

Game

Games are a great resource.

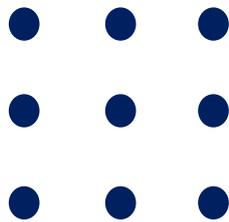
They support talk in maths and, just as important, they motivate us to persevere.

Dots and boxes

Dots and Boxes is a pencil-and-paper game for 2 players.

It was first published in the 19th century by a French mathematician, so it's pretty old but still a fun game!

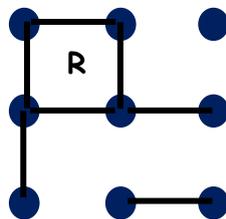
- First, let's learn to play the game on this size grid.



- Draw a straight line to join two next-door dots. You can't draw diagonal lines.
- The other player draws a line.
- Keep taking it in turns.
- You are aiming to draw the last side of a square. When you do, write the first letter of your name in the square.
- Carry on playing the game until all the dots are joined.

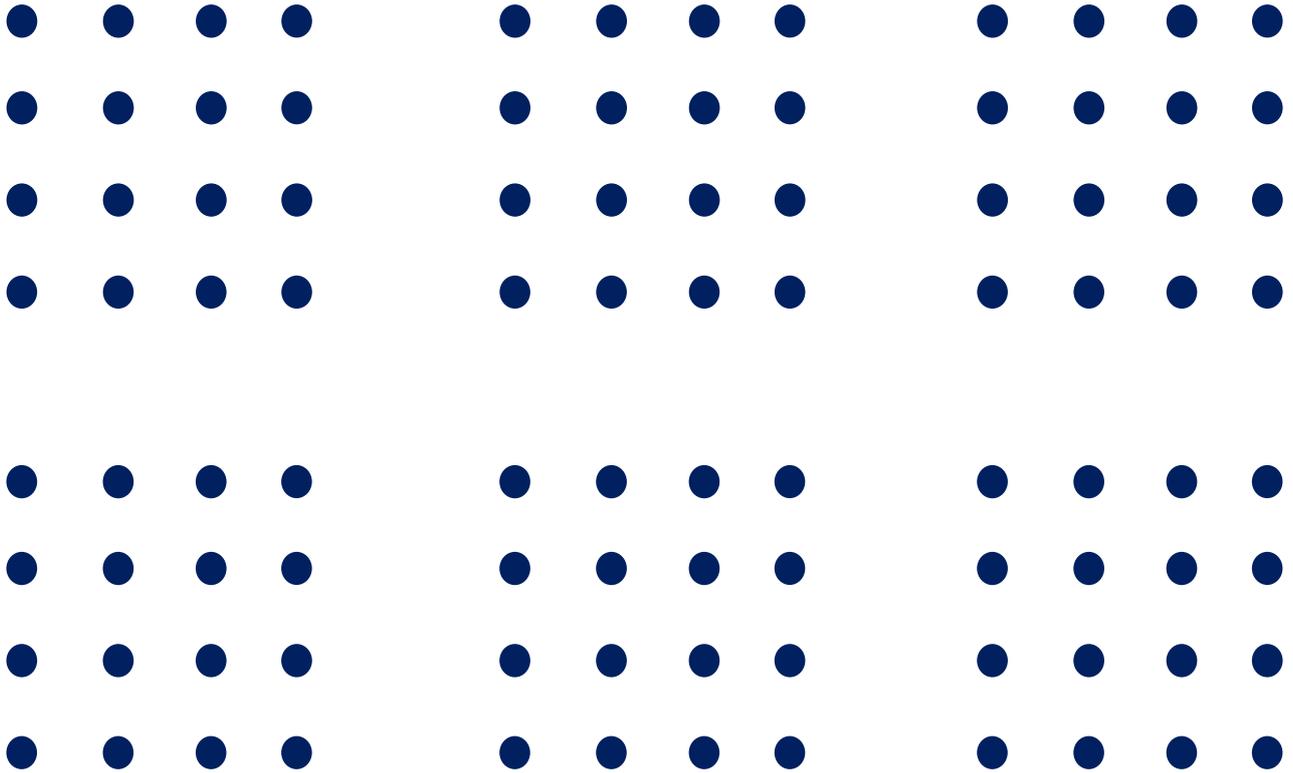
The person with most squares wins.

- So, a game could look like this.



Mmm... Where can I go next to stop her getting another square...?

- Now it's your turn! Play a few times so that you learn some strategies.
- What have you learned so far?
- Once you've got the hang of it, play on a larger grid (see next page).



You could draw your own dotted grids even bigger than this!