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**Dialogue-based activities and manipulatives to engage liberal arts majors in mathematics.**

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Summary: This article presents four inquiry-based learning activities developed for a liberal arts math course. The activities cover four topics: the Pythagorean theorem, interest theory, optimization, and the Monty Hall problem. Each activity consists of a dialogue, with a theme and characters related to the topic, and a manipulative, that allow students to physically interact with the mathematics they are doing. The overall goal is to create a new way for liberal arts students to engage in mathematics, while simultaneously cultivating an appreciation of the subject.

*Classification:* D35 D45 G45 M35 K55 N65

*Keywords:* inquiry-based learning; liberal arts mathematics; number systems; Pythagorean theorem; financial mathematics; interest theory; problem solving; modeling; optimization; probability; simulation; Monty Hall problem

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