

YOU CHOOSE

Homework or video games... what's the better choice?

Materials: Worksheets, chalkboard or whiteboard, calculator

Directions: Read the worksheet, complete the activity and discuss with the Group.

Homework can help you practice the skills you're learning at school. Homework becomes easier when you keep up with it.

Video games can be beneficial and learning can occur, too. But let's face it: The most-popular video games are not educational!

So, which offers more opportunities for brain cell development — homework or video games?

Let's find out in today's activity. We're going to ask you some questions. We'll write the answers on the board and then do some math. At the end of the activity, we'll know how much time each of us spends playing video games during the year. Let's get started.

STEP ONE

Who in the room plays video games? Raise your hand if you do and we'll write your name on the board.

STEP TWO

How many hours a week do you play video games? We'll go around the room, get each person's response and write the number of hours on the board below your name. Then, we'll multiply the weekly number by 52 to find out how much time you spend playing video games during the year.

STEP THREE

Now that we know how much time you spend playing video games, let's discuss the following questions:

- Are you surprised at how much time you spend playing video games every week? Every year?
- How many learning opportunities are lost when you devote that much time to video games?
- How can you organize your schedule to have more time for homework and still have time for video games?

Let's start discussing!

