

DRY-ERASE WALL™ ACTIVITY: “FRACTION REDUCTION”

STUDENTS TRAVERSE THE WALL WHILE REDUCING A CERTAIN NUMBER OF FRACTIONS ALONG THE WAY.



MATERIALS NEEDED:

Dry-Erase markers (one marker per student)
Die



PRIOR TO CLASS:

Label the middle and upper half of the climbing wall with a variety of unreduced fractions.



THE ACTIVITY:

Inform students that for this activity they must traverse the wall, but stop along the way to reduce fractions. The roll of a die determines the number of fractions they must reduce while they climb.

To begin, have students form a line to the left of the wall. Pass out a marker to each student. The first climber rolls a die and will reduce that number of fractions as s/he traverses the wall. The next climber then rolls the die and begins climbing when the first climber is a few moves away. If a climber does not reduce to lowest terms or incorrectly reduces a fraction, a subsequent climber may correct it. Once climbers complete the traverse, they should watch/cheer on their classmates. This activity could become more challenging for later climbers.



AFTER THE ACTIVITY:

After everyone has had one turn, evaluate the work done and discuss. Make corrections as needed.