

Fluency Activities

Grade 5

Fifth Grade Fluency Activities

Math fluency activities in Imagine+ Math help students develop accuracy, efficiency, and flexibility in mathematical thinking. They provide structured practice to strengthen number sense, reinforce foundational skills, and build automaticity with key math concepts. Fluency activities increase student confidence by engaging them in problem-solving, developing a deeper understanding of mathematical relationships, and preparing them for more complex tasks.

Some activities require materials found in your classroom.

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Activity 1

Decimal Compare

Topic/Concept

Comparing and Ordering Decimals

Objective

Students will compare and order decimals to the thousandths by using place value reasoning.

Materials

- Deck of cards (numbers 1–9 only) – *Substitute four sets of 1–9 written on index cards if preferred*
- Whiteboards or paper

Steps

1. Each student draws four cards and arranges them into a decimal (e.g., 3.472).
2. Students pair up and compare decimals, deciding which is greater.
3. Partners explain their reasoning using place value language.
4. As a group, discuss strategies for comparing decimals.

Resource List

- Deck of cards (numbers 1–9 only)

Deck of Cards (Numbers 1–9 only)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Topic/Concept

Graphing Ordered Pairs

Objective

Students will graph ordered pairs and analyze how the plotted points can form lines, shapes, or patterns.

Materials

- Grid paper or coordinate plane mats
- Dice (numbered 1–6)

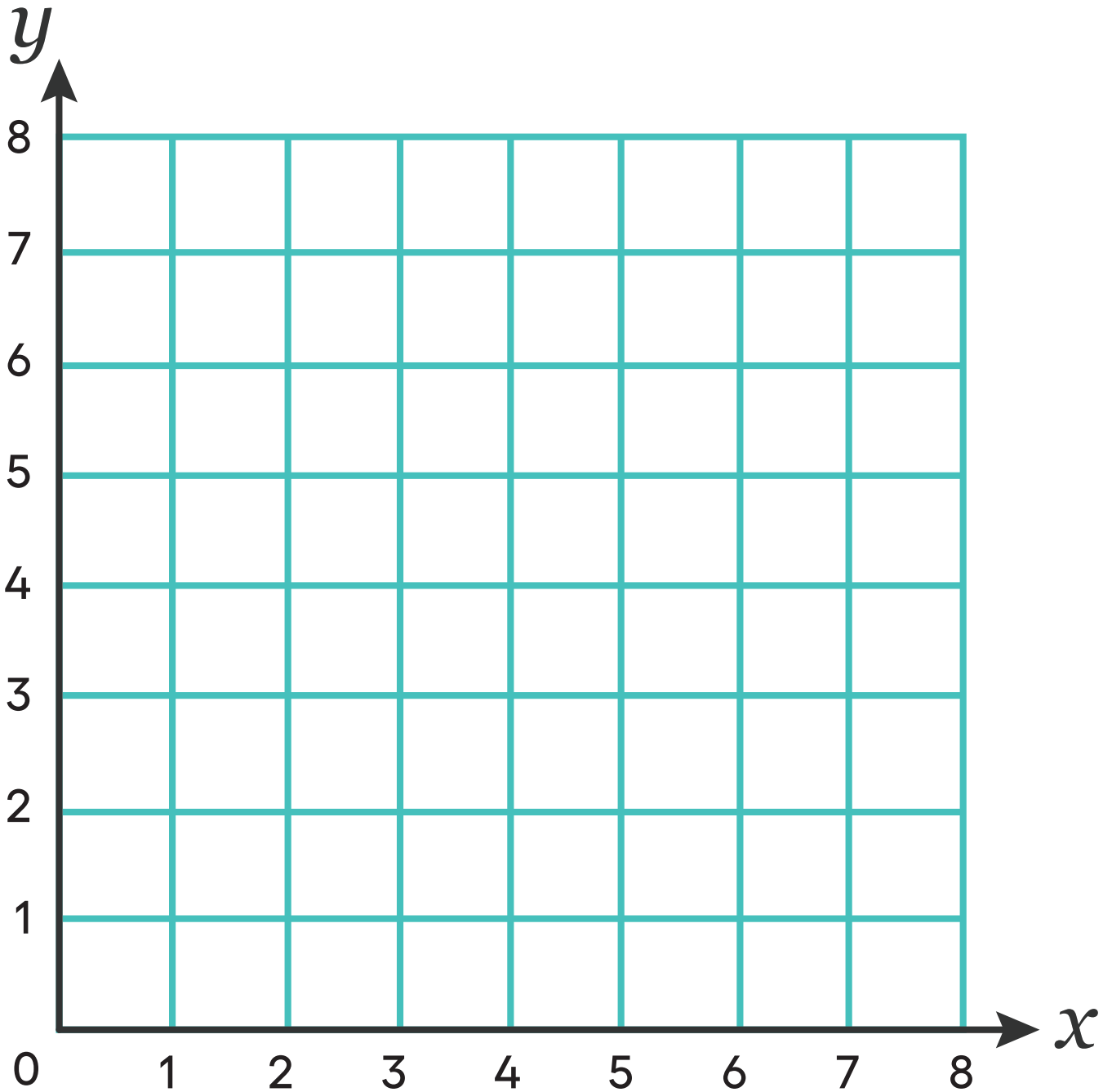
Steps

1. Students roll two dice to create an ordered pair (x, y) .
2. They plot the point on the coordinate grid.
3. Students compare with classmates to find patterns (e.g., same x -value forms vertical lines).
4. Then, discuss how the points form relationships and shapes.

Resource List

- Coordinate plane mat

Coordinate Plane Mat



Topic/Concept

Finding Volume of a Rectangular Prism

Objective

Students will build a rectangular prism and find its volume using unit cubes and measured dimensions.

Materials

- Linking cubes or small boxes
- Rulers

Steps

1. Students build a rectangular prism (a size of their own choosing) with cubes.
2. Students will count the cubes to find volume.
3. Next, they will measure side lengths and calculate using the formula $V = l \times w \times h$.
4. To extend, students can compare the two methods for finding volume.

Resource List

no additional resources needed

Activity 4

Class Data Plot

Topic/Concept

Creating a Graph from Survey Results

Objective

Students will create a dot plot or bar graph from survey results and interpret what the data shows.

Materials

- Chart paper
- Sticky notes

Steps

1. Pose a question such as “What is your favorite subject?” or “Which genre of book is your favorite?”
2. Students use sticky notes to vote and then construct either a dot plot or a bar graph.
3. Students analyze the results, discussing trends and identifying mode, range, or average.
4. To extend, have students predict results if they were to survey a different group of people.

Resource List

no additional resources needed

Topic/Concept

Making Choices Based on a Budget

Objective

Students will compare budgeting choices and describe how different priorities affect spending and saving.

Materials

- Sample monthly income handout
- List of expenses (rent, groceries, entertainment, savings, etc.) handout
- Optional: Surprise Cards (for Teacher)
Choose one (or roll a die to pick one) and add it to the budget as students are working:
 - Bike repair: + \$35 one time
 - Birthday party gift: + \$20 one time
 - Doctor visit copay: + \$25 one time
 - Field trip fee: + \$15 one time
 - Lost library book: + \$10 one time
 - Good news—coupon savings: – \$20 (subtract \$20)

Steps

1. Present students with a sample income. If choosing to vary the amounts, do so by a small margin (i.e., no one should be thousands of dollars richer than anyone else for this activity). The materials are based on a monthly budget of \$1,200.
2. Students work in pairs or small groups to allocate income across expenses.
 - Interrupt to introduce a surprise card, if desired
3. Compare choices as a class—discuss which expenses are needs vs. wants.
4. Explain and discuss the importance of savings and balancing expenses.

Resource List

- Sample monthly income handout
- List of expenses (rent, groceries, entertainment, savings, etc.) handout

Budget Choices: Sample Monthly Income

Name: _____ Date: _____

My Monthly Income

You have a job that pays you a monthly income. This is the total amount of money you have to plan with for the month.

my monthly income: \$ _____

Rules

- You must use all your income (every dollar gets distributed).
- You should try to include **savings** in your budget.
- Some expenses are **needs** (must-have). Some are **wants** (nice-to-have).

My Budget Plan (Fill In)

Write how much money you will spend in each category.

Category	Amount I Budget
Rent/Housing (NEED)	\$ _____
Utilities (NEED)	\$ _____
Groceries (NEED)	\$ _____
Transportation (NEED)	\$ _____
School Supplies (NEED)	\$ _____
Savings (NEED/GOAL)	\$ _____
Clothing (WANT/NEED)	\$ _____
Entertainment (WANT)	\$ _____
Eating Out/Treats (WANT)	\$ _____
Gifts/Donations (WANT)	\$ _____
Other: _____	\$ _____
TOTAL:	\$ _____

CHECK: My total should equal \$ _____, my total monthly income.

Reflection

1. One "need" I paid for first was _____.
2. One "want" I chose (or decided not to choose) was _____.
3. I saved \$ _____ because _____.

Optional:

If your income changed changed to **\$100 less** or **\$100 more**, what would you change first? _____



Budget Choices: List of Expenses

Name: _____ Date: _____

Expense Menu

Pick expenses from the list below. Some are **monthly** and some are **weekly**. If it says **weekly**, multiply by **4** to estimate the monthly cost.

NEEDS (Must-Have)

Expense	Cost
Rent/Housing	\$450 per month
Utilities (electricity, water)	\$90 per month
Groceries (food at home)	\$75 per week
Transportation (bus fare, gasoline)	\$60 per month
School Supplies	\$20 per month
Basic Phone (limited plan)	\$25 per month
Other: _____	\$ _____ per _____

SAVINGS (A Smart Goal)

Expense	Cost
Savings (small)	\$50 per month
Savings (medium)	\$100 per month
Savings (large)	\$150 per month

WANTS (Nice-to-Have)

Expense	Cost
Streaming subscription	\$12 per month
Video games/apps	\$15 per month
Entertainment (movies/bowling)	\$25 per month
Eating out/treats	\$10 per week
New shoes/clothes (extra)	\$30 per month
Hobby supplies (art/sports)	\$20 per month
Extra data/phone upgrades	\$10 per month
Gifts/Donations	\$15 per month
Other: _____	\$ _____ per _____



