



MATH CHALLENGE

WHEN: As the final activity in the math unit

OBJECTIVES: Build collaboration skills, practice identifying what a difficult question looks like, make a quick decision about whether to try a question or skip it

MATERIALS: *Essential Skills* text for each student, pencils, scratch paper, calculators, incentive for winning team

STEPS:

1. Divide your class into two groups. Line up desks so that students in a group are facing each other.
2. Have students open to *Essential Skills* Advanced Math section.
3. Give students 5–6 minutes to find the 10 HARDEST math questions for the OTHER team to do.
4. Assign one person per team to scribe the page and item number for the hardest questions.
5. Collect the two lists. Make sure each student has a pencil, calculator, scratch paper, and *Essential Skills* book.
6. Give each team the list the other team created for them.
7. Teams agree not to look in the back for answers.
8. Set the timer for 30 minutes.
9. The team that gets the most items right (they must show their work) wins an incentive.