PDST Professional Development Service for Teachers

Junior:

Mathematical Trails

Trail along the school corridor

To begin, assign roles within your group to include:

a) Reader and Recorder

b) Time keeper

c) Manager

Strand:

Strand unit:

Objective: Mathematical trails can be created to compliment any strand/strand unit and objective

Skill: Applying & problem solving; Communicating & Expressing; Integrating & Connecting; Reasoning; Implementing; Understanding & recalling

Number all doors	• How many doors…? • What is the highest door number…the lowest…biggest smallest…? • Add the biggest and smallest door numbers… • What number is on the G.P. Room door? • What is the number on the Junior Infant room?
Have a Shapes Chart on display.	• Look at the floor, what shape are the tiles?[refer to chart maybe] • Can you see anything else the same shape as the tiles? • How many corners on each tile? • How many tiles across the corridor? • How many tiles from one end of the corridor to the other? • Which is farther from our classroom to the hall or from our classroom to the hall? How will we find out? • What shape are the windows? How many windows are there along the corridor? • What shape are the doors? • What shape is the corridor? • Can you see anything that is a circle?[look at chart] • Find 3 circles in the corridor.
Have some Measuring Charts on display: a vertical height chart showing metres and	• Ask a friend to measure you using the

centimetres, a horizontal metre stick, some cards with benchmarks…	height chart. • If the water at the shallow end of the swimming pool was 1 metre where would it come to on you? • Find something along the corridor that is about 1 metre high, something more than a metre less than a metre. • How many hand-spans in a metre [measure on horizontal metre stick] • How many hand-spans needed to measure the radiator? Is the radiator more than a metre wide?
Displays • Children's art work. • Prints by famous artists.	How many ducks are swimming on the pond? What shape are the sails on the boat? How many sunflowers did Van Gogh paint?
A simple school timetable :	9.20 a.m. School starts. 11.00a.m. Playtime. 11.10 a.m. Playtime ends. 12.30 p.m. Lunchtime. 1.00 p.m. Lunchtime ends. 2.00 p.m. Infants go home. 3.00 p.m School ends. • What time does school start? • How long is lunchtime? • What happens at half past 12 ?…