

Creating An Art Mural

You will be creating a mural using blue, green, and red tiles. Use the directions below to complete the mural.



Your Mural Must:

- Use at least one of each color
- Use a total of exactly 20 tiles
- Cost exactly \$47.00



Teacher Note

Students will need blue, green, and red tiles for this activity. If you don't have tiles, construction paper squares would also work. I've included a mat with squares that students can use, but plain paper can also be used.

Make sure students read the bulleted directions a couple of times before starting. They will often think they have the problem solved but they have more than 20 tiles or it doesn't add up to \$47.00.

I let students start out by trying different combinations, but then I ask them to come up with a way to formally track their trials. Typically, a table works well for this. Once they have some trials entered into the table, they can begin to make better-informed decisions on what to try next.

Important note - require, or encourage, students to have another student double check their answers once they think they have solved it. This will save you time and give students extra practice with addition and multiplication.

I often use this activity at the beginning of the year to see how long students will persevere and to talk strategy. No pre-teaching of new math concepts needed here!

Enjoy!

Penny