

MATH 1300, Mathematical Explorations

Group Axioms - Solitaire and the Klein 4 group

Activity

- Bring with you to class: pennies (to serve as marbles).
- It is helpful to introduce students to the Klein-4 group before doing this activity. See the Symmetries and Dance Module for possible activities.
- Distribute Axioms of Groups handout and have students read it quietly. Ask each table to share with each other anything that doesn't make sense and they'd like explained; they should try and answer each other's questions. Then ask each table to formulate one outstanding question.
- Then distribute the Solitaire worksheet and have students work through it in their groups.

Assignments

Journal Question: *Most mathematicians prove theorems, great mathematics make enduring conjectures, to make enduring definitions takes real genius.* What makes a good definition?

References and resources

[Blog Post: The Power of Groups](#)

Group Axioms Handout

Solitaire Handout

[Article: Group Think](#)

Follow-on activities

Square Mattress and Change Ringing