# Real-World Problem-Based Learning Using Perplexing Tasks

ROBERT KAPLINSKY









DOUBLE-DOUBLE Double Cheese 265 CHESEBURGER HAMBURGER FRENCH FRIES SHAKES Chocolate Strawberry



OPEN 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Fri. and Sat. until 1:30 a.m.

## YOUR GUEST NUMBER IS

IN-N-OUT BURGER LAS VEGAS EASTERN 8:21 PM

Cashier: SAM

GUEST #: 98

#### Counter-Eat In

98 Meat Pty XChz 2.65 88.20

Counter-Eat In 90.85
Amount Due 97.66

CASH TENDER
Change \$97.66

2004-10-31

Cashier: SAM

GUEST #: 98

### Counter-Eat In

98 Meat Pty XChz

2.65

Counter-Eat In TAX 7.50% Amount Due

90.85

CASH TENDER

\$97.66

2004-10-31

8:21 PM

		Calories	
Hamburger w/Onion	243	390	
Cheeseburger w/Onion	268	480	
Double-Double w/Onion	330	670	



Layers	Cost
1	\$1.75
2	\$2.65
3	\$3.55
4	\$4.45
•	•
•	•
20	\$18.85
•	•
•	•
100	\$90.85
•	•
N	\$1.75 + (N-1)*\$0.90

bun + produce + meat + cheese + meat + cheese = \$2.65

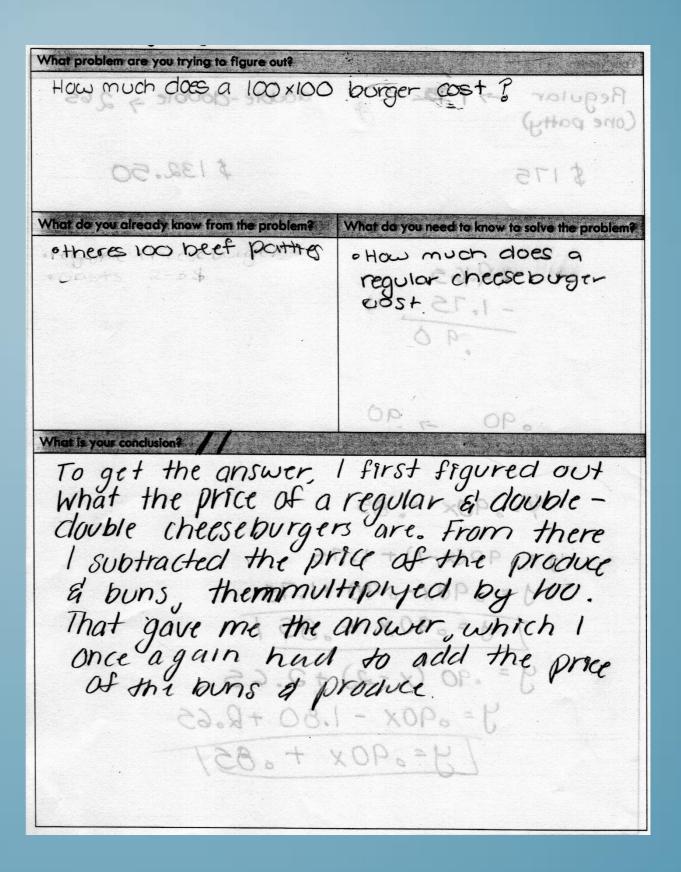
bun + produce + meat + cheese = \$1.75

meat + cheese = \$0.90

#### The Reality

- Students needed guidance to figure out a layer's cost
- Not every class is ready to go straight to 100x100
- Common wrong answers included:
  - \$175.00 (\$1.75 x 100 cheeseburgers)
  - \$132.50 (\$2.65 x 50 Double-Doubles)
- Students had equations that had more than X patties
- Students were surprised to see three different equations:
  - Starting with a Double-Double
  - Starting with a cheeseburger
  - Starting with produce and bun only

#### STUDENT WORK

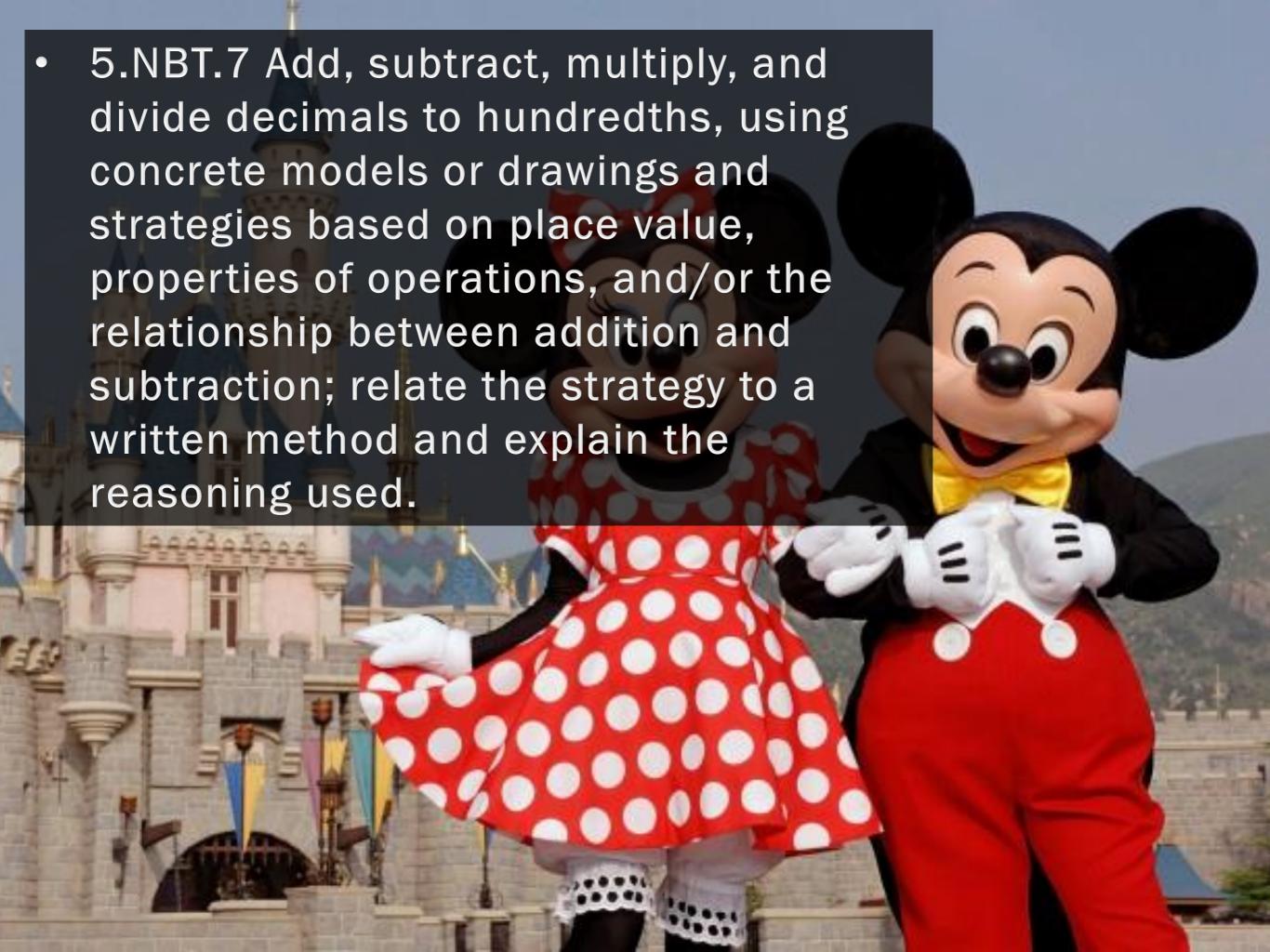


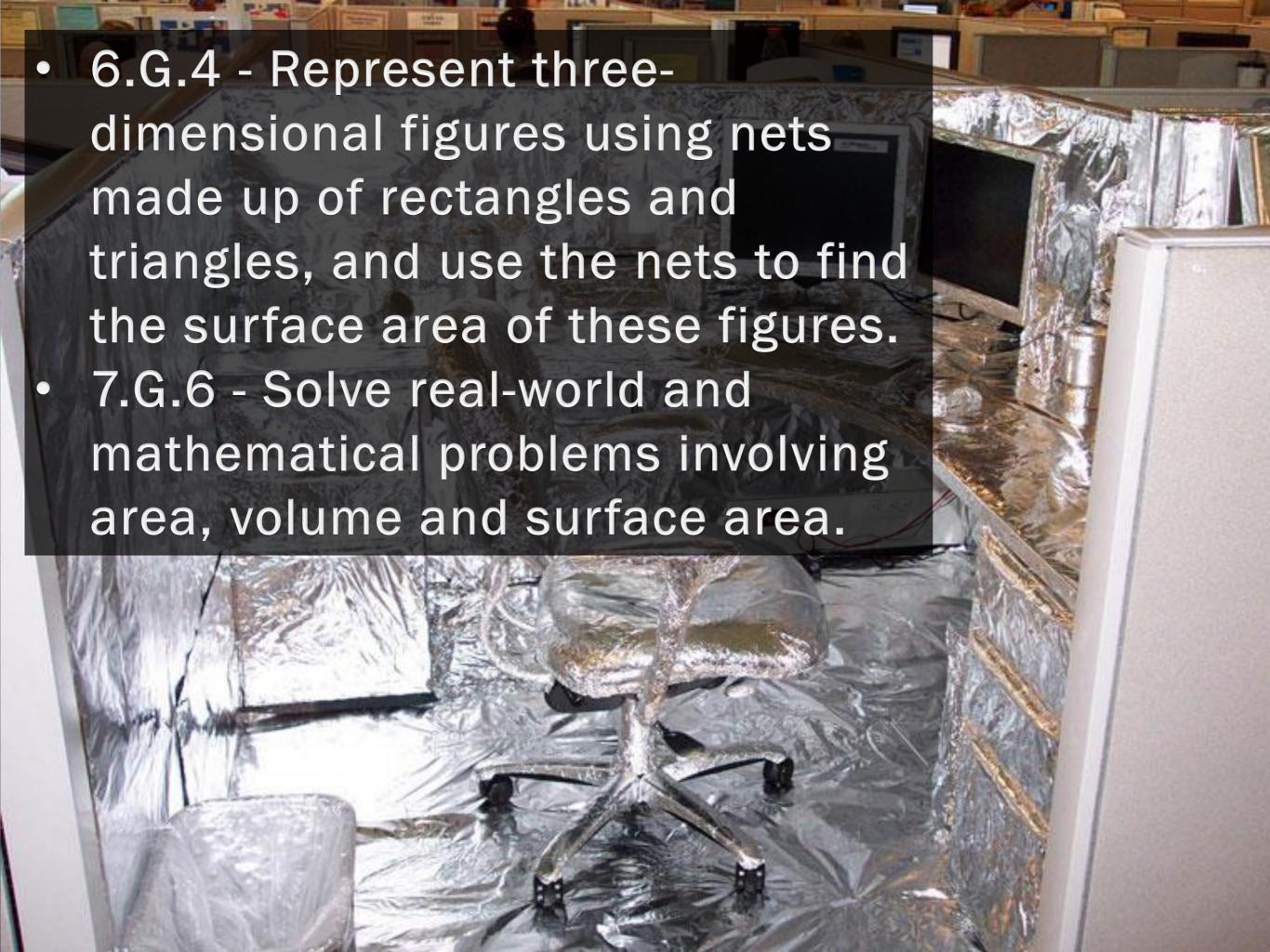
#### The Four C's

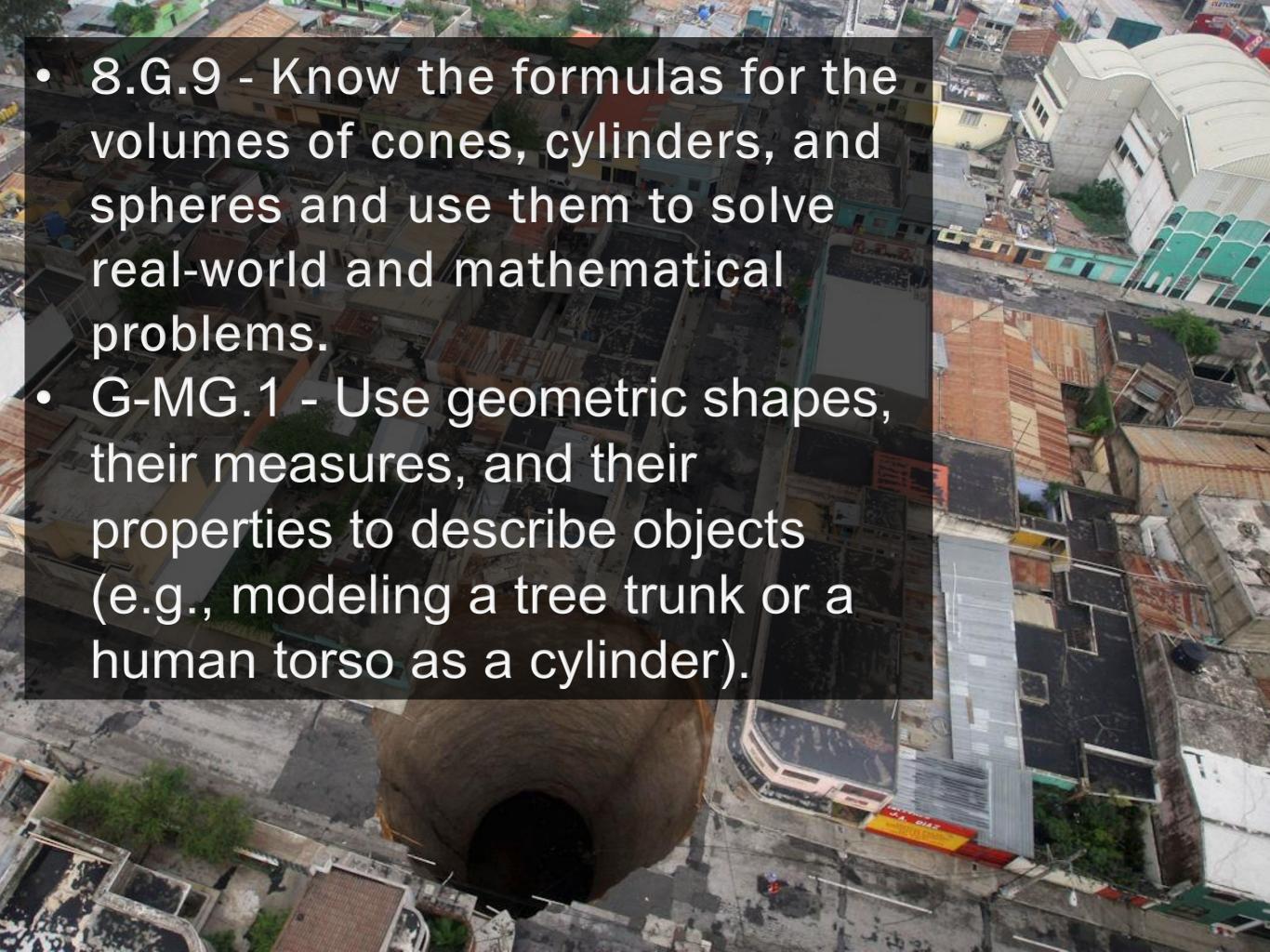
- Communication
- Curiosity

- 3.MD.1 Tell and write time to the nearest minute and measure time intervals in minutes. Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of time intervals in minutes.
- 4.MD.2 Use the four operations to solve word problems involving distances, intervals of time, liquid volumes, masses of objects, and

money.







• G-SRT.8 - Use trigonometric ratios and the Pythagorean Theorem to solve right triangles in applied problems.

 G-GPE.7 - Use coordinates to compute perimeters of polygons and areas of triangles and rectangles, e.g., using the



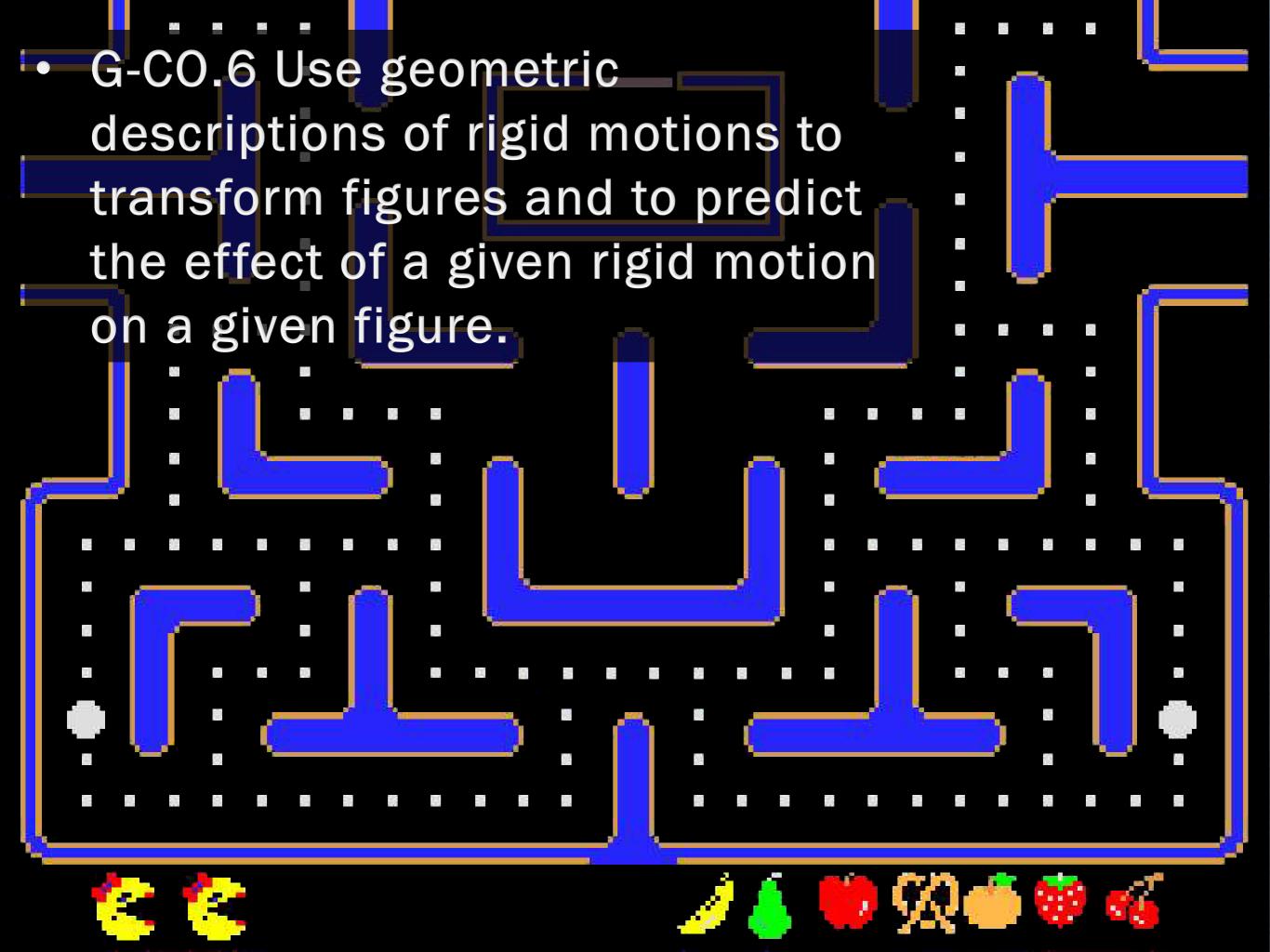
distance formula.

No Retina Display



Retina Display

 A-CED.1 - Create equations and inequalities in one variable and use them to solve problems. Include equations arising from linear and quadratic functions, and simple rational and exponential functions. F-IF.7a - Graph linear and quadratic functions and show intercepts, maxima, and minima.





#### The Four C's

- Communication
- Curiosity
- Critical Thinking

#### Problem Solving Framework

Inspired by Geoff Krall's resources at emergentmath.com

Name:	Period: Date:
What problem are you trying to figure out?	
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What do you already know from the problem?	What do you need to know to solve the problem?
What is your conclusion?	

#### The Four C's

- Communication
- Curiosity
- Critical Thinking
- Content Knowledge

# PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING FAQ

- How often do teachers do problem-based learning?
- How long do problem based lessons take?
- Do teachers use problem-based lessons to introduce a topic or after you've already taught it?
- How is problem-based learning assessed?
- How much time does it take to create a problem-based lesson?

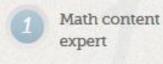
#### Problem-Based Lesson Resources

- My lessons: <a href="http://www.robertkaplinsky.com/lessons">http://www.robertkaplinsky.com/lessons</a>
- Dan Meyer: <a href="http://threeacts.mrmeyer.com">http://threeacts.mrmeyer.com</a>
- Andrew Stadel: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/mrstadel">http://tinyurl.com/mrstadel</a>
- Geoff Krall: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/PrBLmaps">http://tinyurl.com/PrBLmaps</a>
- Nathan Kraft: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/mrkraft">http://tinyurl.com/mrkraft</a>
- Mathalicious: <a href="http://www.mathalicious.com">http://www.mathalicious.com</a>
- Yummy Math: <a href="http://www.yummymath.com">http://www.yummymath.com</a>
- 101 Questions: <a href="http://www.101qs.com">http://www.101qs.com</a>





#### Why Choose Us?



Robert graduated from University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) with a Bachelors of Science in Mathematics. He has taught mathematics to students at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. As an instructor for UCLA, he also teaches math content courses to teachers.

#### Lessons



How Can We Water All Of The Grass?



How Much Money IS That?!











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4th 5th 8th Algebra Functions Geometry Modeling Numb & Quant Stats & Prob 3rd 6th 7th



How Can We Water All Of The Grass?



How Much Money IS That?!





#### Robert Kaplinsky's Problem-Based Lessons 🔅 🖿

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	A	В	С	D	E	F	
1	Task Name	Concept / Skill	Standard 1	Standard 2	Standard 3	Standard 4	Sta
2	How Can We Water All Of The Grass?	Circles, Pythagorean Theorem, trigonometric ratios	7.G.4	8.G.7	G-SRT.8	G-MG.1	G-I
3	How Much Money IS That?!	Volume of rectangular prism	5.MD.3	5.MD.4	5.MD.5	5.MD.5b	5.1
4	How Much Money Should Dr. Evil Demand?	Exponential Growth	N-RN.2	A-SSE.1	A-SSE.3c	A-SSE.4	A-F
5	How Tall Is Mini-Me?	Scale and Dividing Decimals	5.NF.5	5.NF.5a	5.NF.5b	6.NS.3	
6	How Did They Make Ms. Pac-Man?	Transformations (Rotations, Reflections, and Translations)	8.G.1	8.G.2	8.G.3	8.G.4	G-
7	Which Ticket Option Is The Best Deal?	Unit Rates and Ratios	6.RP.2	6.RP.3	6.RP.3a	6.RP.3b	
8	How Far Apart Are The Freeway Exits?	Fractions on a Number Line and Subtracting Fractions	3.NF.2	3.NF.2b	4.NF.2	4.NF.3a	4.1
9	Do We Have Enough Paint?	Area	3.MD.5	3.MD.6	3.MD.7		
10	How Many Stars Are There In The Universe?	Scientific Notation	8.EE.3	8.EE.4			
11	What Rides Can You Go On?	Inequalities and Measurement	2.MD.1	6.NS.7a	6.NS.7b		
12	Do You Have Enough Money?	Money	2.MD.8				
13	Which Bed Bath & Beyond Coupon Should You Use?	Percent Discount	7.RP.3				
14	Is Gas Cheaper With Cash Or Credit Card?	Percent Discount	7.RP.3				
15	Where's The Nearest Toys R Us?	Pythagorean Theorem (Distance in coordinate system)	8.G.8	G-SRT.8	G-GPE.7		
16	How Sharp Is The iPhone 5's Retina Display?	Pythagorean Theorem (Length of a side)	8.G.7	G-SRT.8	G-GPE.7		
17	When Should She Take Her Medicine?	Operations with Time Intervals	4.MD.2				
18	How Big Are Sunspots?	Converting Units, Proportions, and Scientific Notation	5.MD.1	7.RP.2	7.G.4	8.EE.4	G-I
19	What Michael's Coupon Should I Use?	Percent Discount	7.RP.3	A-CED.3			
20	Is It Cheaper To Pay Monthly or Annually?	Decimal Operations and/or Systems of Equations	5.NBT.7	8.EE.8c	A-CED.3	A-REI.11	F-E
21	How Big Is The 2010 Guatemalan Sinkhole?	Volume of Cylinder	5.MD.3	5.MD.4	5.MD.5	8.G.9	G-(
22	How Can You Win Every Prize At Chuck E. Cheese's?	Decomposing Numbers and/or Systems of Equations	2.NBT.7	3.NBT.2	3.NBT.3	8.EE.8c	A-0
23	How Many Royal Flushes Will You Get?	Probability	7.SP.5	7.SP.6	7.SP.7	S-MD.5	S-I
24	How Much Does The Paint On A Space Shuttle Weigh?	Surface Area	6.G.4	7.G.6	8.G.7	G-MG.1	G-I
25	How Did Motel 6 Go From \$6 to \$66?	Percent Increase and Compound Interest	7.RP.3	A-SSE.1b	F-BF.1	F-IF.8b	F-L
26	How Much Does The Aluminum Foil Prank Cost?	Surface Area and Unit Rates	6.G.4	6.RP.2	6.RP.3	7.G.6	
27	How Many Laps Is A 5k Race?	Perimeter	4.MD.3				
28	Which Toilet Uses Less Water?	Systems of Equations/Inequalities	8.EE.8c	A-CED.3	A-REI.11	F-BF.1	
29	How Did Someone Get A \$103,000 Speeding Ticket In Finland?	Linear Equations	A-CED.2	F-BF.1	F-IF.4	F-IF.6	
30	Which Pizza Is A Better Deal?	Area or Circle, Square, and Unit Rates	3.MD.5	3.MD.6	3.MD.7	4.MD.3	6.F
31	How Big Is The World's Largest Deliverable Pizza?	Area of Square	3.MD.5	3.MD.6	3.MD.7	4.NBT.3	4.1
32	How Many Sheets Do You Need To Break Out Of Prison?	Integer Operations	5.NBT.6				
33	Do Hybrid Cars Pay For Themselves?	Systems of Equations or Rates	6.RP.2	6.RP.3	8.EE.8c	A-CED.3	F-E
34	How Many Hot Dogs Did They Eat?!	Linear and Quadratic Functions	8.F.3	8.F.4	F-BF.1	F-BF.2	F-I
35	How Much Purple Ribbon Will You Need?	Perimeter & Circumference	3.MD.8	4.MD.3	7.G.4		
36	Are We There Yet?	Adding Times	3.MD.1	4.MD.2			
37	Which Chinese Food Coupon Should I Use?	Percent Discount	7.RP.3				
38	How Big Is The Vehicle That Uses Those Tires?	Ratio and Proportions	7.RP.2				
39	Where Would The Angry Birds Have Landed?	Create Equation From Quadratic Graph	A-CED.1	F-BF.1	F-IF.4	F-IF.7a	F-L
40	How Many Movies Can You See In One Day?	Adding Times	3.MD.1	4.MD.2			
41	Which Carrots Should You Buy?	Unit Rates	6.RP.1	6.RP.2	6.RP.3		
42	How Fast Can You Throw A Baseball?	Converting Units and Unit Rates	5.MD.1	6.RP.2			

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