Engaging Learning: How Playing Snakes and Ladders Benefits Mathematics, Critical Thinking, and Social Skills for Kids / Subject Explorer / LearningCorner.co

# **Core Skills Analysis**

#### **Mathematics**

- Opal practiced counting as she moved her game piece according to the dice roll.
- She learned basic addition and subtraction when calculating her move progress resulting from snakes or ladders.
- Opal developed an understanding of greater than/less than concepts as she compared her position with others on the board.
- She enhanced her spatial awareness by visualizing the game board layout and planning her strategy.

## **Critical Thinking**

- Opal made strategic decisions about when to take risks versus playing it safe to reach the finish line.
- She began to recognize patterns, especially when she encountered multiple snakes or ladders in a row.
- Opal practiced predicting outcomes based on the current game situation, helping her to develop foresight.
- She learned to adapt her strategy after reviewing the ongoing game situation based on her opponents' moves.

### **Social Skills**

- Opal engaged in cooperative play, sharing turns and respecting other players' turns.
- She practiced communication skills by discussing moves and strategies with her fellow players.
- Opal learned about sportsmanship by experiencing both winning and losing gracefully.
- She developed patience and understanding in managing her emotions while playing the game.

#### **Tips**

To enhance Opal's learning experience, consider integrating counting games that involve physical movement or create mini board games that include addition and subtraction challenges. Exploring simple coding concepts through game design can also improve her critical thinking. Additionally, encourage family game nights with various board games to bolster her social skills and teamwork.

### **Book Recommendations**

- <u>Snakes and Ladders: A Story</u> by Anja Boretzki: A delightful tale that brings the traditional game of Snakes and Ladders to life, introducing basic counting and mathematical concepts through engaging storytelling.
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle: While not directly related to Snakes and Ladders, this classic book encourages counting and days of the week through a fun narrative that young children enjoy.
- <u>Chutes and Ladders: The Game of Life</u> by Various Authors: A fun interpretation of the classic game, wherein children learn about winning and losing while developing their counting skills.