

CUT THE CLOCK

Math skills: Addition
You will need: Pen and paper
Difficulty level: 2

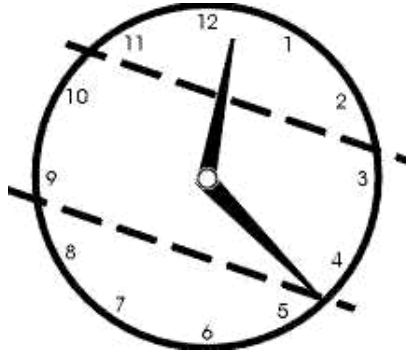
Introduction: We are going to "cut" the clock into 3 equal parts!

What to do:

- ◆ Draw a clock on the board.
- ◆ Ask your students to draw one on a piece of paper.
- ◆ Ask them to divide the clock with two straight lines (not crossing each other) so the sum of each part will be equal.

How it works:

When you combine all the numbers on the clock you will get 78.
Now you have to find 3 equal parts that will add up to $78:3= 26$.



Why it works:

The numbers on the clock form the series 1,2,3,4,5 12. If you draw a line from between 12 and 1 to between 6 and 7, pairs of numbers opposite this line sum to 13, i.e. $12 + 1$, $11 + 2$, $10 + 3$, etc. When you cut the clock in 3 sections there must be $12:3 = 4$ numbers in each section, or two pairs in each section. Each pair adds to 13; 2 pairs add to 26.