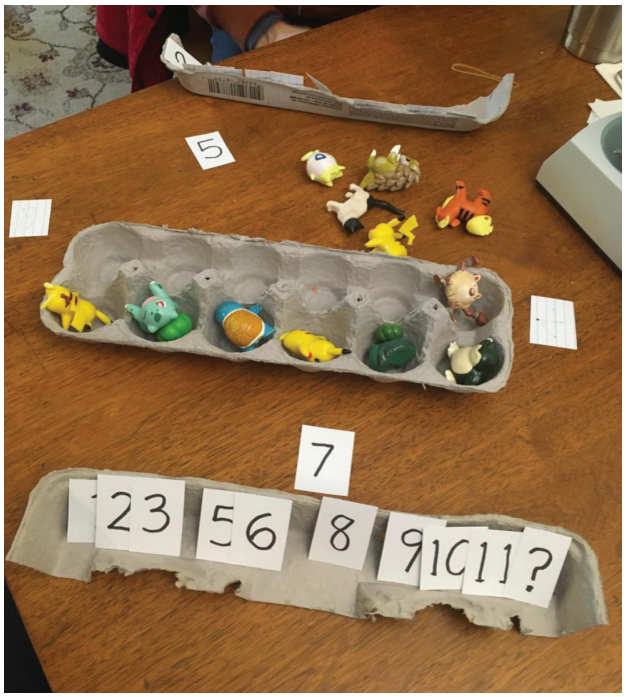
EGG CARTON GAME

Goal of this game: To remember the number pairs that add up to make 12 (6+6, 7+5, 8+4, 9+3, 10+2, 11+1)
Time needed to play: 5-15 minutes per round (depending on both skill and luck in each round)

Materials you will need:
- an egg carton
- a copy of one of the following number page
- scissors
- 12 small objects that will fit into the egg "pockets" (ex: plastic eggs, colorful pebbles, wrapped candies, small plastic toys)

How to prepare:
1) Make a copy of the following number page and cut apart the cards.
2) Give each player a set of numbers (1 to 11 plus a question mark)
3) Set the egg cartoon between players, and have the objects ready on the side.



How to play:
1) Each player lines up their cards (face up) in order from 1 to 11, and the question mark where 12 would be if you had it. For advanced players, you might want to use the lid of the egg carton to create a holder that will keep the cards up and out of view of the other player. However, at least while the players are leaning game strategy it won't matter if everyone's cards are visible.

2) The goal of the game is to set out a card that your opponent can't match. When this happens, you get to keep that card in a "win" pile. The player with the greatest number of cards in their "win" pile wins the game.

3) Your question mark is your "wild card." It can be any number you want it to be, but you can only use this card once, so use it wisely!

4) The first player chooses one of their cards and places it next to the egg carton. Then they take that number of objects and they put them into the carton.

5) The other player looks at their cards to see if they have the matching card that will add up to 12. At first this will be very easy, but as the game goes on and cards start to disappear it will become harder. If they do not have the matching card, but they do have two cards that add up to that number, they can use those two cards together. For example, if the first player puts out a 3, that means the second player must have a 9 to match it. If they don't have a 9, but they do have a 5 and a 4, they can use the 5 and 4. (Of course, there are some cases where you can't use two cards. If your opponent sets out their 11, your only choice is to use your 1.)

6) After the other player sets out their matching card (or cards) they put that many objects into the egg carton to complete the set of 12.

7) Then those cards (both players' cards) are turned over and removed from the game, and the egg carton is dumped to start a new round.

8) Now it is the other player's turn to choose one of their cards to set out, challenging the first player to find a match. (If it is your turn to set out the first card, you can only use one card, not two. You can only use two cards if you are trying to match a card that has already been set out.) Objects are put into the correct number of compartments to show how many are needed for a match.

9) Play continues like this, back and forth, with players taking turns being the one to set out the card or to match the card. As the game goes on, you have fewer options. At some point you will want to use your "?" card. It can be any number from 1 to 11, but after it is used, it is turned over like the regular number cards are.

10) If a player is unable to make a match for the card his opponent set out, then his opponent wins that round and keeps that card in a special "win" pile. The player with the greatest number of cards in their "win" pile will win the game.

11) The game is over as soon as one player is out of cards. If the other player has remaining cards, they must be discarded and can't be used as "win" cards.

12) After a round or two, the players will begin to have a sense of strategy, as they see the results of previous games. Is it better to use your lower cards first, or your higher ones? Is it better to use pairs of cards if you can, or does that end up limiting your options later on? If your opponents cards are visible, can you plan strategy that will prevent them from being able to play some of their cards?

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	?
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	?