

Skill Versus Activity Exercise

Mathematics Focus: Primary Grades

A skill is what students must be able to do.

An activity provides practice concerning a particular skill or skill set.

1. Cut apart the statement boxes.
2. Categorize each statement as a **skill** or an **activity** using a T-Chart configuration. The initial verb in each statement may aid in determining the correct category.

Hint: Each skill matches a specific activity. There is a total of six sets.

Practice times tables to 12 x12	Sequence in writing order for reading vertical bar graph: bottom up, side in	Review rule for reading bar graph	Create manipulatively arrays up to 4 x 4
State in writing times using analog and digital faces	Combine in writing polygon shapes to create common objects	Memorize multiplication facts	Sing “What Is Missing?” song
Draw illustrations of own home using various shapes	Put pattern blocks in arrays	Look at watch times	Solve equations with 1 variable letter/symbol representation (e.g., $12 = n \times 4$)

Skill Versus Activity Answer Key

Mathematics Focus: Primary Grades

Skills	Activities
Memorize multiplication facts	Practice times tables to 12 x 12
Solve equations with 1 variable letter/symbol representation (e.g., $12 = n \times 4$)	Sing "What Is Missing?" song
Sequence in writing order for reading vertical bar graph: bottom up, side in	Review rule for reading bar graph
Create manipulatively arrays up to 4 x 4	Put pattern blocks in arrays
State in writing times using analog and digital faces	Look at watch times
Combine in writing polygon shapes to create common objects	Draw illustrations of own home using various shapes

The measurable verb used at the onset of a skill statement is critical for accurately informing map readers, without the map writer(s) present, what the students are expected to be able to do.

Equally important is including an appropriate target and descriptor. Since this focus of this exercise is mathematics, the verb *solve* when recording a math curriculum map infers *in writing*, therefore is not included as a target. The verb *memorize* infers *mentally* and therefore this skill statement does not need a target.

The exercise and answer key is an excerpt from, *A Guide to Curriculum Mapping: Planning, Implementing, and Sustaining the Process*. Hale, 2008. Corwin Press.