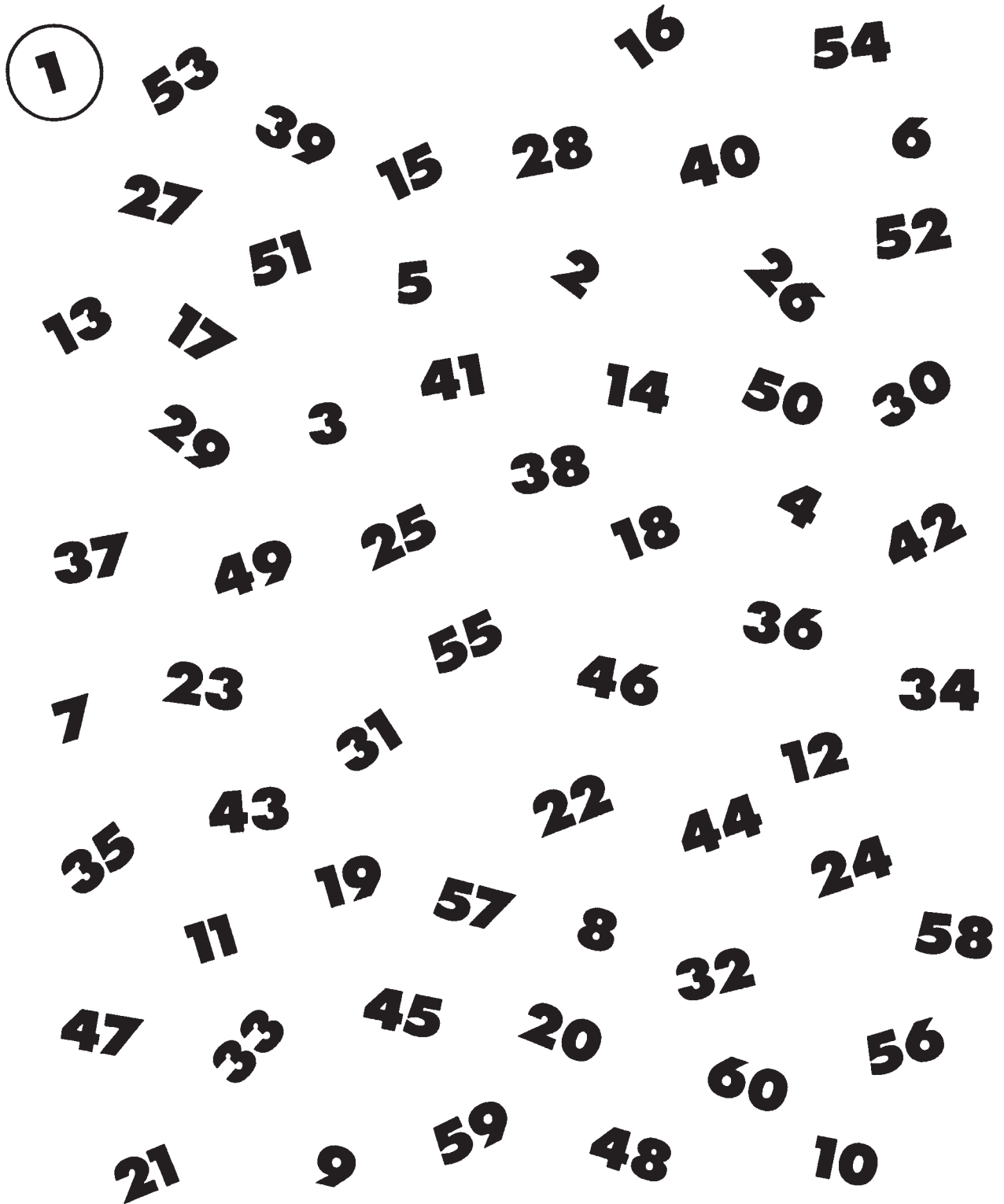


THE NUMBER GAME



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Materials required:

3 Number Game sheets per participant

1 pencil per participant

Procedure:

Each participant is given a number game worksheet and a pencil. Tell participants that they will have 30 seconds to connect as many of the numbers in sequence as they can. They begin with the circled 1 in the top left corner. Record top scores.

Distribute a second copy of the numbers worksheet. Tell participants that their previous experience will help them complete the task better the second time. After a second trial of 30 seconds, ask for a show of hands of how many got farther along. Record top scores.

Distribute third numbers worksheet, and tell participants to see if they could be more effective or efficient this time. Indicate that being efficient would be to break a big job into smaller pieces. Take some time for them to look at the paper.

Have the participants draw a vertical line down the centre of the page. This line separates the odd numbers (on the left) from the even numbers. Again give them 30 seconds to complete the task of connecting as many numbers as they can in sequence. Ask for and record top scores.

For those with over-extended photocopy budgets:

- have the participants place an index finger on the number 1 and not to lift their fingers from the page while they move to the next number in the sequence. Follow this for each subsequent attempt and you can reuse the paper.
- Fold the paper in half rather than drawing a line puts visible dividing line between the numbers.

Discussion:

- previous experience alone will help you do a better job
- how does having the odd and even numbers separated produce a better result?
- clear directions and organization will help with confidence and final results will be better overall