

**Name/Title:** Roll or Attendance

**Purpose of Event:** The purpose is to add a little more meaning to taking attendance. Traditionally, we have children stand on numbers. I have simply added to this.

**Prerequisites:** At the beginning of the school year I have the students stand on a number that corresponds to their last name (alphabetical order), and as we stretch, I ask where number 3 or number 30, etc., is if there is no student on those numbers.

**Suggested Grade Level:** 6-12

**Materials Needed:** Asphalt paint.

### Description of Idea

I have lots of blacktop that is not being used so I decided to use different areas to add to my roll taking variations. I have the numbers painted; then I painted the alphabet. Thereafter, I painted the periodic table of the elements and assigned each student in each period an element. (C, H, AU, etc.) Then I painted out a keyboard and assigned each student a letter, punctuation mark or symbol. (By this time I have fairly good idea who would be an asterisk, question mark or exclamation.) The numbers and alphabet are three feet apart. The keyboard is two-foot squares but the elements are four foot blocks.

**Assessment Ideas:**

I am always surprised when I ask where "Hydrogen" is and a little voice replies, "Oh, he's not here today!" Although I have not actually done anything but take roll, I can imagine getting into groups by forming molecules. I have taught prime numbers with the roll numbers and vowels and consonants with the alphabet. I have had the "home keys" take off on a lap and had the rest of the class chase them.

**Adaptations for Students with Disabilities:**

Though I have not had children with disabilities since I repainted the blacktop, I can place students in wheelchairs in the space bar of the keyboard and put wheelchairs on the outside numbers or alpha spots.

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Submitted by **Jeffrey Merzbacher** who teaches at Hawthorne Elementary in San Diego, CA. Thanks for contributing to PE Central! **Posted on PEC: 12/21/2005.**

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