Outdoor Self Guide

The Getty Center

3, 2, 1... Solution!

Usually we solve math problems by writing out numbers. But we don't actually need written numbers to do math. Have you ever solved a math problem using something from the real world?

Counting on your hands might be familiar:

In fact we can use just about any objects for math.

Even Getty's Travertine tiles







3 ice creams









4 Travertine tiles





- Look down at your feet. You should be standing on some **travertine tiles.**
- Your teacher/chaperon will call out a **math problem**. Use your hands and feet to touch the Travertines according to the solution.

If the answer is 1: stand on 1 foot, touch only 1 tile

If the answer is 2: stand on 2 feet or 1 foot and 1 hand, touch 2 tiles.

If the answer is 3: use 2 feet and 1 hand or 1 foot 2 hands, touch 3 tiles.

If the answer is 4: use 2 feet and 2 hands, touch 4 tiles.



Teachers/Chaperons

- 1. Move to the center of the half-circle your students make, so that you can see everyone.
- 2. Think of a math problem with a solution between 1 & 4 like 6 minus 10 or 22 divided by 11.
- 3. Say your problem out loud. Give students a minute to think.
- 4. Shout "3, 2, 1....Solution!" Students must now touch tiles to show their answer.
- 5. Check their work. Try to get students to go solve problems faster and faster!

