



Activity Ideas

Stuart J. Murphy
MathStart®

“Storybooks that make
math fun!”

Game Time!

Time

Level 3, Ages 7+

The relationships between the various units of time—seconds, minutes, hours, days, and weeks—and how clocks and calendars represent these units are important concepts for children to understand.

Last year, the Falcons were the soccer league champs. Can the Huskies beat them this year? The big game is only seven days away—just one week. Then it's only one day away—24 hours. Then it's only an hour away—60 minutes. At first the Falcons come on strong, scoring during the first 15-minute quarter. Will the Huskies catch up by the half, 30 minutes into the game? It's a nail-biter, right down to the last second! Illustrated by Cynthia Jabar.

- As you read the story together, have your child – or your class - note the relationships between various units of time. For example, 1 week = 7 days. Make a list of ways time is measured (weeks, days, hours, minutes and seconds).
- How many kinds of clocks can you find at home? Or in the classroom? Can you find a watch, a wall clock, a stopwatch, an alarm clock, a clock on an oven or microwave, a clock in a computer or a cell phone? How are all the clocks the same? How are they different?
- Circle your child's birthday on a calendar. Ask how many months, weeks and days until this date. In class, circle the date of an upcoming holiday. Ask how many months, weeks and days until this date.
- Together, count the number of half hours, quarter hours and minutes in an hour. Now try a two-hour block of time. How many hours in a single day? How many half hours, quarter hours and minutes?

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