



ACTIVITY 26: “Order of Operations (GEMDAS or PEMDAS)”

Purpose of the activity:

- Student learns that anytime 2 or more dice of the same color appear in the same problem that means they have a parentheses around them and that operation should be performed first
- Student learns the correct order in which the operations should be performed. That is Parentheses, (mentioned above), Exponents (to be learned later), Multiplication, Division, Addition, Subtraction (PEMDAS)
- When there are two or more dice of two or more different colors the Student must know which operation to perform first. Multiplication before addition and subtraction.

Materials needed:

- 2 basic black dice, 2 basic green dice and 1 basic red die

How to play:

- Variation 1: Teacher has all 5 dice and randomly rolls all five or four. Student groups the dice by color and says the order the operations should be performed.
- Variation 2: Exact same as Variation 1 except that the student also performs the operations and figures out the solution.

Possible Next Steps/ When to Move On To Next Activity:

- The next step will be to start doing problems with 3 or more dice where the proper order of operations is critical to solving the problem accurately.