



Four in a Row

Topic: Multiplication facts

Object: Cover four-in-a-row with “your” markers.

Groups: 2 pair players

Materials for each group

- *Four in a Row* Gameboard A, p. 107
- 2 paper clips
- Markers (different color for each pair)

Directions

1. The first pair places two paper clips at the bottom of the gameboard, indicating two factors. The same pair multiplies the selected factors and places a marker on the resulting product.
2. The other pair moves only one of the paper clips to a new factor. Next, this pair multiplies the two factors and places a marker on that product. (It is permissible to have two paper clips on the same factor.)
3. Pairs continue alternating turns, moving one paper clip each time, multiplying the factors, and placing markers on the product on the gameboard.
4. The winner is the first pair to have four markers in a row horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

Making Connections

Promote reflection and make mathematical connections by asking:

- What strategies helped you line up your markers in a row?
- What do you notice about the numbers used on the gameboard? Why do you think this is so?

KEY STANDARD

Interpret products of whole numbers—for example, interpret 5×7 as the total number of objects in 5 groups of 7 each. (3.OA.A.1)

Tips *If players feel insecure with the facts, you may allow three in a row to win.*

Gameboard B (p. 108) with products to 81 will help students practice the more difficult multiplication facts.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
12	14	15	16	18
20	21	24	25	27
28	30	32	35	36

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



Four in a Row A



Gameboard



1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
12	14	15	16	18
20	21	24	25	27
28	30	32	35	36

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



Four in a Row B

Gameboard



1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	12	14
15	16	18	20	21	24
25	27	28	30	32	35
36	40	42	45	48	49
54	56	63	64	72	81

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9