



# Math Routines, Puzzles and Games for Fluency

Math fluency is the ability to perform mathematical operations quickly and accurately. Math learners need to use their finite working memory to learn new math concepts, solve complex problems and think creatively in mathematics, rather than using working memory to recall basic math facts.

So, how do we promote automaticity of basic math facts without endless worksheets, mad minutes and textbook assignments? Math routines, puzzles and games can all promote both recall and flexible thinking.

When using math routines, puzzles and games, it is important that we:

- Choose number type and range based on curricular outcomes;
- Create appropriate groupings;
- Develop classroom norms and procedures that promote safety and community; and
- Monitor thinking and invite student sharing to promote complex thinking.

Being playful in mathematics can increase student engagement and build confidence to tackle new mathematics tasks. If you would like more information about a workshop on Math Routines, Puzzles and Games for Fluency, please contact Terry using the information below.

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