

Purposes of Games

Games are a central part of the mathematics, not just enrichment.

Games develop familiarity with the number system and with 'landmarks' in the number system, such as 10s, 100s, and 1000s.

Games provide engaging opportunities for practicing computation.

Playing games encourages strategic mathematical thinking and demands that students find an optimal way (rather than just any way) of solving a problem.

Games are played often throughout the year to develop fluency with numbers. It's expected that students will play a game many times.

Games provide repeated practice without need for the teacher to provide the problems. The teacher is free to observe students or to work with a few students.

Afford teachers opportunities to observe individuals

Games provide a school to home link. Parents learn about the mathematical thinking their children are doing by playing games with them at home.