

Common Themes

- ✓ Challenging and appealing to kids
- ✓ Good for any grade level and topic
- ✓ Easily customized to fit ability level of class
- ✓ Can be extended to algebra expressions
- ✓ Develops number sense
- ✓ Great way to introduce lesson ideas
- ✓ Excellent time filler, warmup, or end-of-class activity

Common Themes

What do these items have in common?

1. Apple, orange, ash, pine, oak, cedar . . .
2. Mars, Milky Way, Twix, Crackle . . .
3. Lincoln, Ford, Polk, Harrison, Adams . . .
4. Coffee, dining, end, multiplication . . .
5. Water, flower, double, trundle, bunk, futon . . .
6. Fish, traffic, college, elementary, middle, . . .
7. I, it, we, you, them, she, . . .
8. Curling, cricket, soccer, track, volleyball . . .
9. Mustang, Colt, Avalon, Corolla, Accord . . .
10. Bears, Rams, Eagles, Panthers, Lions . . .

trees, candy bars, presidents, tables, beds, schools, pronouns, sports, car models, NFL teams

Common Themes – Numbers

What do these numbers have in common?

1. 2, 56, 84, 12, 18, 2000 . . .
2. 7, 11, 19, 23, 2, 89 . . .
3. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24
4. 13, 8, 34, 1, 3, 21, 55, 2 . . .
5. 0, 64, 16, 36, 49, 25, 9 . . .
6. 8, 1, 27, 125, 64, 216 . . .
7. 84, 35, 63, 14, 91, 21 . . .
8. 20, 220, 85, 90, 60, 45 . . .
9. 9, 22, 101, 49194, 101, 393 . . .
10. 24, 28, 84, 8, 100, 56 . . .

even numbers, primes, factors of 24, Fibonacci numbers, square numbers, cubic numbers, multiples of 7, multiples of 5, palindromes, multiples of 4

Common Themes – Algebra

What do these algebra expressions have in common?

1. $2(x - 4)$, $-3(y + 5)$, $-(6y + 2)$, $(w + 5)3$, . . .
2. 1^7 , $5x/5x$, x^0 ,
3. $6/0$, $\sqrt{-16}$, 0^0 , $\log(-3)$,
4. $|$, $|$, $\sqrt{\quad}$, \leq , π , θ , ∞
5. $x + 0 = 0$, $1 \cdot x = x$, $-1x = -x$, $x + (-x) = 0$, . .
6. $7x$ & $9x$, $-2y^2$ & $8y^2$, $4wz$ & $9wz$, . . .
7. bh , $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$, $2l + 2w$, πr^2 , . . .
8. linear, quadratic, cubic, . . .
9. $(2, 3)$, $(-4, 6)$, $(5, 0)$, $(7, -3)$, . . .
10. (\quad) , $[\quad]$, $\{ \quad \}$, ————— , . . .

distributive property, all equal one, undefined, math symbols, properties of real number system, like terms, formulas, types of equations, ordered pairs, symbols of inclusion