



BAT (Before and After the Target)

Why do it?

You can help your child to identify the number before and after numbers from 100-1000.

What you need:

- A pack of cards with the Queens, Kings and tens removed. The Jacks are zero, and the aces are one. Include two Jokers which can be used for any value.
- Pen and paper

What to do:

The dealer writes down any number from 100 - 998. This is the target number. The aim of the game is to get three cards that make the number that comes just before or just after the written number.

Questions to ask:

What number would come just before that number? What number would come just after that number? Ask these questions frequently during the game to ensure the child can identify these. At first it may be necessary to record the numbers.

- Players are dealt three cards each, which they hold in their hand. They look at these, but do not allow the other players to see them.
- They take turns to pick up a card, and then discard the card (face-up in the discard pile) that they do not want.
- The next player can either select from the deck of cards or the discard pile.
- Players can only hold three cards in their hand at one time.
- The first player to table the three cards which make the number before or after the written number is the winner.
- Children will soon realize that it is easier if the target number contains different digits. E.g. 256 or 638 is easier to get than 333

What to expect your child to do:

- Be able to instantly identify the number that comes just before or just after numbers to 1000. Accurately read these numbers.

Variations:

- Use four cards. Choose a number from 1000 to 9998 as the target number.
- Use other languages.

