# Shut the Box (Grades 1-3, Addition, Breaking a Number Apart into a Sum)

Number of players: Two or more

What you need:

* 9 counters per player
* Two 6-sided dice
* A copy of the Shut the Box Game Board (has enough spaces for up to 4 players)

How to play: Each player uses one section of the Shut the Box Game Board, with the number 1 to 9 written out in a row. Players take turns rolling dice and putting counters on their game board, as follows:

1. On his or her turn, a player rolls the two dice and adds them together. This is the target number for that turn.
2. The player uses his or her counters to cover *either* the target number, *or* **any two numbers** on the game board that add up to the target number. For example, if a player rolled two 4s, he/she could do any of the following:
* Place one counter on the number 8
* Place two counters on the numbers 1 and 7
* Place two counters on the numbers 2 and 6
* Place two counters on the numbers 3 and 5

If the player doesn’t have one or two free numbers that add up to the target number, he or she has to drop out.

The game continues until all the players have dropped out. At the end of the game, each player figures out his or her total score by adding up the numbers that are still uncovered on that player’s game board. If a player has covered all of his or her number, he/she has “shut the box” and earns a score of 0. The player with the *lowest* score wins.

**Example:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MyD6 6 and 41 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |



4 + 4 = 8, so the player could cover 8 or any two numbers that add up to 8.

2 + 6 = 8

## Shut the Box Game Board (Space for 4 Players)

**Player 1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

**Player 2**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

**Player 3**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

**Player 4**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |