

Skill: Problem- Solving

Activity: Dog, Rice, Chicken

Equipment: Paper and pencil

Goal: Encourage Problem-solving / The team that comes up with the solution with the least number of trips across the river OR solves the problem the fastest is the winner.

Time Allotment: 10 – 15 minutes or until a winner is determined.

- Divide the class into smaller teams.
- Read the following situation: (you may need to draw a picture so they can visualize the problem).

A farmer had a dog, some rice and a chicken and he needs to cross the river to get home. His dilemma is that he can only carry one item in his boat with him at a time. However, he cannot leave the dog alone with the chicken because the dog will eat the chicken and cannot leave the chicken alone with the rice because the chicken will eat the rice. How does the farmer safely get everyone home.

Answer:

1. Take the chicken over
2. Row back alone
3. Take the dog over, trade him for the chicken
4. Row back with the chicken
5. Drop of the chicken, trade him for the rice
6. Drop of the rice with the dog
7. Row back alone
8. Row back with the chicken

OR an alternative answer

Boil the rice, roast the chicken and eat the rice/chicken with his faithful dog—the instructions didn't say that the items had to be undigested.