



Snakes and Ladders

Summary

This makes use of the traditional game of “Snakes and Ladders” to provide a vehicle for testing with differentiated questions.

Key Concepts

AfL ; Questioning technique ; Games

Uses

Will best suit younger children, but can be used with any age

It is not subject specific and can be used right across the curriculum

Organisation

This is a twist on the usual game of snakes and ladders. It is intended to be played by groups of 6 and can, therefore be used as a group activity, an extension activity or as a whole class activity with 6 teams. (Using two dice allows the numbers to be increased to 12, but that means more people waiting at any one time.)

Each member of the group is allocated a number from one to six. When the dice is thrown the person who is to answer the next question is the one whose number is thrown on the dice. The question is given a value for its difficulty. They could be produced on card and the difficulty level added to the card. The cards would be placed face down on the table and one the dice is thrown and a person chosen to answer the question they then turn over the next card. The value on the card is the number of spaces that the person moves on the snakes and ladders board if they get it correct. The normal rules of snakes and ladders applies.





the winner is not the one getting the most questions right, but the one who reaches the top of the board first.

Questions can be from any subject area. It would be particularly suitable for a subject such as Maths, where it could be a regular practice activity with the question cards containing calculations of varying difficulty

Variations

The game could be played as a whole class activity , with the board being a large one projected on to the screen. In this case there would be 6 teams, each given a number from 1 to 6. The board could be projected onto a whiteboard and a “scorer” could move the counters for each team by using the electronic marker pen. (for this purpose a larger version of the board has been produced at the end of this document for copying and projection purposes.)

Resources

Question cards

Counters

Snakes and ladders board

