

The Unsuspecting Parent Math Circle

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Bedtime Math and Crazy 8's



Crazy 8s club

Join Crazy 8s Club, where you'll build stuff, run and jump, make music, make a mess... it's a totally new kind of math club.

Math gone wild!

Be Ahead of the Curve
Space is limited, so be sure to sign up!

WHO, WHERE & WHEN:

Over-the-top fun with friends each week

Make math the cool thing to do after school

62mph
128mph

Math will never be the same.

www.crazy8sclub.org

Getting Started

- MAA Summer 2021 Virtual Programming: How to Run Successful Math Circles for Students and Teachers
- Conversation with Dr. David Burton
- Conversation with Office of Campus Safety



Getting Going

- Contacting Crazy 8's
- Google form and advertising
- Securing location and helpers



Parent Activities

- JRMF activities: Gerrymandering, Lots of Plots and Staircases
- Complement the kids activities: Cryptography, Magic Squares with Cards and Mathematical Card Tricks
- Other topics I wanted to cover: 4 Color Theorem, Game of Set, Monty Hall Problem

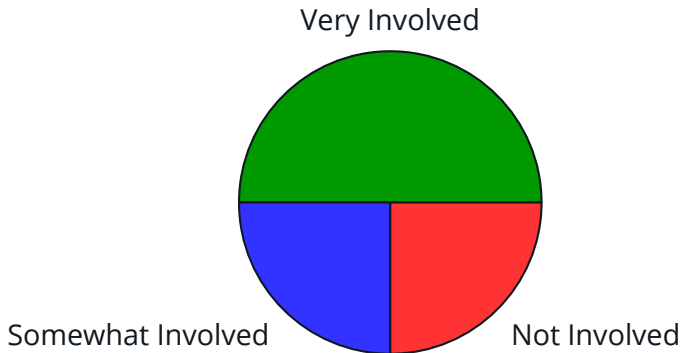


In Action

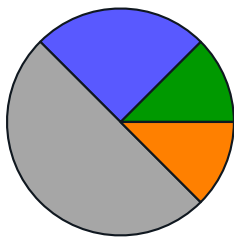
- Approach: personal and activity introductions, small groups, facilitating, sharing ideas, summary
- Initial parent responses and engagement: manipulatives vs. drawing vs. puzzles and games



Parental Engagement

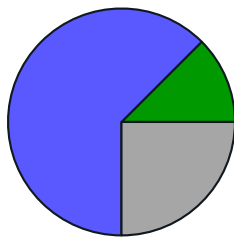


Parental Math Comfort



Before

- Very Comfortable
- Comfortable
- Neutral
- Uncomfortable
- Very Uncomfortable



After



Parental Take-Aways

- New perspectives on the scope of math



Parental Take-Aways

- New perspectives on the scope of math

"Came to see math as more than just arithmetic and actually quite interesting."



Parental Take-Aways

- New perspectives on the scope of math

"It made me realize that math really is problem solving. It's ok not to have the answer for the sake of the answer. It's ok to say that discovering how math works and working on a problem can be part of the goal. That math is ongoing and there are things we haven't solved yet!"



Parental Take-Aways

- New perspectives on the scope of math
- New family math participation



Parental Take-Aways

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"[...] we started playing different card games that we learned at math club."



Parental Take-Aways

- New perspectives on the scope of math
- New family math participation
- Time for camaraderie



Parental Take-Aways

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"I also enjoyed playing games with the other parents. It was a fun exercise."

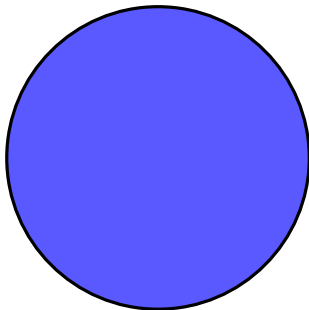


Parental Take-Aways

- New perspectives on the scope of math
- New family math participation
- Time for camaraderie
 - "What was your most impactful experience?"
 - "Working in the small groups with other parents to come up with solutions to the interesting scenarios we were given"



Would you do this again?



Yes!



Recap and Future Work

- Ran Season 1 of Crazy 8's twice, same parent activities
- Do new parent activities along with a Season 2 of Crazy 8's?
- Parents and kids combined session?



Acknowledgements

- Joy Kalfus, Chief Program Officer, Crazy 8s
<https://crazy8s.bedtimemath.org>
- Dr. David Burton, coach of the 3rd-5th grade club
- Dr. Megan Reister, Education
- All the student volunteers, especially John MacDonald
- Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival, and others

