

Equation Math Matching Game

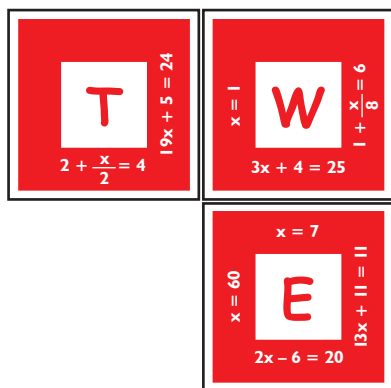
Getting Started

There are five 8" x 8" matching grid cards that make up a total of ten puzzles. The grid cards have two puzzles each, one on either side. Each puzzle has its own color, so the pieces of a given puzzle can be kept together and easily differentiated from the pieces of the other puzzles. The orange and yellow puzzles are the basic one-step equation puzzles. The blue, gray, and black puzzles are the advanced one-step equation puzzles. The red and purple puzzles are the basic two-step equation puzzles. The green, brown, and pink puzzles are the advanced two-step equation puzzles. Each card is a 16-piece puzzle that makes up a phrase. Each card must be cut on the dotted lines into pieces before it's given to the students. After you cut out each puzzle, bind each group of puzzle pieces together and store in a plastic ziplock bag or a file folder.

How to Play

This game can be played individually or in groups of two to three. Each group of students gets 16 matching puzzle pieces. The students will choose a problem to solve on one puzzle piece, and then find the matching answer on one of the other pieces in their set. Match the card to the correct answer by placing the problem card adjacent to the correct answer card to begin building an 8" x 8" answer grid (**See Figure 1**). When all the puzzle pieces are put together and the grid is complete, it reveals a clever quip!

Figure 1



In the equation $19x + 5 = 24$, $x = 1$. Therefore you put these two puzzle pieces next to each other with the equation and the answer touching.

Same with the equation $3x + 4 = 25$. In this equation $x = 7$. So you put these puzzle pieces together with the equation and the answer touching.

Tips for Teachers

- This hands-on activity can be given to an individual student who has finished his or her class work early or needs some additional practice solving equations.
- Use as a think-pair-share activity by grouping two or three students of varying ability to encourage students to work independently.
- Have students write out all the problems and show any necessary work on a separate piece of paper to be collected and graded to ensure accountability.
- Use as a warm-up activity to practice the previous day's lesson on solving one- or two-step equations.
- Use as a spiral review activity any time of the year!

Puzzles Clever Quips

Red – TWO STEP TO SUCCESS.

Green – REACH FOR THE STARS.

Orange – FOCUS ON YOUR GOALS.

Blue – WORK HARD. DREAM BIG.

Purple – TIME FLIES ON WINGS.

Yellow – THIS IS SUM FUN MATH.

Gray – SMILE IT IS CATCHY!

Black – DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY.

Pink – MAKE LUCK HAPPEN.

Brown – ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST.