



Spiral:

QUICK & EASY MATH FACTS

Card Game



Easy Game to Practice Multiplication for Kids:

Today's game is called **Spiral**, and it's perfect for **Third-Fifth Grade**. (Though it can be adapted for younger kids if used for addition and subtraction).

Skills Focus:

Multiplication (or other operations if you'd prefer)

Materials Needed for Spiral: Math Card Game for Kids

- [Deck of playing cards](#)
- Game pieces for each player ([unifix cubes](#), board game pieces, [beads](#), etc.)
- 1 or 2 dice (or a [12-sided die](#))

How to Play Spiral:

The object of this game is to be the first to travel from start to finish.

Start with a complete deck of cards, as well as 1-2 dice and game pieces for each player. Ace = 1, Jack = 11, Queen = 12 and King = 13.

To begin, **build a spiral** out of the entire deck of cards, as shown in the picture below. This will serve as your game board. You can use the same board for multiple games, or create a new board each time to change it up.

Each player then places their game piece at start (the center of the spiral).

To start, the first player rolls a die and moves that number of cards on the game board. They must then **multiply the number on their die with the value of the card they landed on**. If they solve it correctly, they stay there, otherwise they go back to their previous position.

Players then take turns rolling and moving around the game board.

If a player lands on a card with another player on it, they **“bump” that player back to start**.

If a player **lands on a “double,”** meaning the number on their die and the value of their card is the same, **they get to go again**. Players then take turns rolling and moving around the game board. For younger kids, you could **change the operation to addition or subtraction** (or even just practice **number recognition** by removing all face cards).

The first player to land exactly on the last card and correctly solve the multiplication problem wins!

Variations to the Game:

Because this creates such a unique game board that is different every time, there are countless possibilities. You can change the rules to practice all sorts of math concepts, depending on the age and ability of your kids.

For younger kids, you could **change the operation to addition or subtraction** (or even just practice **number recognition** by removing all face cards).

Or, if you'd like to focus on **multiplying by 10**, change the value of all face cards to equal ten.

To practice **integer operations**, make the black cards positive values and the red cards negative values, then add, subtract or multiply.