



# MATH MADNESS

## FOR EVERY PROBLEM THERE'S A SOLUTION!

### Building Tournament Basketball Skit

Announcer: Today, we'd like to welcome the starting line up from our Rocket's girls' basketball team! (We will need a microphone that we are able to move around. After this introduction, only two people will be using the microphone...C= coach, P1= player 1. They will use a script. We will also provide all the props: basketballs, crazy socks, angle posters, and sticks.)

(Players come running in dribbling balls and start "warming up." One player (P1) will be shooting the ball, but missing every shot. This player will get more and more frustrated. The others will be passing the ball, and they notice the player is having a **PROBLEM**. They stop and watch.)

C: Hey, boys and girls, we've got a big **PROBLEM**. As you can see, P1 Name is missing every shot he/she makes! He/she can't make one shot.

Hey, P1 Name, what's the problem? (Motion for the star player to come over.)

P1: I don't know what's wrong, but I do have a **BIG PROBLEM!** I can't make a shot - Not 1! And we've got a big game tonight! I've got to be able to make the shots!

C: You're right, we've got to get this **PROBLEM** solved! Do you have your lucky socks on?

P1: Yes-s-s, I always have my lucky socks on before a game! (Pull up warm-up pants and show some outrageous socks!)

C: Well, are you using those **MATH** skills you learned when you went to school at New Salem?

P1: What do you mean **MATH** skills? We're playing basketball!

## MATH SKILL: MEASUREMENT AND ESTIMATION

C: Yeah, but basketball is **ALL** about **MATH**! Let me show you! (Narrator will be directing other players to demonstrate skills throughout the skit.)

P1 Name, come here. (Have P1 stand at the 3 pt or foul line.)

Okay, P1 Name, take a shot! (P1 will throw the ball so it will go about half the distance to the net.)

C: You didn't use your estimation and measurement skills that Mrs. Baum taught you in third grade! Before you take that shot, you need to estimate how far you are from the basket. Only after you've estimated the distance to the basket, do you know how hard to shoot the ball.

Name P2, come here. (Have P2 stand halfway to the basket.)

Boys and girls, help us out by using your measurement and estimation skills. Who, Names P1 and P2 will have to throw the ball harder? (Students reply and ask them why.)

## MATH SKILL: ANGLES

P1: Yeah, basketball is about **MATH**! Hey, Coach, what else can you show me?

C: Do you remember how Mr. Snyder always talked about angles?

P1: Oh yeah, I remember. He told us about acute angles - those were the little cutie ones. (P2 hold up the sign showing an acute angle.) And then he taught us about right angles - those were the ones that had perpendicular sides. (P3 hold up the sign showing a right angle.) And, oh what was the name of the other one? (Pause to think) **OBTUSE ANGLES**, that's what he called them! They were the big ones! (P4 hold up sign showing an obtuse angle.)

But what do angles have to do with basketball?

C: Every time you take a shot that rebounds off the backboard you need to figure the angle that will get the ball in the basket. Let me show you.

P3 Name, come here and take a shot using the back board. (P3 takes a shot into the basket. He/she will need to be close to the basket.)

All right, P3 Name shot the ball from here. Let's give her a stick to show the path of the ball up to the basket. (P3 will hold the stick to show the path of the ball up to the backboard.)

From the basket the ball took this path. (P2 will hold a stick to show the path of the ball after it hit the backboard. Both sticks should meet to form an angle.)

Boys and girls, what is formed with these two sticks? (Students should answer an angle. You may want to ask what kind of angle.)

C: Angles are very important in basketball. Okay, P1 Name, I want you to make an angle shot and see if you can make it! (P1 takes a shot using the backboard and makes the shot!)

P1: Wow, Coach, that's really neat! Measurement, estimation and angles! Basketball is full of **MATH**! What other **MATH** skills are used in basketball?

### **MATH SKILLS: SKIP COUNTING BY 2'S, ADDITION, TIME**

C: Well, there is skip counting by 2's - to help keep track of the score!

Then you can use your addition skills as you add up the 3-point shots you make.

Plus, you need to know something about time. During the game you need to know how much time is left.

So you can see there are lots of **MATH** skills involved in basketball.

P1: Wow, basketball is full of **MATH** skills. I'm glad I paid attention to Mr. Snyder and Mrs. Baum back in third grade!

Hey, thanks for helping me out! I'll be sure to use my math skills in tonight's game! You know it really is true - **For every problem there IS a solution!**