**Teacher Notes for Jeopardy** [[1]](#footnote-1)

One way to organize the Jeopardy game is to divide your class into groups of 3-4 students, with a spokesperson for each group and a system for rotating among the groups.  Each group in turn can choose a category and point value, and you will show the question.  The group has a set time to decide on their answer.  If their answer is correct, they earn the points.  If their answer is not correct, the first spokesperson for another group to raise their hand can answer the question to earn the points (with the obvious exception of the true/false items).

Another way to organize the Jeopardy game has been developed by Dr. Wayne Snyder.[[2]](#footnote-2)

* Place students in teams of four. Each team member has a number from 1 to 4. Each student has a whiteboard, marker, and eraser.[[3]](#footnote-3)
* For each question, everyone has ~60 seconds to work on their whiteboards. They are encouraged to help their teammates as needed and to compare their thinking and answers to make sure that everyone is ready.
* At the end of the time, the teacher calls out a number, 1-4. All of the students with that number hold up their whiteboards. Each correct answer scores a point for their team. If necessary, you can go over the question, but usually the students will have helped each other since the randomly selected individual determines if the team gets a point.
* Repeat the process until all questions have been answered.
* Set a total score cut off that allows most or all teams to be winners. You may want to have a student helper keep track of the team scores (and switch helpers halfway through the activity).

1. By Dr. Ingrid Waldron, Department of Biology, University of Pennsylvania, © 2019. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. NSTA reports, Summer, 2019, page 3 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. For this purpose you would want one whiteboard per student in your largest class. To obtain whiteboards, you can go to Home Depot and ask them to cut a 8' x 4' whiteboard (e.g. EUCATILE Hardboard Thrifty White Tile Board) into six pieces with the dimension 32" x 24". They should have a power saw rig that allows their employees to cut the pieces very easily. They should not charge to cut them and the product cost is reasonable.   
     
   Some important tips for using whiteboards:  
   – Coat the white boards with Endust (or similar product) before using. Every once in a while, wipe the whiteboards clean and reapply Endust.  
   – Black markers are easiest to erase. Red or green markers should be erased right away to prevent stains. Do not use markers that are old or almost empty, since the ink from these are more difficult to erase. Recommended brands are Expo markers and Pilot BeGreen markers. To clean up stains you can use Windex or Expo White Board Cleaner.  
   – Teacher and/or students can take a picture of the information on the board if they want to save it. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)