**Math “Tricks”**

1. 0-4 stay on the floor, 5-9 climb the vine (rounding)
2. Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally (order of operations – Parentheses, Exponents, Multiplication and Division, Addition and Subtraction)
3. King Hector Dector makes delicious chocolate milk (converting between metric and English system: kilo, hecto, deka, meter, deci, centi, milli)
4. Yours is not to question why, just invert and multiply (division of fractions)
5. Dad, Mom, Sister, Cousin, Brother (Divide, Multiply, Subtract, Check, Bring Down. (Long Division)

1. The Finger Nines trick (multiplying nines)

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1. Hey, diddle, diddle! The median’s the middle.

You add and divide for the mean.

The mode is the one that appears the most,

And the range is the difference between.

(from Promethean Planet)

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1. “Mode, mode, mode the most; average is the mean. Median, median, median, median, the number in between.” (sing to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”

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1. Coordinate pairs (x, y): Crawl before you can stand up and walk. Go across the ‘x’ first (that’s crawling) then stand up for the ‘y.’
2. Slope of a line: “rise over run,” means the amount the line goes up or down on the top of the fraction, and the amount it goes across on the bottom
3. “Always run right.” means the run is always counted to the right. This way, the rise going up means a positive slope, and the rise going down means a negative slope

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1. In order to calculate percents, create a sentence that can be directly translated into a math equation:

The Green Sea Turtle is 25% of the weight of the Great Sea Turtle

number for the green

“is” → =

25%

“of” → \* (multiplication)

number for great

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1. Human Polygons: Take students outside with a roll of twine; they are the vertices and the twine makes line segments. This can be used to teach and reinforce:

* Closed vs. open curves
* Simple vs. non-simple curves
* n-gons
* quadrilateral variants (rhombus, parallelogram, etc)
* Concave vs convex
* Angles (straight, obtuse, right, acute)

Mode 1: You arrange the students, and ask them to classify what they have created.

Mode 2: You pick a classification (e.g. non-simple concave heptagon)

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1. Constructions: In geometry, construction allows the use only of a compass and straightedge. The students have a hard time ignoring the measurements on a ruler, so use a sander to remove these markings and provide one to each student.