

Notes for *Keep The Difference High Card*

Level: Grades K-2

Recommended # of Players: 2

Materials: Deck of 44 cards with 4 sets of ten cards numbered 0-10; cubes or counters and a pot to keep them in.

Math Skills: Subtraction

Mathematical benefits:

Keep the Difference High Card is a game in which children are subtracting without knowing it. Students are able to use a physical representation to compare numbers and determine which is *more*. This allows young children to keep subtraction in positive terms, which is much easier for them to understand. Students are able to use their understanding of number relationships in addition to play this game. For example, if one student creates a tower that is 7 blocks tall, and the other student creates a tower that is 4 blocks tall students must determine the *difference* in these heights. A young child is able to think of this as a problem involving a missing addend and solve the problem without formal subtraction instruction.