

Lesson 7: Counting Trumps

General

How does the volunteer group work? It is common that those who are not leaders of the group do not dare to say things they think about. Set aside time after today's lesson to have a coffee and a chat.

Today's lesson will teach a technique that may be new to the volunteers (and maybe even yourself?). Set aside time to go through how and why we teach the kids this technique.

Plan for the day

1. Make an effort to give positive attention to a student who struggled last time.
2. Set the mood: What do you like about trumps?
3. Repeat concept: Dummy. Setting up a suit. Card play. Honour points. Rules for trumps. One super suit that beats everything. When can we play trumps? How many cards in the suit should you (at least) have together to choose the suit as trumps?
4. Today's topic: Count the trumps. [Video link](#) (2:30 mins).
5. Talk about today's topic (3 mins): Why might you want to draw trumps? If we have 9 trumps in total, how many does the other side have? How do we hope they are distributed (NB new concept) on the other side? Why? Ask students to respond.
6. Divide into tables of 4.
7. Play the hands for Lesson 7: Include a column in the table on the score slip for trumps. Let them write the result on the score slip according to established routines.
8. Beware: Take a tour of the tables and make sure everyone explains how to take out trumps in the same way. We will use the technique for outstanding cards.
9. Extra tasks (if someone finishes early): Counting games.
10. Wrap up and summarise the session.

Tip of the day for assistants: count outstanding trumps!

Practice the technique of counting outstanding trumps. Many people are used to counting "4, 8, I have 4 left, that makes 12, then there is one left." This is NOT how we should teach students to count.

The method we will use is to count the remaining cards: "I have 5, the dummy has 4, that makes 9. There are 13 hearts in total, so the opponents have 4. I play one round of trumps, both opponents follow suit, so they have $4-2 = 2$ trumps left.

Practice this beforehand!

Ending

Make sure you have a good summing up. Thank you for today.