

Play the game *How Close Can You Get?*

Materials: three suits from a deck of playing cards and the game board below.

For this game, aces equal 1 and jacks equal 0. Tens, queens, and kings are removed.

Directions:

- The teacher shuffles the cards and turns them face down.
- The task is to place digits in the boxes to form numbers as close as possible to the target numbers listed down the middle.
- The first card is turned over. Each person records the number in any box of their choice on their game board. After 29 of the 30 cards are revealed, the game is over. Compare each of your eight numbers with the target number to determine how close you are. Then compare how close you are with the other members of your group. One point is awarded for each number that is closest to the target. No one else earns a point for that number. The person with the most points in his/her small group wins.

		Difference (distance from target number)	Score
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	10	_____	_____
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	100	_____	_____
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	100	_____	_____
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	1,000	_____	_____
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	1,000	_____	_____
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	10,000	_____	_____
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	10,000	_____	_____
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	100,000	_____	_____

Discuss strategies. Whole group discussion: Where's the math?

Assessment Note: What could you learn about your students' understanding of place value from having them play this game?