

INTERVIEW BY THE NUMBERS

Interviewing is a great activity to develop the talents of young writers. Plus, it's just a good activity to get your students talking and getting to know one another. But this isn't a straightforward interview activity. Nope! You have to do a little bit of math in order to get the answers.

GET READY

This concept is a little tricky at first, so it takes a little bit of prep time. Write out some common questions related to getting to know someone. Here's the trick—they all have to be questions with an answer that could be a number. They might include things like...

- *How many pets do you have?*
- *What year were you born?*
- *What day of the month is your birthday?*
- *How many siblings do you have?*
- *What's your favorite number?*
- *How many pairs of shoes do you think you have?*

GET SET

Next up, explain to your students how the interviews will work. For instance, pose the question—how many cats do you have? Let's assume the answer is 2.

So you would challenge students to give the answer in the form of a mathematical equation. "The answer is 5 times 4, plus 10, divided by 3, minus 8."

AND GO

Now place your students into partners. It's best if they don't know each other that well. Then pose a question and let them take turns giving one another an equation. (You can make the math as simple or complicated as you want.)



ACTIVITY #6:

Benefit: Enhance Social Skills

Focus Skills: Communication, Speaking, Math