

# Birthday Balloon Bash

## Lesson Plan

Created by Patti Freeman and Linda Gillen  
George Mason University, COMPLETE Math  
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### The Task

Mr. Al Gebra's class wanted to surprise him on his birthday by filling his classroom with inflated balloons. How many balloons did they need?

#### Materials

- The task
- Balloons (uninflated)
- Paper
- Yard or meter sticks
- String or Yarn
- Calculators
- One large presentation paper per group

#### Facilitating Task

- Class will be divided into groups of 3-4 students.
- Read the task together and answer clarifying questions.
- Groups will be given materials upon request.
- Give students individual think time and then work together in groups.
- Groups present findings during last 10-15 minutes of class.

#### Misconceptions

- Balloons could be inflated to different fullness; does it matter?
- Will every cubic inch of space be occupied?

#### Suggested Prompts or Questions

- How much space does one balloon occupy?
- Which measure is needed for 'space occupied'?
- What measures capacity?
- What does it mean to 'fill' the room?