



EduTrend Contents

EDUTECH · GAMIFICATION CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES · PRIMARY

Level Ladder

Climb a five-rung ladder of fraction problems where nobody moves down

Ages 9–11

Level: Developing

20–30 minutes

Pairs · up to 30

Activity 02

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 02 · AT A GLANCE

Level Ladder

Each pair has mini whiteboards and a printed five-rung level ladder. They solve fraction problems of rising difficulty. Each correct answer, checked with a partner, lets them climb one rung. A wrong answer means reviewing a worked example, then trying a similar question. Nobody moves down. At the end, pupils say which rung felt hardest and why.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- solve problems of rising difficulty;
- check work with a partner;
- learn from worked examples;
- reflect on difficulty.

KEY WORDS

level · rung · progress · retry ·
worked example · feedback

CURRICULUM LINKS

Maths: fractions. PSHE: resilience.
English: explaining reasoning.

1	2	3	4	5	6
GOAL	CHALLENGE	FEEDBACK	PROGRESS	RETRY	REFLECT
What is the learning goal?	What is the task?	How do players know?	How is growth shown?	Can they try again?	Did it help learning?

Materials (per pair)

- Mini whiteboards and pens
- Printed five-rung level ladder
- Question cards by level
- Worked example cards
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Prepare five levels of fraction questions.
- Prepare worked example cards.
- Print ladders.
- Print worksheets.

SAFETY

No specific hazards. Keep progress private or pair-based to avoid comparison pressure.

ACTIVITY 02 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

Nobody moves down: failure leads to a worked example and a retry, not a penalty.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–3 min Explain	Rules of the ladder.	<i>"How do you climb?"</i>
3–18 min Climb	Solve, check, climb.	<i>"Is your partner convinced?"</i>
18–22 min Retry	Worked examples for errors.	<i>"What did the example show?"</i>
22–26 min Reflect	Hardest rung.	<i>"Why was it hard?"</i>
26–30 min Plan	Teacher notes next steps.	<i>"What should we practise next?"</i>

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Climb as far as you can up a five-rung fraction ladder, checking each answer with a partner and using worked examples when stuck.

ACTIVITY 02 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The gamification know-how in brief

Levels break learning into steps of rising difficulty, which gives a clear sense of progress. Immediate feedback from a partner shows whether to climb or review.

Allowing retries without penalty mirrors games, where failure is part of the process. Pupils' reflections on the hardest rung help teachers plan the next lesson.

Common ideas to listen for

- “Getting it wrong means losing.” It means reviewing and retrying.
- “Racing up is the goal.” Understanding is.
- “Higher rungs are just longer.” They need new ideas.

Adapting the activity

Support

Start on rung one with visual fraction strips.

Stretch

Write a rung-six question for a partner.

WORKSHEET 1

My ladder

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Record your climb.

My ladder

Rung	Question	Correct first time?
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

WORKSHEET 2

Retries

Learning from mistakes.

Retries

Rung	What went wrong	What the example showed
1		
2		
3		

WORKSHEET 3

Hardest rung

Reflect.

Which rung was hardest and why

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	Solves problems	Uses feedback	Reflects on difficulty

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Level Ladder is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents Edutech Gamification Concepts and Principles programme (primary, level: developing). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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