

Oh no . . . 99!

This is a card game that builds mental computation skills using integers.

Materials: A deck of cards.

This game is for 2 to 6 players.

Playing the game:

The object of the game is to not let the total go over 99.

The card values for this game are:

Aces = 1

Number cards are their face value.

Jacks = -1

Queens = Wild cards – positive or negative 1 through 10

Kings = 0

Deal 4 cards to each player.

Set the rest of the deck in the center of the table and turn one card over creating a discard pile. Each player discards one of the cards in their hand to the discard pile to add to the total in the discard pile. For example, if the discard pile starts with the two of clubs, and I place the 7 of diamonds on top of it, the total is now 9. Play continues until the total of the discards is close to 99. When a player cannot play a card without having the total exceed 99, that player is out of the game. Play continues until all players are out of the game except one.

Players must verbally create and answer an equation when laying a card on the discard pile.

Example:

The two of clubs is on the discard pile and I lay down the seven of diamonds on top of it, so I say $2 + 7 = 9$. The next player will lay down his or her card (the jack of hearts for example) and say $9 + -1 = 8$, and so on.