



## MISSING MITTENS BY STUART MURPHY

### ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

You can re-watch the video of this book being read aloud at Santa Fe Public Library YouTube channel, the City Summer Program Website (<https://summersantafe.weebly.com>) and the MathAmigos website (<https://mathamigos.org/>).

If you have any questions about the activities (but not about the materials), please contact Michele Reich at [library@santafenm.gov](mailto:library@santafenm.gov).

#### I. Materials

Beans  
Paper  
Pencil  
Scissors  
Dominoes

#### II. Activities

##### A. It is All Beans

1. Place a small pile of beans on a table and count them. This is pile A. Is there an even or odd number of beans in pile A? Make a second pile of beans on the table. This is pile B.
2. Questions to ask:
  - a. Is there an even or an odd number of beans in piles A and B? Add the numbers in the piles together.
  - b. Is the answer odd or even?
3. Make new piles and try the activity several times. Do you get an odd or even number when you add the two piles together?

##### B. Let's Do a Few Problems

1. How many mittens does it take to make a pair? Draw five mittens. How many pairs do you have?
  - a. Draw a circle around each pair. Is five an odd number or an even number?
  - b. Draw eight mittens. Draw a circle around each pair. How many pairs do you have? Is eight an odd number or an even number?
2. Hold up an odd number of fingers.
  - a. How many pairs of fingers do you have on each hand?
  - b. How many pairs of fingers do you have on both hands together? Does one hand have an odd or even number of fingers? Do two hands together have an odd or even number of fingers?
3. Pretend you are having a birthday party.
  - a. You invite 11 friends, and all 11 tell you they will come to your party. How many people will be at your party? Is that number odd or even? You are making "goody bags" for the friends who are coming to your party.
  - b. Your mom buys a package of lollipops to go in the bags. The package contains 12 lollipops. Are there enough lollipops for each friend to receive one? How many lollipops will be left over? Is 12 an odd or even number?

##### C. Playing the Odd or Even Domino Game with Addition

1. Put all the dominoes out on a table face down [the face is the side that has dots]. Take a piece of paper and write your name, date, and the title "Odd And Even Domino Game" at the top. Turn over one domino and add the dots on both sides of the domino; is the sum even or odd?

2. Place the domino that you used in the first game with the others on the table and move them all so you will not pick the same domino again. Start a new game.
3. There are three possibilities for this game: both sides are even, both sides are odd, or one side is even and one side is odd.

**D. Creating New Odd Even Mitten Books**

1. Make a list of animals that are not mentioned in the book such as peacocks. Choose an animal from the list to be the main character of the book you will write, and choose another animal from the list to be the mitten thief.
  - a. Where will the animal you chose as your main character wear mittens?
  - b. How many will he need? Is that number even or odd?
  - c. What will be the problem in your story? How will you solve the problem?
2. Write your own story about lost mittens. Your story should have:
  - a. Characters
  - b. Setting/location
  - c. Plot—have to build suspense in the mystery
  - d. Clues/hints to help the reader solve the mystery
  - e. Distractions to keep the reader off the path in solving the mystery

**Have fun! and give it a try!**