

LEARNING RATIOS



Theme: M&M activity to learn about ratios

Curriculum Area: Math

Activity: Child will start off with a bag of M&Ms. Through counting, color association, and, of course, eating them, they will begin to understand how to count ratios.

Materials Needed:

1. Bag of M&Ms
2. Clean, flat surface to pour M&Ms out
3. Paper and pencil to keep track of ratios

Age of Children: 6th grade (approx. 11-12 years of age)

Developmental Objectives: By participating in this activity, children will:

1. Begin to understand the basic concepts of ratios
2. Learn to avoid the common mistake that is made when counting ratios
3. Understand how we speak when referring to ratios
4. After understanding basic ratio concepts, they will begin to better understand word problems using ratios

- Procedure:**
1. Pour out bag of M&Ms onto a clean, flat surface
 2. Count all of the M&Ms that were in the bag
 3. Separate the colors
 4. Count however many red, blue etc. there are compared to the overall amount of M&Ms
 5. Eat *some* M&Ms and then count how many you have overall and compare that number with all of the colors again

References: [CA CSS Math - Content Standards \(CA Dept of Education\)](#)

Math Standard – 6.RP.1 Understand the concept of a ratio and use ratio language to describe a ratio relationship between two quantities. For example, “The ratio of wings to beaks in the bird house at the zoo was 2:1, because for every 2 wings there was 1 beak.” “For every vote candidate A received, candidate C received nearly three votes.”