

Math Empowers

NCTM: Early Mathematics Fluency with CCSSM

"Students become mathematically fluent thinkers when they have many occasions to make sense of problems and apply their understandings toward increasingly sophisticated problems."

— Gabriel Matney, TCM Aug 2014

The Common Core math standards expect students to be fluent in mathematics through the deeper understanding of the processes. By immersing students in a math-rich environment of problem solving and modeling, they begin to speak the language of math similar to the ability to become fluent in a language. Using Number of the Day activities, facilitate partner and whole class discussions around making the numbers in different ways to deepen the understanding. Real-life word problems will also offer opportunities for modeling different strategies and discussions about reasonability. Read the attached article for ideas for primary students to become creative mathematicians ready to solve problems they encounter in their world.

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mathematics

Problems of the Month

We are supplementing our GO Math! curriculum with the "Problem of the Month" from *Inside Mathematics* in order to increase rigor as we prepare students for the PARCC assessment. Each problem has five levels of complexity. Start your students at level A then challenge them to go as far as their understanding and skills will take them as they continue to work through the remaining levels. Remember the purpose of this problem-solving activity is to allow your students to persevere, which is essential to the learning process. As a facilitator of Problems of the Month, it is essential not to provide answers, but rather to guide student thinking by posing clarifying and reflective questions. Share strategies without emphasizing one solution method over another. Students should share complete solutions only at the conclusion of the activity. See the attached table for the Problems of the Month for grades K-5.

Visit <http://www.insidemathematics.org> for more information.

Addition & Subtraction Leap Frog

Leap into the Christmas season! Your students will love Christmas Addition & Subtraction Leap Frog. Leap Frog is a partner game that will help build fact fluency. Check out the attached game.

Color Counting

Continue to reinforce one-to-one correspondence with your students who may be struggling with addition or subtraction. The attached game, Color Counting, is a simple, one die partner game for your students to try.

B.U.I.L.D



BUILD is a way to manage centers during a math lesson. Each letter stands for something the child will "do" during math.

B: Buddy Games

U: Using Manipulatives

I: Independent Math

L: Learning Numbers

D: Do Math with the Teacher
(enrich/support)

The great thing about BUILD is that you can tweak it to fit the needs of your students. Many teachers are finding BUILD to be useful in the classroom. Their students are completing one center a day and will complete 5 centers by the end of the week. The activities will then be repeated for the remainder of the chapter if you feel that your students will benefit from repeating them. Look for the BUILD board for chapter 6 soon!