

So you want to have a
Math Festival?

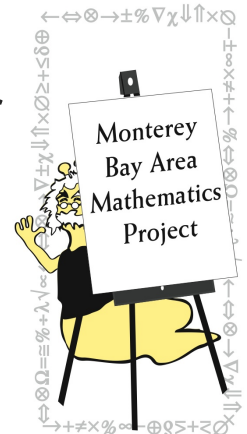
Monterey Bay Area Math Project's Guide
How to Host a Math Festival at Your School.



mathfes·ti·val/maTH/ /'festəvəl/

The abstract science of number, quantity, and space - made tangible, accessible and fun for all members of a school community by way of a celebratory event.

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Why have a Math Festival?

Math festivals are a fun way to connect math with the world around us. Math Festivals promote the learning and increase awareness about importance of mathematics. They can also provide student, teacher, and parent engagement.

What is a Math Festival?

A math festival is set up like a school carnival with different booths. Participants play games, create art, and problem solve with hands on activities.

2 Ways to have a Math Festival

1. **In the classroom.** The teacher sets up the game so:
 1. Play can be teacher -vs- class
 2. Play can be students -vs- students
 3. Play can be invited guests -vs- students.
2. **For the School.** Hosts can be students, parent volunteers, or teachers. Hosts will:
 1. Learn the games
 2. Choose the games for the fair
 3. Form game teams
 4. Create their game booth
 5. Choose a date, time & place
 6. Invite the participants
 7. Enjoy!

Who Should Host your Math Fair?

1. **Students.** Students can host a math fair for their peers or they can invite a guest class of the same grade level or a different grade level. A math fair designed for a lower grade level is a great way to re-engage students with their math skills. Students can also host a fair for their families. It is a different way to help students feel like they can be successful mathematically.
2. **Teachers.** An interesting environment for teachers / students interaction. It is a nice activity for an evening event with students and parents.
3. **Parent volunteers.** Parents hosting a math fair is a method of building a school community.

Games to include in your Math Festival:

You can include any of your favorite math games and activities for a math festival. Here are some that we have used in the past. You can find links to free downloadable games and games to purchase on our website.



1. **24** The object of this game is to make the number 24 from the four numbers on a game card.
2. **Equate** Like scrabble, but uses equations instead of words.
3. **Hurkle** uses the skills of coordinate graphing and compass directions.
4. **Product Game** a strategy game using factors to create products where the goal is to mark 4 boxes in a row.
5. **SET** make a set of cards using attributes that are all the same or all different
6. **Blokus** uses polyominoes to stretch across a game board. The goal is to use as many of your pieces as you can.
7. **99 Game** a card game where the goal is to stay in the game and not go over 99.

