

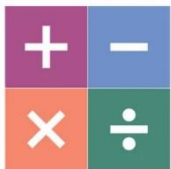
DISCUSSING THE STEPS FOR SUCCESS WITH LEARNERS

Discussing the steps for success with your learners is critical for any activity, whether it is a teacher-directed or a Guided Play lesson. This tip sheet shows an example of how you can do it.

Ms. T teaches a class of 43 P3 learners. She has planned a teacher-directed activity around the Numeracy competency 'to compute accurately using the four mathematical operations'. She stands in front of her class and asks them who remembers the names of the four mathematical operations. She gives them 5 seconds to think and then asks one learner to name one of the operations. She tells the rest of the class to stand up if they agree with the first learner's answer. If anyone stays sitting down, she asks them to explain their choice. She then chooses another learner, and does the same again,



until she has all four operations listed on the board. This only takes a minute or two to do.



Ms. T then tells the learners that today they are going to play a game where they will be using all four operations. She is going to put them in groups of 10, and they will stand in circles. One learner will start by asking the learner next to them a question that uses one or more of the operations. If they get it right, they ask the learner next to them a question, and so on. All the learners show thumbs up if they think it is correct, and thumbs down if not. If someone gets it wrong, they stand in the middle of the circle. The learners who are out of the game

still follow the questions and show thumbs up or thumbs down. If they find it tricky to think of a question, they can take one from a pile of cards in the middle of the circle, but Ms. T would like them to try and think of their own ideas.

Before the learners start the game, Ms. T asks them how they will know they have participated in the game correctly. She can do that by asking questions like:

- What are we going to do in this game; what steps are we taking?
- What does a learner have to do to participate in this game?
- What are the skills you need to participate in this game?

Here are some of the success criteria the learners mentioned. Ms. T wrote them on the blackboard:

- We stand in a circle
- We choose someone to ask the first question
- We think about what we already know when using plus, subtract, multiply, and divide. We can use our fingers to help us, as well as our timetables, the number lines on the wall in the classroom, and so on.
- We give everyone time to think and work out the answer
- We join in by working out the question at the same time, and showing our thumbs up or down if we agree with their answer
- If we get a question wrong, we stand in the middle of the circle. It is fine to get a question wrong as that is how we learn
- We continue to listen and join in by trying to work out answers to any other questions
- The winner is the person left at the end!

By discussing the steps for success, the learners know what they must do and their learning will be fast and focused.