

Math Empowers ⁵



Creating Math Talk Communities

As educators, we are challenged to engage our students in meaningful math talk that allows them to construct viable arguments and critique others' reasoning. When students engage in meaningful math talk, they are able to increase their conceptual understanding and deepen their content knowledge. There are five strategies that are helpful in supporting the development of more meaningful math talk:

1. Discuss why math talk is important.
2. Teach students how to listen and respond.
3. Introduce sentence stems. (See page 252)
4. Contrast explanation versus justification.
5. Give an example.

Be sure to read the attached NCTM article for more information.



End of Year Reminder!

Be sure to give students the opportunity to preview sixth grade using the "Getting Ready for Grade 6" materials included in your GO Math! Planning Guide. The first unit in 6th grade is expressions and equations. Lessons 13 and 14 will help to prepare your students for this unit.

When they arrive in the middle school, students will need to be proficient with fractions and decimals. Lessons 1, 2, and 7 are a good review of some of the skills they will need.

Preparing your students for next year will also help you identify the skills students may need to review, such as making equivalent fractions or adding and subtracting fractions.



Summer Reading Suggestions



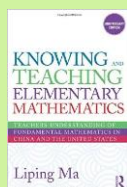
The 5 Minute Teacher
Author: Mark Barnes



Now I Get It: Strategies for Building Confident and Competent Mathematicians, K-6
Author: Susan O'Connell



KNOWING and TEACHING Elementary Mathematics
Author: Lipping Ma



Beyond the Facts and Flashcards: Exploring Math with Your Kids
Author: Janice Mokros

