

## Tips for Excel Board Game/Conditional Formatting

The “Excel 2” file (*game\_together1.xls*) shows how to build a game board using Excel. The final product allows you to “just drag and drop”. You can also utilize the conditional formatting option to change the color of the box if the answer is correct (see *condformat* tab.) However, each of these options have to be built differently. For example, when building the game via **insert comments** and drag and drop, you may have noticed a problem with using the “Drag and Drop” feature. *This destroys the contents of the cell – including any conditional formatting you have pre-set, and the comments you used for the questions.* This is the reason we suggest using a text box instead of inserting comments.

So,

1. We would have done better, if instead of using *comments*, we used *text boxes* and *arrows*. That way the comments wouldn’t have gone away.
2. We need to make a macro button to check the answers. What the macro button does is set the conditional formatting for each cell. Remember this is a manual process. For each cell set the background to be green if the cell value is equal to the correct answer.
  - a. To see the formula for the macro button, **right click** on the button, and click on **Assign Macro**. Then click on **Check** and then the **Edit** button.

If you didn’t want to use the drag drop feature, you could pre-set the conditional formatting, and have the users type in the answers, rather than drag/drop. This may be more difficult for younger users, and may lead to the test taker using the same answer more than once.