

Approach: One to one

Focus: Asking questions

Resources: Chart, rules card, 3 cards, question counter with clothes peg, counters

Questions / instructions:

Give student chart.

We are going to play a question game called "Guess What!" In this game you will need to try to ask good questions. I have three cards with names of things that are on this chart. You are going to ask me questions to work out which things are on my cards. Here are the rules for the game.

Show and read rules card.

You can put the counters on the things that you think are **not** the answer. I'll move the peg each time you ask a question.

Hand out chart and counters. Place question counter in front of student. Take one card at a time – in the numbered order beginning at 1, then 2 then 3. Start with clothes peg on question one and move to question two when they are ready to ask question two.

"What is your first question?"

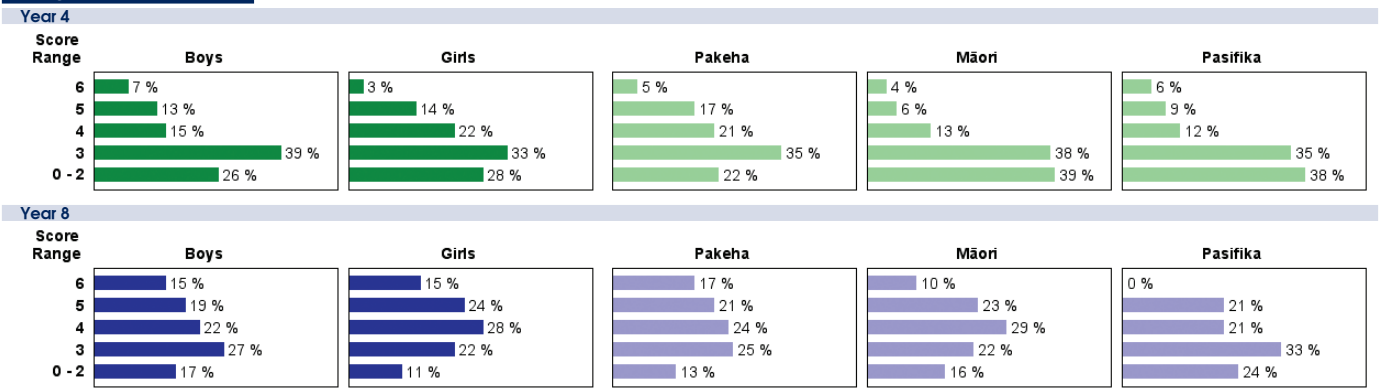
Children can guess a thing at any stage but this ends the game (rule 3).



Rules for Guess What!
 1. You can only ask five questions.
 2. You can't ask me where the thing is on the chart.
 3. The game ends when you say the name of the thing. I will only give one word answers.

	% response 2007 ('03)			% response 2007 ('03)	
	year 4	year 8		year 4	year 8
Card 1. Goldfish:			Card 3. Owl:		
first question certain to eliminate at least four of the things	23 (25)	43 (47)	first question certain to eliminate at least four of the things	30 (25)	50 (50)
Number of questions used:			Number of questions used:		
1	6 (5)	2 (0)	1	2 (3)	1 (1)
2	15 (12)	11 (14)	2	14 (10)	15 (16)
3	21 (17)	22 (17)	3	27 (25)	31 (33)
4	21 (25)	32 (38)	4	25 (21)	26 (28)
5	37 (41)	33 (31)	5	32 (41)	27 (22)
Got the correct answer:	79 (79)	85 (82)	Got the correct answer:	82 (80)	87 (90)
Card 2. Fruit tree:			Total score:		
first question certain to eliminate at least four of the things	28 (34)	47 (56)	6	4 (4)	15 (21)
Number of questions used:			5	14 (11)	21 (21)
1	3 (1)	0 (0)	4	18 (21)	25 (25)
2	6 (6)	8 (7)	3	36 (29)	25 (19)
3	18 (19)	29 (26)	0-2	27 (35)	14 (14)
4	23 (26)	26 (31)			
5	50 (48)	37 (36)			
Got the correct answer:	73 (67)	83 (85)			

Subgroup Analyses:



Commentary:

Only about one quarter of year 4 students and half of year 8 students used efficient strategies for asking questions. There was little evidence of change between 2003 and 2007. Year 8 Pakeha and Māori students performed similarly.