

Large Dice Idea Book



Regardless of the grade or subjects you teach, you are encouraged to read the entire booklet of suggestions. Many ideas listed in one grade level or subject area can be adapted to another level with little or no extra work.

To order more individual dice or other dice games,
visit us at www.summerbookcompany.com
or call 877-684-8502.

If you come up with a great use for these dice not mentioned in this booklet, please call us on our toll-free line or send us an email. We would like to put it in the next edition of this book for the benefit of all.

Preschool

1. Same and different - Put the same letters, numbers or shapes on each of two dice. Roll the dice and have the child tell if the uppermost faces of the dice are the same or different.

Variation: Roll one die and have the child turn the second die around in his hand until he finds the same symbol.

2. Upper and lower case - Place uppercase letters on one die and the same letter in the lowercase on the other die. Have the child roll one die. Then the child can turn the second die around in his hand until he finds the same letter as shown on the other die.

3. Numbers - Place a number on each face of the die. Give the child a group of items to count. Have the child roll the die and count out the appropriate number of counters.

Elementary

1. Math facts - Use the die for the drill of addition, subtraction, multiplication or division facts. Write one fact, such as “ $2+5$,” on each spot. Place the spots at random on the die. Roll or throw the die, and give the answer to the problem on the uppermost face.

The die can be combined with a game board for a variety of games. Give each player a mover. Each player takes a turn rolling the die and answering the problem. The person with the highest answer goes first. To play the game, roll the die and answer the problem. If the answer is correct, move the number of spaces indicated by the *second* number in the problem. For example, if the problem were “ $2+5$,” the player would move 5 spaces after giving a correct answer.

Note: When setting up the die for the game, make sure the second number in the math problems varies.

Correct: $2+1$, $2+2$, $2+3$, $2+4$, . . .

Incorrect: $1+2$, $2+2$, $3+2$, $4+2$, . . .

Variation: Write a number on each face of two dice. Have the student roll the dice and add, subtract, multiply, or divide the two numbers on the uppermost face of the dice. You can control the difficulty by writing large or small numbers on the dice. You may wish to have a “beginner” and “advanced” set of dice.

2. Words - Place at least 3 vowels at random on the die. Write a frequently used consonant on each of the other sides. Roll the die 5 or 6 times and write down the letter on the uppermost face each time. If no vowels were rolled, cross out the letters and try again. Then, in the allotted time, make as many words as possible from the letters.

If this is played as a group, keep score by counting one point for every letter in each word that is more than two letters long. The first player to reach 100 points wins.

3. Spelling - At least two players are needed for the game to be successful. Write one spelling word on each side of the die. The first player rolls the die behind a screen so that he cannot see what word is on the uppermost face. The second player tells him what word to spell. If the first player spells the word correctly, he receives points or gets to move ahead.

Also, see the English ideas in the high school section.

4. Plurals - Write the singular form of words that have unusual plurals on the die. The child rolls the die and correctly spells the plural form of the word on the uppermost face.

Example words: shelf, child, ox, deer, woman

5. Synonyms, homonyms or antonyms - Write one word on each face of the die. The child rolls the die and gives the appropriate synonym, homonym or antonym. Since all these words come in pairs, two dice may be used in a manner similar to preschool suggestion 2.

6. Verb tenses - Write the present tense form of a verb on each face of the die. The child will give the past tense form.

7. Phonics blends, digraphs, or vowel combinations - Write one blend, digraph or vowel combination on each face of the die. Have the student roll or catch the die and give a word containing that letter combination.

High School

General

1. Scoring - Use the die as a score generator. Write “1 point,” “2 points,” “Roll Again” and similar things on each face of the die. Before/after the student has correctly answered the question, he may roll the die to see how many points he has earned for his team.

2. Terms - Write a term on each face of the die. Have a student roll or catch the die and explain the term on the uppermost face.

Music

Place a music note, clef or other musical symbol on each face of the die. Have a student roll or catch the die and explain the musical symbol on the uppermost face.

Foreign Languages

1. Conjugation of verbs - Place a different verb on each face of the die. Have the student roll or catch the die and conjugate the verb on the uppermost face.

2. Nouns and verbs - Place a common noun on each face on one die and a common verb on each face of another die. Have a student roll the dice and make up a sensible sentence including the two words on the uppermost faces of the dice.

Variation - Add a third die with a common adjective on each face. Have the student make up a sensible sentence including the three words on the uppermost faces of the dice.

Bible

1. Verses - Write a reference or the first few words of a verse on each face of the die. Have the student roll or catch the die and give the verse or the verse and reference.

Variation: Write a different book of the Bible on each face of the die. Have the student roll or catch the die and name the book of the Bible that comes before/after that book.

2. People - Write a person's name on each face of the die. Have the student roll or catch the die and give the name(s) of the husband/wife/children of the person named on the die.

Chemistry

1. Chemical elements - Place an element symbol on each face of the die. Have a student roll or catch the die and explain the element symbol on the uppermost face.

History

1. Use the second idea under "General" for dates, Presidents, explorers, or countries and capitals.

Math

1. Metric prefixes - Write a metric prefix, such as "centi," on each face of the die. Use prefixes more than once as necessary to fill up the die. Have a student roll or catch the die and explain the metric prefix on the uppermost face.

Variation - Make two identical dice. Have a student roll the dice and give a conversion factor, such as “1 centimeter = 10 millimeters.”

2. English measurements - Place a pair of English units of each side of the die. Have a student roll or catch the die and give the conversion factor for the units on the uppermost face.

Examples: in.→ ft., min.→sec., qt.→gal.

3. Math formulas - Write a different formula or formula description on each face of the die. Have a student roll or catch the die and give the formula or tell what that formula is used to calculate.

Examples: $\frac{1}{2}bh$, area of a rectangle, πr^2

English

1. Spelling - See spelling in the elementary section.

2. Vocabulary - Write one vocabulary word on each face of the die. Have the student roll or catch the die and define the word and/or use it in a sentence.

3. Parts of speech - Write a word on each face of the die and an abbreviation for one of the parts of speech. Have the student roll or catch the die and make up a sentence using that word as that part of speech.

Example: run→n. “After the impending blizzard was announced, there was a *run* on bread at the grocery store.”