

Art Thinking

Open lesson of Maria Servera Matas

To help understand the concept of adding integers, I thought of an activity that could surprise the reinforcement students of Catalina Amengual with a staging that would capture their attention.

I had carried out this activity with my students in the 1st year of ESO but in a less sophisticated version.

The idea is to add integers using white and red colored cards. Each white and red card represents a positive and negative unit respectively. The principle behind this activity is that two paired cards -a pair consists of one red card and one white card- cancels each other off. Thus, given two groups of cards, each one representing an integer, we can pair white and red cards and cancel all these pairs. The remaining cards are the result of the operation.

It is a very visual activity that helps to understand the concept of the sum of integers thanks to the use of colors. For example, if you want to do the operation: $-3 - 2$ because you can not make any card disappear (all cards are red and there are no white cards to pair with) the students know that you simply have to add them, that is to say that there are 5 cards. And because of the color (red) the result is -5 .

$$\begin{array}{l} 3 + 2 = 5 \\ -3 + 2 = -1 \\ -3 - 2 = -5 \\ 3 - 2 = 1 \end{array}$$

1r ESO C (1st video)



Reinforcement students (2nd video)

