

Geometry Corn Maze Project

Introduction:

This extra-credit activity will be a fun alternative to the typical indoor mathematics class experience.

Task and Resources:

For this project you will travel to the Jonamac Orchard in Malta and attempt to find your way through their corn maze using ten geometry problems as a guide. At ten intersections at various points in the maze, you will come to a numbered signpost. Answer the corresponding number question and follow the appropriate path by turning either left or right. If you get the wrong answer, you will be led the wrong way. If you get the correct answer, you will be led the correct way. It should take you about one hour to find your way through the maze. You will not need your calculator and you may work with a partner.

The corn maze is open Thursday through Sunday. Look on the website, www.jonamacorchard.com, for the exact hours for each day, and map with directions to the orchard. The cost of admission \$6.00, however you can use the \$1.00 off coupon found on the website.

You will be required to create a multi-slide electronic presentation, using Power Point, regarding your experience and present it to the class using the LCD projector. This presentation must include the following:

1. A photo diary of your experience. For the photo diary, I suggest taking at least five to ten pictures of you at various points in the maze. Try to correlate your pictures with some of the questions listed below. A chronological order slide and presentation format may work well for this project. If you have a digital camera, you can just import your pictures to your slides. If you have a regular camera, you must use a scanner to digitize your photos. The librarians can help you with this. If you are working with a partner, you need only complete one group presentation.
2. The answers to the following questions:
 - a) What day and time did you go and how long did it take you to complete the maze?
 - b) Was each of your solutions correct?
 - c) For each problem, did you know the answer right away or, if not, how did you arrive at each answer?
 - d) Were the directions you received from your solutions helpful in completing the maze?

- e) In addition to attempting to find the correct directions by solving the problems, what other strategies did you use to help you complete the maze

This assignment is for extra credit and is due Monday, November 4. Remember, weather does not always cooperate, so don't procrastinate. Try to take advantage of any remaining nice days.

Evaluation:

Your presentation will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Is the project presented electronically using PowerPoint and the LCD Projector?
- Are all questions answered completely?
- Are sufficient pictures included and are they correlated to any of the questions?
- Is your project clear and well-organized?
- Were the geometry questions completed and turned in?

Conclusion:

After all presentations are complete, we will discuss the experience and solve each of the geometry problems. This will serve as part of our test review.