

Rainbow Match Parachute

Item #10793

What Are the Educational Applications?

The Rainbow Match Parachute is a great new parachute for physical education classes that can be used to reinforce concepts from various academic disciplines. The games developed for this Activity Guide reinforce science, art education, language arts, and mathematics concepts.

Science concepts related to force (a push or pull that gives energy to an object; children use force to move the parachute), work (when force moves an object over a distance; when the ball moves on top of the parachute), potential energy (energy stored in an object; energy in a parachute that is not moving) and kinetic energy (energy of motion; the energy when we move the parachute) can be demonstrated through the various Rainbow Match Parachute games. Art education concepts of color recognition and matching are presented in the Color Match game. The language arts concepts reinforced through Rainbow Match Parachute games range from basic letter recognition to organizing letters to spell words. Place value and computation skills (addition and multiplication) are used in the Rainbow Match math games. The last game, *Dinner Party* by Chef Art Desin, is just plain fun! Many of the games in this Activity Guide also foster basic team-building skills such as communication, establishing group goals, and planning to achieve a goal in a low-level risk-taking activity.

How Can I Use This Product With My Kids?

ART EDUCATION: Color Match

This activity reinforces the concepts of recognizing colors and matching colors. Place a color-coded whiffle ball on the Rainbow Match Parachute. Have the children identify the color of the ball. Children must then maneuver the ball to the matching-color parachute panel and into the catch net on that panel.

Want a Challenge? Place one color-coded whiffle ball for each color-coded parachute panel on top of the parachute. Children must maneuver each ball into the matching panel catch net.

LANGUAGE ARTS: Rainbow Scrabble

Children will use a variety of alphabet letters to create words. The children will be organized in color teams that correspond with the colors used on the panels of the parachute. There will be a blue, green, orange, red, and yellow team. Using one ball, the children will maneuver the ball on top of the parachute and into a catch net. Each parachute panel has two or three alphabet letters on the

panel. On a chalkboard, list the alphabet letters found on the panel where the ball entered the catch net.

Repeat the process of maneuvering the ball into a catch net three or four times (the number of maneuvers depends on the spelling ability of the children). Remember to list the alphabet letters from each panel where the ball was caught. If the ball is caught twice in the same catch net, list the letters again. This is how you will be able to create words with double letters. After the final turn, members of the five color teams work together to generate as many words as possible using the letters listed on the chalkboard. You may only use a word with double/triple letters if you have the letters available from landing in the catch net multiple times. Allow ten to fifteen minutes for students to generate their list. Each team will post their list of words. Members from other teams may challenge words on each team's lists (have plenty of dictionaries available). Score points for accurately spelled words and one point for each letter used in the word.

Want a Challenge? Children are given a word by the teacher to spell (ask the classroom teacher for a current spelling list). Working as a team, the children must maneuver the ball to the appropriate catch nets to accurately spell the word. A ball that rolls into an inaccurate catch net results in spelling the word over again from the beginning.

MATH: Rainbow Math

Requires children to use place value concepts in order to write numbers in their standard form, word name, and expanded form. The children will be organized in color teams that correspond with the colors used on the panels of the parachute. There will be a blue, green, orange, red, and yellow team. Using one ball, the children will maneuver the ball on top of the parachute and into a catch net. Each parachute panel has a number. On a chalkboard list the number found on the panel where the ball entered the catch net.

Repeat the process of maneuvering the ball into a catch net two more times (the number of maneuvers depends on how many place values the children have worked with in the classroom). Remember to list the numbers (in order) from each panel where the ball was caught. If the ball is caught twice in the same catch net, list the number twice.

Example: The first ball is caught in the catch net corresponding to #9, the second ball is caught in the catch

net corresponding to #5, and the third ball is caught in the catch net corresponding to #2. After the final turn, members of the five color teams will work together to write the number in standard form, word name, and expanded form (see example below). The standard form of the number would be 952. The word name, is nine hundred fifty-two. The expanded form of the number would be $900+50+2$. Allow ten to fifteen minutes for children to generate the written numbers. Each team will post their writings. Members from other teams may challenge the writings on each team's lists. Score points based on correct formats for writing the numbers.

Want a Challenge? Using the computation skills of addition or multiplication, have the children determine the sum (addition) or product (multiplication) of a math problem determined by the Rainbow Match Parachute.

Example: The first ball is caught in the catch net corresponding to #3 and the second ball is caught in the catch net corresponding to #8.

Addition: $3+8=11$

Multiplication: $3 \times 8=24$

JUST PLAIN FUN: Dinner Party By Chef Art Desin

Children will be preparing a meal for a lively dinner party. Rubber and foam food replicas like chickens, fish, pizzas, hamburgers, vegetables, and fruits are the food selections found on Chef Desin's menu. The children select a food for the main course (chicken or fish). The food selected must be tossed into the catch nets based on the number of guests (players around the parachute). For example, if twelve guests (players) are around the parachute, the main course must land in the catch nets twelve times.

Upon successfully completing the main course, the children select a vegetable to serve with the meal. Once again, the vegetable choice must land in the catch nets twelve times so that all guests receive a serving. Children may then select a fruit for the desert.

Want a Challenge? In this activity, each child around the parachute makes his/her own food choice for the main course. As a group, the children must remember how many orders of each food choice were placed. For example, five children select chicken, seven children select fish, and six children select pizza. The children must put each food in the catch net the correct number of orders.

How Do I Make This Developmentally Appropriate For My Students?

Integrating subject areas within one activity can provide children with an exciting and novel learning experience. Integrating subject areas also provides educators with an opportunity to collaborate to provide a mutually beneficial learning experience. An excellent resource,

Interdisciplinary Teaching Through Physical Education (Cone, Werner, Cone & Woods), offers the reader important considerations related to subject integration. A short list of considerations which will help you make developmentally appropriate content selections for the games in this Activity Guide include:

- Reviewing curriculum guides from various academic disciplines in your district (identify the concepts/content being taught at the various grade levels).
- Discussing concepts/content to be presented in the game with the classroom teacher (determine if the material to be presented is relevant, current, and age appropriate).
- Sequencing the delivery of integrated concepts/content to enhance learning within each discipline.

How Does This Product Relate To Current Educational Thinking?

Facilitating Cognitive Development—Appropriate Practice

- Teachers design activities with both the physical and the cognitive development of children in mind.
- Teachers provide experiences that encourage children to question, integrate, analyze, apply, and communicate cognitive concepts. Children learn to search for answers and use critical thinking skills to understand concepts that are presented to them, thus making physical education a meaningful part of the total educational experience.

Developing Affective Skills—Appropriate Practice

- Teachers intentionally design activities throughout the program which allow students opportunities to work together for the purpose of developing social skills (cooperative and competitive) and responsible behavior. Situations are designed for purposeful teaching of these skills; they are not left for "teachable moments" only.
- Teachers help all children experience the satisfaction and joy that can result from learning about and regular participation in physical activity. The environment is supportive of all students, including those of lesser skills, and promotes the development of a positive self-concept. Children are given chances to try, to fail, and to try again, free of criticism or harassment from the teacher or other students.





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Please direct your questions or concerns regarding this product to the appropriate office listed below between the hours of 8AM-6PM Eastern Time

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