

Movin' 'n Groovin'

PreK

Materials:

- A maze and hamster (either a picture or the real thing),
- paper and pencil to write or draw,
- color crayons, markers, or pencils

Discussion on the rug:

“Who can tell me, what is a hamster? What do hamsters like to do?” Teacher asks questions and clarifies answers to help students understand a maze and a race. **“What is a maze? How does a hamster travel through a maze?”** Teacher continues to ask children to clarify how to race two hamsters through a maze while using a timer.

In small groups: Each group has a picture of the maze.

Teacher reads the problem to the students.

“Maria and Tran each have a pet hamster. They have a maze for the hamsters to run through. Maria says she thinks her hamster can run through the maze faster than Tran’s. They each time their hamster as it runs through the maze. It takes Maria’s hamster 19 seconds to travel through the maze. It takes Tran’s hamster 15 seconds.”

1. **“Which hamster is faster? Explain how you know.”**

2. **“How much faster is the faster hamster compared to the slower hamster at running through the maze? Explain your answer.”**

At the end of the investigation, have students either draw a picture or dictate a response to represent their solutions.

