What Makes a Good Task?

Mathematical Content	- Aligns directly with specific grade-level standards - The mathematics presented is accurate and contains no mathematical errors unless presented as an error analysis - Enough information is provided that task is not overly ambiguous
Sensemaking & Reasoning	- Builds on students' previous understandings and toward future learning - Asks students to make sense of situations, contexts, quantities, or abstractions - Makes student reflect on their work for reasonableness and explain the meaning of their results
Engagement & Discourse	- Can be done collaboratively - Encourages students to talk about the math - Incorporates play and reveals the joyfulness of mathematics
Accessibility & Cognitive Demand	- Has a variety of entry points - Allows for a variety of representations and tools to be used - Provides a variety of solution paths - Encourages perseverance and productive struggle

Let's Analyze Some Tasks! Use the protocol above to help you decide whether the tasks presented are "good" tasks or not. If you can check off each bullet point for the task, then it's a "good" task! If you can't, list the criteria that didn't work.

TASK 1: Springtime Measurement

TASK 2: Sort by Shape

TASK 3: Start to Finish

Suggested Resources to Browse instead of Pinterest and Teachers Pay Teachers*:

Three Act Math Tasks:
Three-Act Tasks (Dan Meyer) – http://blog.mrmeyer.com/2011/the-three-acts-of-a-mathematical-story/
Three Act (Graham Fletcher) - https://gfletchy.com/3-act-lessons/
Three Act (Jon Orr) - http://mrorr-isageek.com/3-act-problems/
Three Act (Dan Ehlert) - https://whenmathhappens.com/3-act-math/
Three Act (Kristen Acosta) - http://linkis.com/themindofanaprilfool.com/fl57H
Three Act (Catherine Castillo) - https://mscastillosmath.wordpress.com/3-act-tasks-by-me/
Three Act (Mike Wiernicki) - https://mikewiernicki.com/3-act-tasks/
Three Act (Robert Kaplinsky) - http://robertkaplinsky.com/lessons/
Three Act (Kyle Pearce) - https://tapintoteenminds.com/3acts-by-author/kylepearce/
Three Act (Kendra Lomax) - https://learningfromchildren.org/3-act-tasks/
Three Act (Andrew Stadel) - http://www.estimation180.com/lessons.html

Others:
Illustrative Mathematics - https://tasks.illustrativemathematics.org/content-standards
Notice/Wonder - http://mathforum.org/pow/noticewonder/
Estimation 180 - http://www.estimation180.com/
Number Talks & Strings - http://ntimages.weebly.com/
Open Middle - http://openmiddle.com/
Splat! - http://www.stevewyborney.com/
Esti-Mysteries - http://www.stevewyborney.com/
Cube Conversations - http://www.stevewyborney.com/
Estimation Clipboard - http://www.stevewyborney.com/
Numberless Word Problems - https://bstockus.wordpress.com/numberless-word-problems/
Which One Doesn't Belong - http://wodb.ca/
Exploding Dots - https://www.explodingdots.org/
101 Qs - http://www.101qs.com/
What if Math - https://whatifmath.org/
Clothesline Math (Chris Shore) - https://clotheslinemath.com/
Clothesline Math (Andrew Stadel) - http://mr-stadel.blogspot.com/2015/08/clothesline.html
Slow Reveal Graphs - https://slowrevealgraphs.com/
YouCubed - https://www.youcubed.org/
Same But Different - https://www.samebutdifferentmath.com/
CPALMS - http://www.cpalms.org

*Remember, resources are only as good as the implementation that goes with them. Be sure to thoughtfully and intentionally plan using a resource and before implementation, check off the criteria from the Good Task protocol.

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