

End of the Year Electrical Board Game Activity

Designing Board Games

Preparation:

1. Bring in examples of Board Games that use electricity (A good example is Operation)
2. Show students some video clips of board games they can create.
3. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZAaHv_8xUk Operation Commercial with Danielle Harris from 1989.
4. Provide recycled boxes, craft materials, markers etc...
5. Teacher Resource: <http://www.instructables.com/id/Your-own-Operation-Board-Game/>

Procedure:

** Don't forget to take pictures of the students in action!**

1. Brainstorm possible ideas for board games with the class. Write their answers on the board.
2. Have students plan, sketch and design ideas for possible board games in their notebooks.
3. Let the creative juices flow!
4. If students are having a hard time imagining their board game, have them look at the possible recycled materials. Suggest ways to hook up a circuit and still play the game. Could the circuit be located on the outside of these boxes?

Science Notebook Ideas:

Students will plan, sketch and design their ideas into their notebooks before they start to assemble their board games. Students will list possible supplies they will need and who their board game is intended for.

Assembling Board Games

Preparations:

1. Provide each group of students 2 AA batteries, 2 outdoor lights-ends striped to about 1 cm- if needed, 4 strips of electrical tape-5 cm long and 3-15 cm 20 gauge wire with ends striped to about 1-1/2 cm.
2. Provide extra tape and scissors.
3. Keep the wire cutters handy!
4. Provide recycled and craft materials.
5. Plug in hot glue guns-provide extra glue sticks

Procedure:

** Don't forget to take pictures of the students in action!**

1. Review safety precautions about circuits and hot glue guns.
2. Pass out buckets for each table filled with craft materials, scissors, markers etc...
3. Circulate around the tables and trouble shoot any problems the students might encounter.
4. Remind students to periodically test their board games to see if they are working!

Science Notebook Ideas:

If students could design another board game what would it look like? Have the students write down any suggestions or questions they have encountered during this activity. How would students market their board game? How much would they sell it for and where could you buy their game?

Extensions:

<http://www.instructables.com/id/Your-own-Operation-Board-Game/>