

Calculating Changes Pot Boiler

October 2020

Special Issue ... *Maths At Home At School*

Hi there,

This is your occasional eNews from the Calculating Changes network of Mathematics Centre. It is designed to help you keep Calculating Changes 'on the boil', bubbling away, as a healthy contribution to the number component of your curriculum.

The previous issue of Pot Boiler alerted you to the resource we have been building within Mathematics Centre to support maths learning during home schooling. It is a completely public division of the site we call Maths At Home (MAH). With face to face teaching returning everywhere across Australia - thank goodness I hear you chorus - MAH is now triply useful.

The activities are all written in a 'voice' that assumes learners (K - 10) are working independently with 'critical friend' guidance as necessary. A concept as relevant in the classroom as it is in the home schooling context.

Also, within that 'voice' each activity is structured in steps just like a class lesson plan, including:

- an overriding aim of learning to work like a mathematician,
- statement of content and appropriate year levels (in the Learners link),
- rich, connected, contextual learning,
- integration of journal writing throughout, and
- expectation of self-evaluation at the conclusion of the activity.

All activities can be read from the screen. Most require materials which are usually available at home and certainly have an equivalent in the school supply. Some require a printed sheet.

So, with the return to school at school all MAH activities have three lives:

- As a self-directed project carried out at home, perhaps with a localised guidance sheet from you.
- As a self-directed project in school, individually or in small groups, to help you differentiate learning in the classroom.
- As the steps of a whole class investigation - in essence, a lesson plan created for you.

At the time of the previous issue of Pot Boiler there were 46 activities in the Learners link and 16 were from Calculating Changes. Now there are 57 and 22 are from Calculating Changes.

Even if you think you know any of the activities on the list, please look at them through MAH. The changed voice has brought additional meaning to most and new resources have been added to some.

Ten of the Calculating Changes contributions are from our Free Tour section and 11 are from our Member section. So, if you are not already a member school of Calculating Changes you now have access to 11 new activities to help you decide whether you want to access the other 65 available to members.

Another benefit of membership is a significant discount on both Poly Plug and Picture Puzzles. Every Member school has benefitted from the Poly Plug discount, but surprisingly few have acted on the Picture Puzzles opportunity. The MAH activity *Rows, Rectangles and Multiplication* is totally built around a Picture Puzzle so there's an opportunity to try out the concept with your class. It also uses Poly Plug, if you have them, or if not, a Times Tables Chart like you have never seen before.

Calculating Changes activities currently available through MAH are:

- Counting Frames (K-1) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Kites & Kite Tails (K-1) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Seats On A Bus (K-1) ... based on a video created in a 6 day Calculating Changes workshop
- Ten Friends (K-1) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Two Dollar Shop (K-3) ... from CCh Member
- Fill The Board (K-6) ... from CCh Member
- Six Plus (K-6) ... from CCh Member
- Ten Tens (1-3) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Highest Number (1-10) ... from CCh Member
- Number Shapes (1-8) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Please May I Have (2-6) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Making & Breaking Rectangles (2-7) ... from CCh Member
- Calculating Slido (2-8) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Exploring Times Tables (2-8) ... from CCh Member
- Five Cards (2-8) ... from CCh Member
- Predict A Count (2-8) ... from CCh Free Tour
- The Big One (2-8) ... from CCh Member
- Wipe Out (3-7) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Rectangle Fractions (4-8) ... from CCh Member
- Rectangle Fractions Game (4-8) ... from CCh Free Tour
- Rows, Rectangles & Multiplication (4-8) ... from CCh Member (as Rows & Straws)
- Target Range (4-9) ... from CCh Member

You will find these activities in the Learners link on the home page. Scroll down or Ctrl F to find the name. <http://www.mathematicscentre.com/mathsathome>

However, if this is your first time visiting the site we suggest you briefly explore the Background and Grown Ups links first.

This will be our last Pot Boiler for this year, but there is plenty listed above to help you for now and for planning next year too. Best of luck with finishing off 2020 with an educational flourish. There are likely to be more MAH activities added before the end of the year, so register as explained on the site if you want to be informed when they are published.

Also if you are teaching in Victoria remember to let us know your changed email address.

Keep smiling,
Doug.