

# Hit the Target!

*Race to create an equation! Students get creative with addition and subtraction (and, if they have the skills, multiplication) to make math sentences with the answer being the target number. Math skills will be in full force while everyone tries to outsmart the competition!*

## What You Need:

- Deck of playing cards with the face cards removed
- Scratch paper
- Pencil
- 2 or more players



## What You Do:

1. Have students remove the face cards from the deck and set them aside.
2. Shuffle the deck and deal out four cards to each player. Make sure cards are dealt face down, so nobody can see the hand they were dealt. No peeking!
3. Place the remaining deck face down in the center of the table.
4. Have one of the players flip over the top card and place it face up on the table. This is the target number.
5. Announce that aces = 1.
6. Count to three and have all players turn their cards over at the same time.
7. Encourage players to add and subtract (and/or multiply or divide) the numbers in any combination to try to reach the target number. Make sure that players use all four of their cards. Have players use scratch paper to verify their math.
8. Whoever can create an equation that hits the target number first gets one point.
9. The player to reach 3 points first wins!
10. When four cards become too easy, try playing with five cards instead.

Helpful Tip: Tell players to keep rearranging the layout of the cards to see new equation possibilities. If an equation cannot be made by anyone, students should decide how to proceed... is a new target card flipped or should additional or new cards be dealt?

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