
KIDS BE BETTER
AT MATH



ACTIVITIES FOR THE 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL ... "100 DAYS OF COOL"
from our FREE e-newsletter / FALL 2006



100 Days of Cool (Numbers 1 - 100): When Mrs. Lopez tells her class that they're going to celebrate "100 Days of School," Maggie hears "100 of Days of Cool" instead. Mrs. Lopez thinks that's a great idea, too. So for the next 100 days, Maggie, along with her buddies Nathan, Yoshi, and Scott, come up with 100 different ways to be cool. They wear funny glasses, fancy socks, decorate their bikes, even dress up in cloths from the wacky 1970s. A number line is used to keep track of their progress. **Understanding the concept of 100 is a benchmark for children as they become familiar with percentages and place value.** Illustrated by John Bendall-Brunello.

- Make a number line, similar to the one shown in the book, on a long thin sheet of paper. Fold the number line in half and in half again. Use the folds to show how Day 25 is $\frac{1}{4}$ or 25% of the way to 100. Day 50 is halfway or $\frac{1}{2}$ or 50%. And Day 75 is $\frac{3}{4}$ or 75% of the way. What other fractions and percentages can you identify on the number line?
- Look at a calendar with your child. Starting on January 1, guess in which month the 100th day of the year will fall. Look at a calendar and find the 100th day. Note that while the month is always the same, the exact date can change because of leap years (February can be tricky!). Then see if you got it right. Try the same thing again, but this time start counting 100 days from today's date, or from the date of your child's birthday. Approximately how many months are there in 100 days? How many weeks?
- Give your child a set of dominos and ask her to make a line of matching dominos or "domino trains," with exactly 100 dots. How many trains can she make? As a variation, two kids can race to see which one can make the most trains before all the dominos are used up.
- Give your child 100 pennies and ask him to divide them into groups. Each group must have the same number of pennies and should not contain more than 15 pennies or fewer than 3. How many different ways can the pennies be groups so that there are none left over? Together with your child identify what fraction of 100 each group represents. (For example, each group of 5 pennies = $\frac{1}{20}$ of 100. Note how there are 20 groups of 5 pennies).

Do you have a good activity you'd like to share on learning about Numbers 1-100?
Send ideas to feedback@stuartjmurphy.com!