

# Five Best Practices for Math Instruction



# Sarah R. Powell, Ph.D.

Associate Professor  
The University of Texas at Austin



[srpowell@utexas.edu](mailto:srpowell@utexas.edu)



[@sarahpowellphd](https://www.instagram.com/sarahpowellphd)

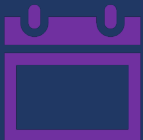


Introduce yourself.

Describe your strengths in supporting mathematics.

Describe an opportunity for growth.





## This Year

September 20	Five Best Practices for Math Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Systematic and explicit instruction</li><li>• Math vocabulary</li><li>• Multiple representations</li><li>• Fluency</li><li>• Word-Problem Solving</li></ul>
January 30	VIRTUAL Word Problems? No Problem!
April 11	VIRTUAL Mathematics Manipulatives Mania



## Today

8:30-11:30	Five Best Practices for Math Instruction
11:30-12:30	LUNCH
12:30-3:00	Five Best Practices for Math Instruction





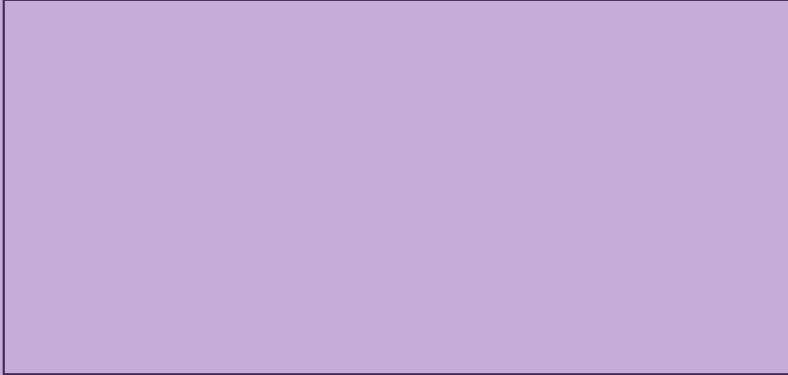
# Mathematical Pathways



# Five Best Practices for Math Instruction

srpowell@utexas.edu @sarahpowellphd  
www.sarahpowellphd.com

Mathematical Trajectories



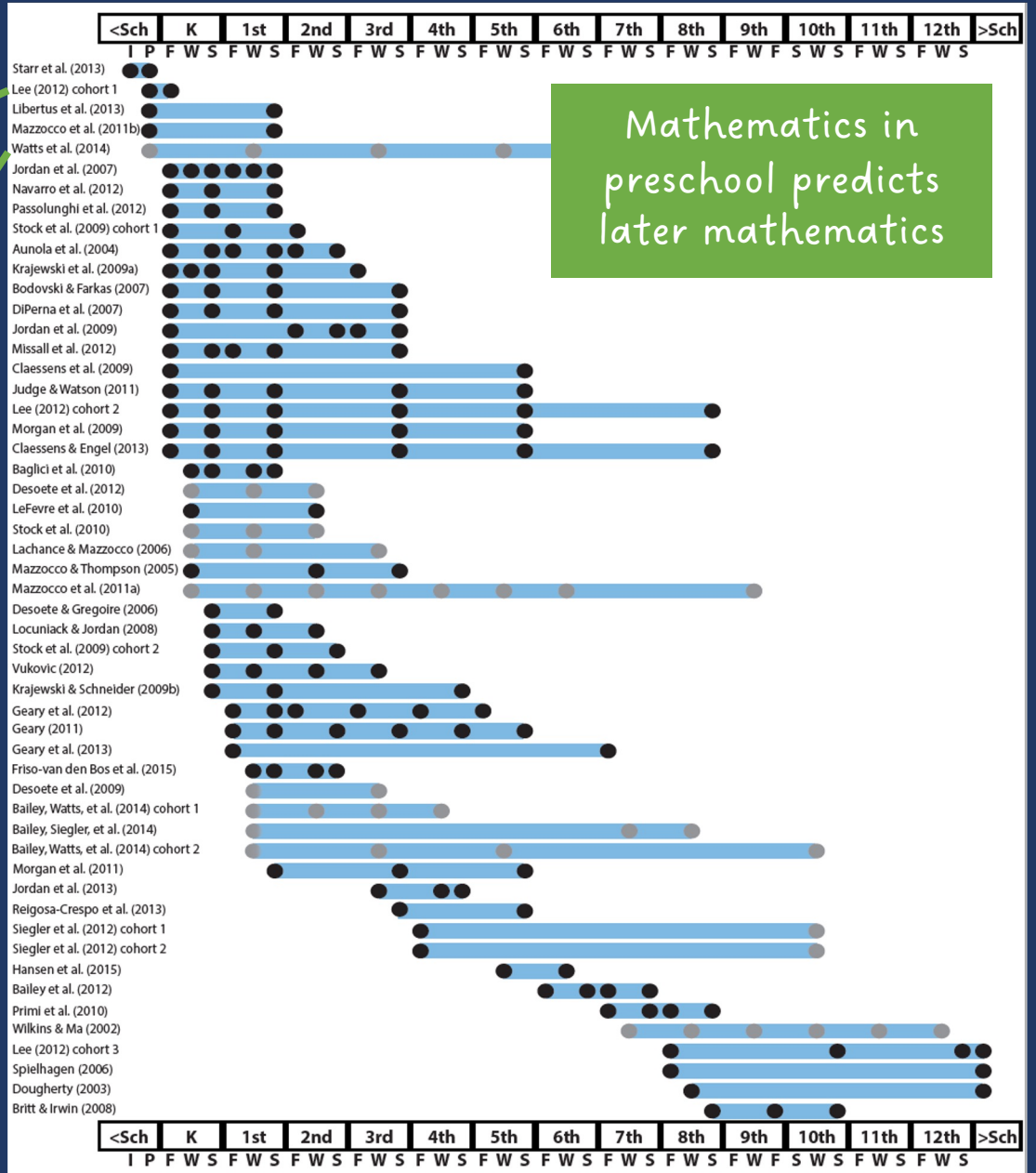
Critical Content



Broad math in prek predicted K broad math

Broad math in prek predicted grade 10 broad math

Mathematics in preschool predicts later mathematics

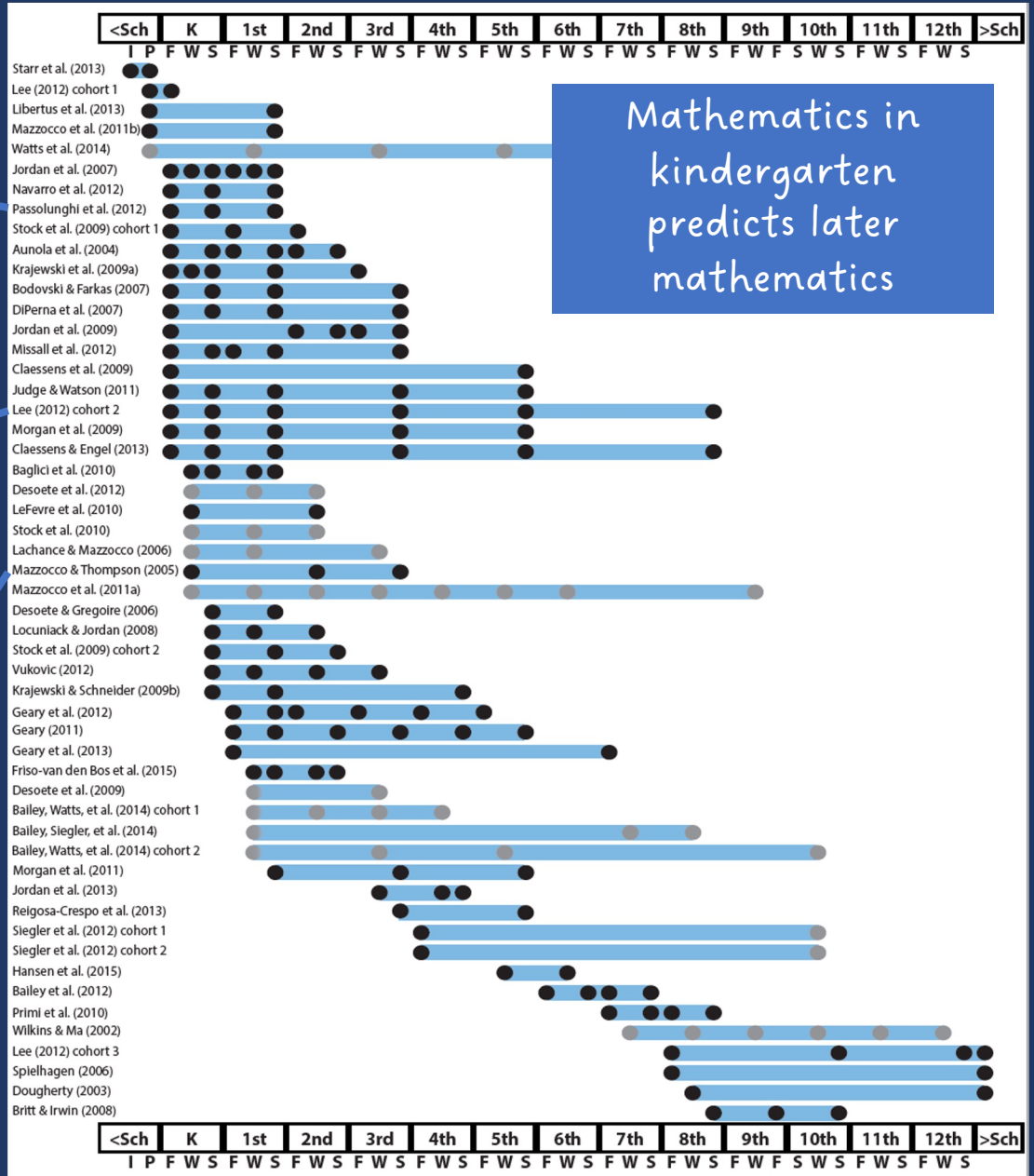


Counting in K predicted grade 1 broad math

Broad math in K predicted grade 8 broad math

K math accurately predicted math performance below 10<sup>th</sup> percentile in grades 2 and 3 with 84% correct classification

Mathematics in kindergarten predicts later mathematics

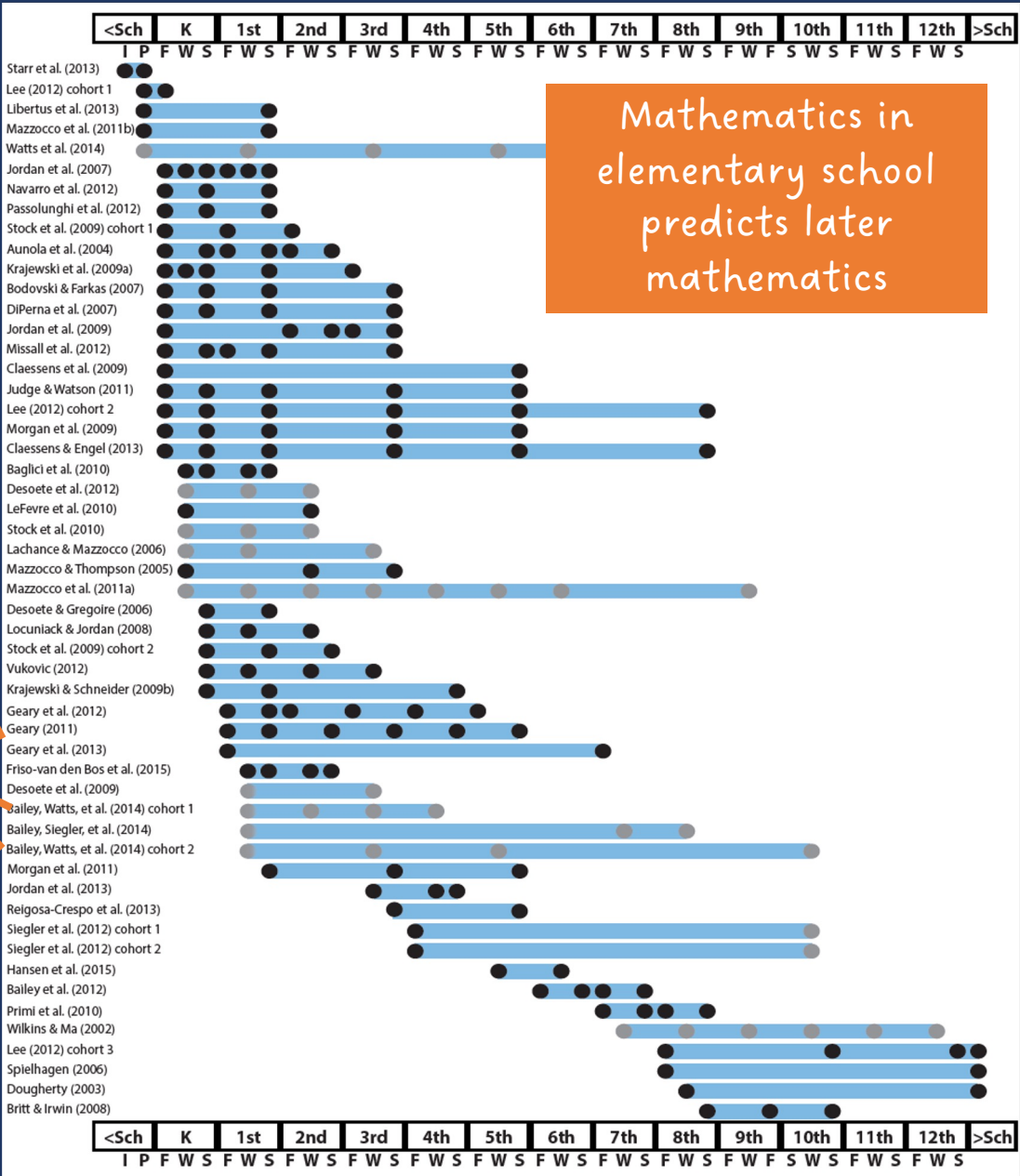


Addition influenced arithmetic with increasing importance from grades 1 to 5

Grade 1 arithmetic predicted arithmetic at grades 2, 3, and 4

Grade 1 broad math predicted broad math at grades 3, 5, and 10

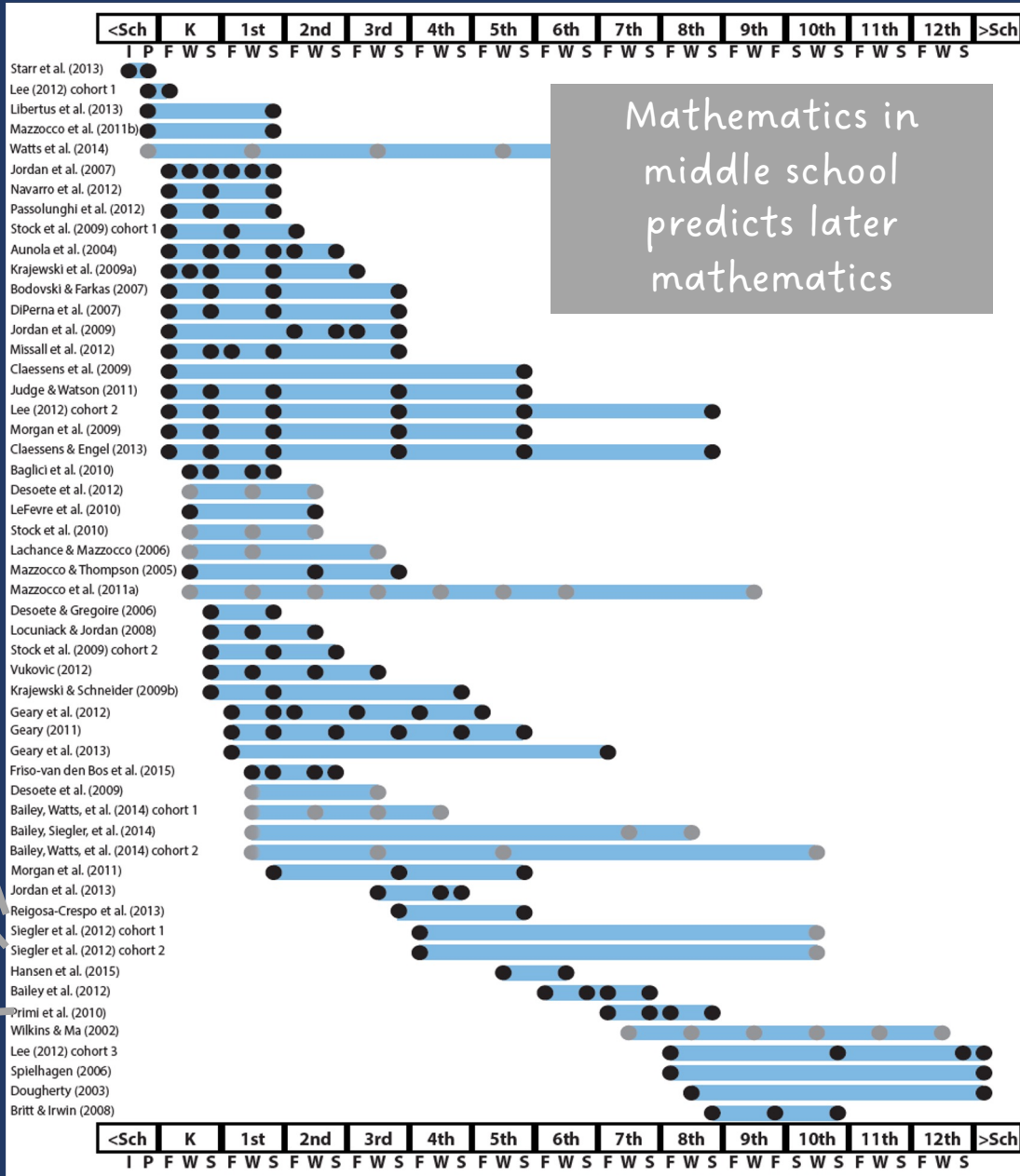
Mathematics in elementary school predicts later mathematics



Counting and comparison in grades 2 or 4 predicted broad math 1 year later

Fractions at 10-12 years old predicted broad math 5 years later

Broad math in grade 7 predicted broad math in grade 8



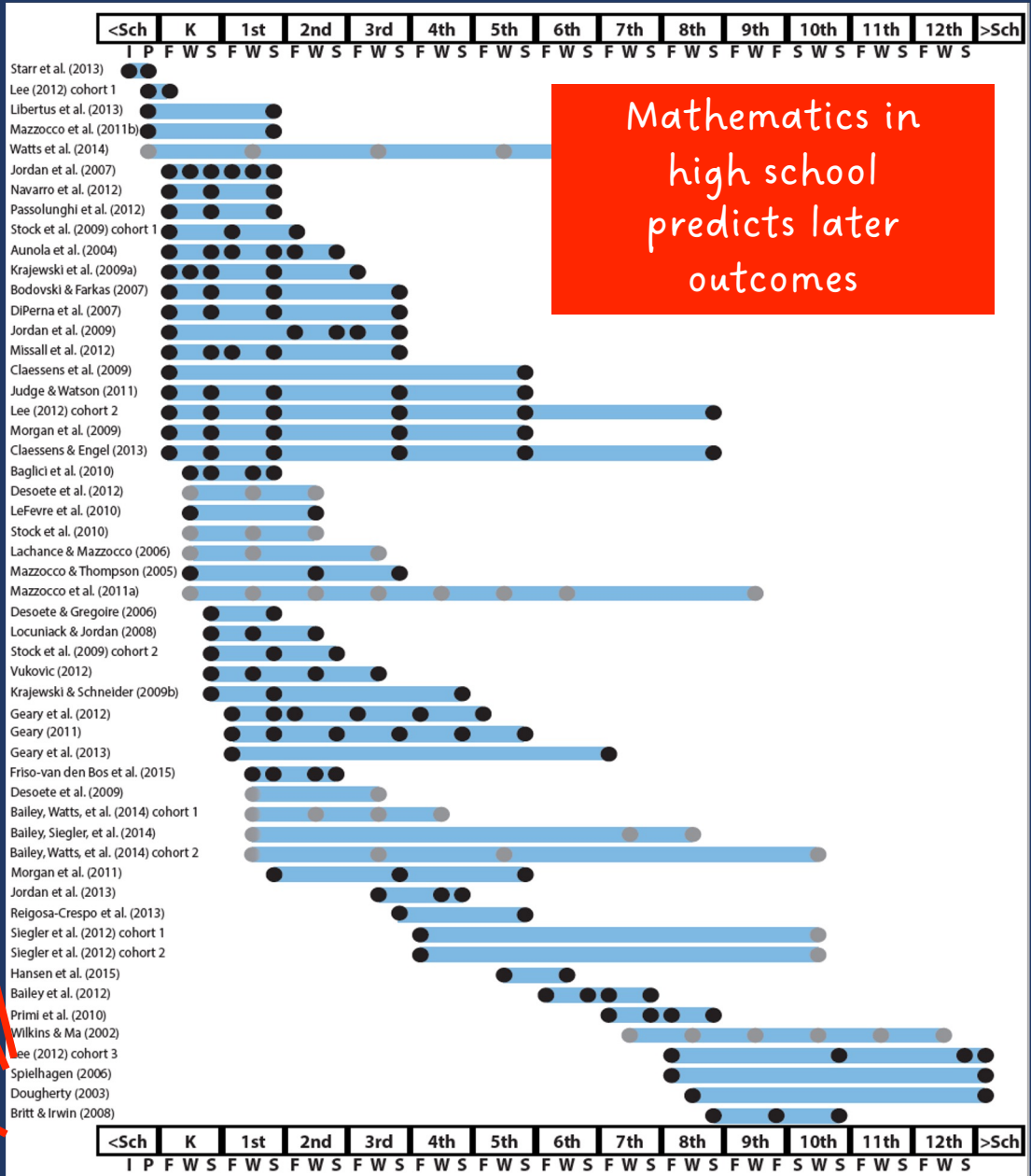


Broad math in grade 8 predicted completion of 4-year college degree

Students who took algebra in grades 8 took more advanced math courses and enrolled in 4-year colleges more often than students who took algebra in grade 9

Numeracy measured in adolescence impacted hourly earnings 7 to 15 years later

Mathematics in high school predicts later outcomes



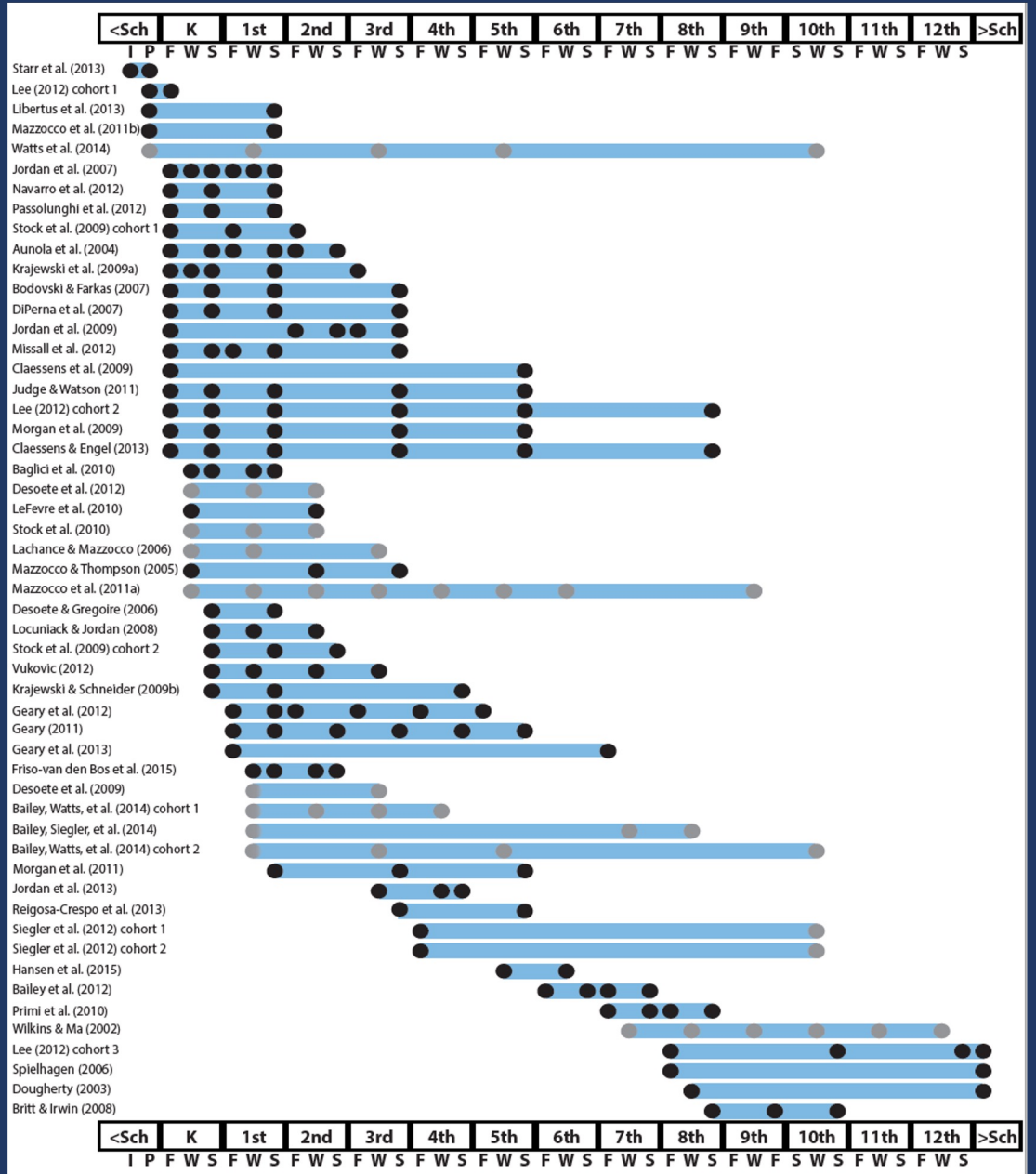
Mathematics in preschool predicts later mathematics

Mathematics in kindergarten predicts later mathematics

Mathematics in elementary school predicts later mathematics

Mathematics in middle school predicts later mathematics

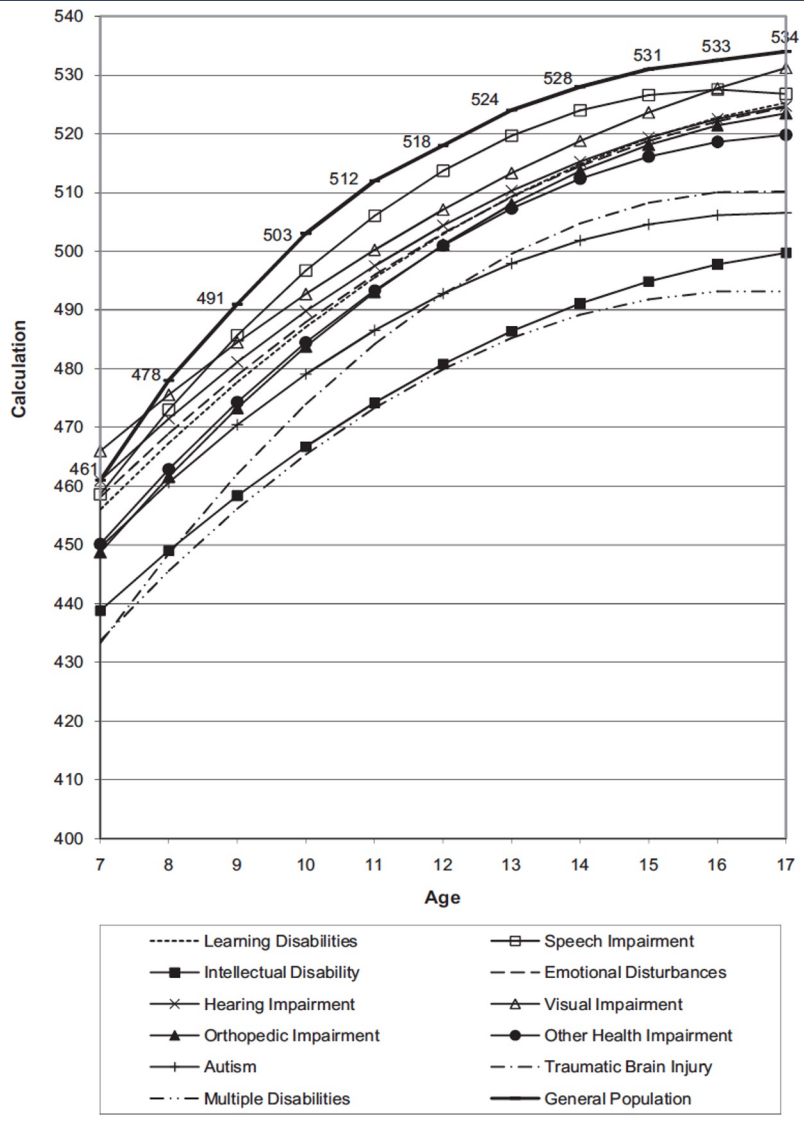
Mathematics in high school predicts later mathematics outcomes



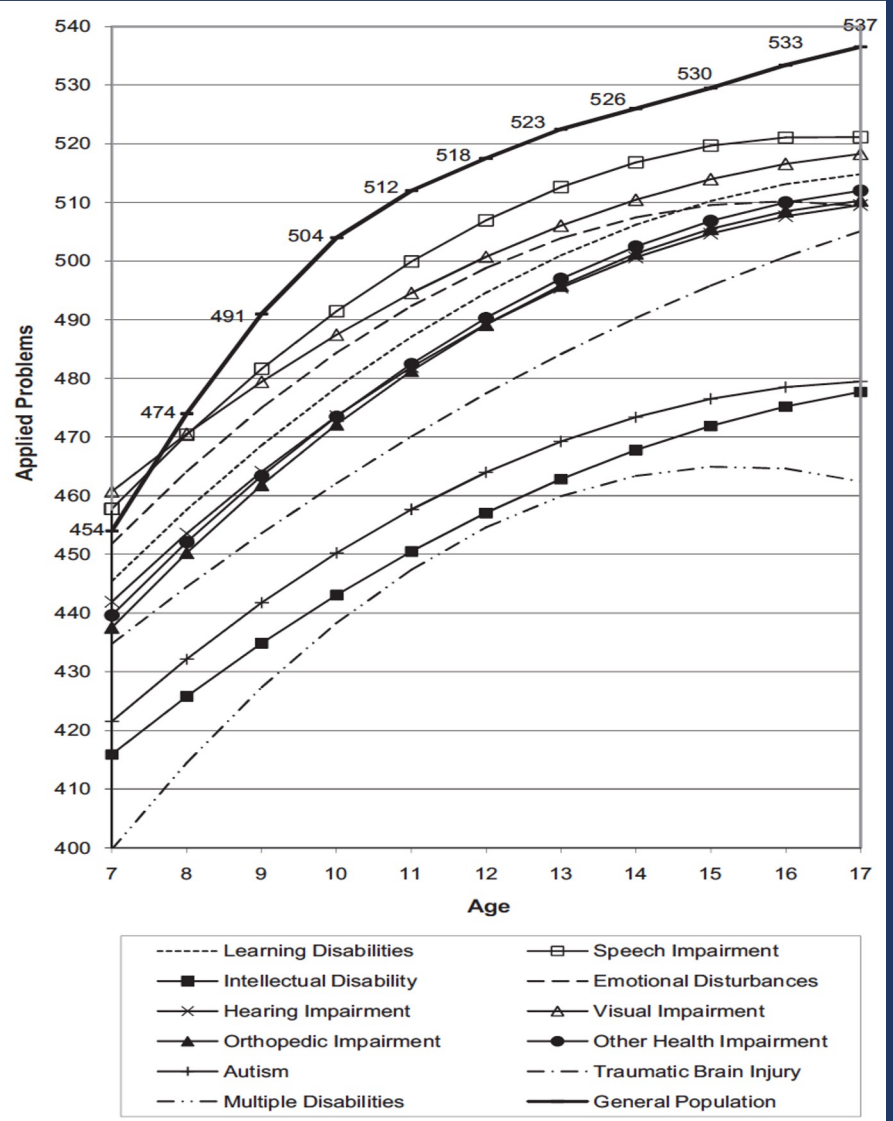
<http://www.greatertexasfoundation.org/trajectories-of-mathematics-performance/>







## Computation



## Problem Solving





Provide examples of how you see earlier math skills relating to later math skills.

# Five Best Practices for Math Instruction

srpowell@utexas.edu @sarahpowellphd  
www.sarahpowellphd.com

## Mathematical Trajectories



## Critical Content



continuum of mathematics learning



Fluently  
add and  
subtract  
multi-  
digit  
whole  
numbers

Fluently  
multiply  
and  
divide  
within  
100

Fluently  
multiply  
multi-  
digit  
whole  
numbers

Fluently  
add and  
subtract  
within  
100 using  
strategies

Fluently  
add and  
subtract  
within 5

Add and  
subtract  
within 20

Fluently  
add,  
subtract,  
multiply,  
and  
divide  
multi-  
digit  
decimals



Where student IS

Where student NEEDS TO BE

Fluently add and subtract within 5

Add and subtract within 20

Fluently add and subtract within 100

Fluently multiply and divide within 100

Fluently add and subtract multi-digit whole numbers

Fluently multiply multi-digit whole numbers

Fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit decimals



Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents 10 times as much as it represents in the place to its right and  $\frac{1}{10}$  of what it represents in the place to its left.

Understand that the three digits of a three-digit number represent amounts of hundreds, tens, and ones

Compose and decompose numbers from 11 to 19 into ten ones and some further ones

Understand that the two digits of a two-digit number represent amounts of tens and ones

Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents ten times what it represents in the place to its right

Use place value understanding to round whole numbers to the nearest 10 or 100



*Where student IS*

*Where student NEEDS TO BE*

Compose and decompose numbers from 11 to 19 into ten ones and some further ones...

Understand that the two digits of a two-digit number represent amounts of tens and ones.

Understand that the three digits of a three-digit number represent amounts of hundreds, tens, and ones.

Use place value understanding to round whole numbers to the nearest 10 or 100.

Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents ten times what it represents in the place to its right...

Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents 10 times as much as it represents in the place to its right and  $\frac{1}{10}$  of what it represents in the place to its left.





Interpret and compute quotients of fractions, and solve word problems involving division of fractions by fractions...

Solve multi-step word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations

Solve word problems that call for addition of three whole numbers whose sum is less than or equal to 20

Solve real-world and math problems involving the four operations with rational numbers.

Use addition and subtraction within 100 to solve one- and two-step word problems

Solve real-world and math problems leading to two linear equations in two variables

Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems

Solve addition and subtraction word problems, and add and subtract within 10

Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions referring to the same whole, including cases of unlike denominators



Solve addition and subtraction word problems, and add and subtract within 10

Solve word problems that call for addition of three whole numbers whose sum is less than or equal to 20

Use addition and subtraction within 100 to solve one- and two-step word problems

Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems

Solve multi-step word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations

Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions referring to the same whole, including cases of unlike denominators

Interpret and compute quotients of fractions, and solve word problems involving division of fractions by fractions

Solve real-world and math problems involving the four operations with rational numbers

Solve real-world and math problems leading to two linear equations in two variables



Where student IS

Where student NEEDS TO BE

Use addition and subtraction within 100 to solve one- and two-step word problems

Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems

Solve multi-step word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations



Where student IS

Where student NEEDS TO BE

Explain addition and subtraction strategies using place value and properties of operations...

Understand that the two digits of a two-digit number represent amounts of tens and ones.

Add and subtract within 100 to solve real-world problems...

Fluently add and subtract within 100 using strategies based on place value, properties of operations, and/or relationships.

Apply properties of operations as strategies to multiply and divide....

Fluently multiply and divide within 100, using strategies such as the relationship between multiplication and division...

Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems...

Fluently add and subtract multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm.

Understand three of a digit percent of tens, hundreds.

Find whole number quotients and remainders with up to four-digit dividends, one-digit divisors, using strategies based on place value, properties of operations, and relationships between multiplication and division.

Fluently multiply multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm.

Solve multi-step problems with whole numbers having two operations using the four operations...



Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
<b>Comparing and Ordering Numbers</b>			
(2) Number and operations. The student applies mathematical process standards to understand how to represent and compare whole numbers, the relative position and magnitude of whole numbers, and relationships within the numeration system. The student is expected to:	(2) Number and operations. The student applies mathematical process standards to represent and compare whole numbers, the relative position and magnitude of whole numbers, and relationships within the numeration system related to place value. The student is expected to:	(2) Number and operations. The student applies mathematical process standards to understand how to represent and compare whole numbers, the relative position and magnitude of whole numbers, and relationships within the numeration system related to place value. The student is expected to:	(2) Number and operations. The student applies mathematical process standards to represent and compare whole numbers and understand relationships related to place value. The student is expected to:
(G) compare sets of objects up to at least 20 in each set using comparative language.	(E) use place value to compare whole numbers up to 120 using comparative language.	(D) use place value to compare and order whole numbers up to 1,200 using comparative language, numbers, and symbols (>, <, or =).	(D) compare and order whole numbers up to 100,000 and represent comparisons using the symbols >, <, or =.
(H) use comparative language to describe two numbers up to 20 presented as written numerals.	(F) order whole numbers up to 120 using place value and open number lines.		
	(G) represent the comparison of two numbers to 100 using the symbols >, <, or =.		

<https://www.texasgateway.org/resource/vertical-alignment-charts-revised-mathematics-teks>



An important subset of the major work in grades K–8 is the progression that leads toward middle school algebra.

K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Know number names and the count sequence	Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction	Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction	Represent & solve problems involving multiplication and division	Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems	Understand the place value system	Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions	Apply and extend previous understanding of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers	Work with radical and integer exponents
Count to tell the number of objects	Understand and apply properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction	Add and subtract within 20	Understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division	Generalize place value understanding for multi-digit whole numbers	Perform operations with multi-digit whole numbers and decimals to hundredths	Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers	Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems	Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations**
Compare numbers	Add and subtract within 20	Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract	Multiply & divide within 100	Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multidigit arithmetic	Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions	Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems	Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions	Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations
Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from	Work with addition and subtraction equations	Measure and estimate lengths in standard units	Solve problems involving the four operations, and identify & explain patterns in arithmetic	Extend understanding of fraction equivalence and ordering	Geometric measurement: understand concepts of volume and relate volume to multiplication and to addition	Apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions	Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations	Define, evaluate, and compare functions
Work with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations for place value	Extend the counting sequence	Relate addition and subtraction to length	Develop understanding of fractions as numbers	Build fractions from unit fractions by applying and extending previous understandings of operations	Graph points in the coordinate plane to solve real-world and mathematical problems*	Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities		Use functions to model relationships between quantities
	Understand place value		Solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time, liquid volumes, & masses of objects	Understand decimal notation for fractions, and compare decimal fractions		Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables		
	Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract		Geometric measurement: understand concepts of area and relate area to multiplication and to addition					
	Measure lengths indirectly and by iterating length units							

\* Indicates a cluster that is well thought of as a part of a student's progress to algebra, but that is currently not designated as major by the assessment consortia in their draft materials. Apart from the one asterisked exception, the clusters listed here are a subset of those designated as major in the assessment consortia's draft documents.

\*\* Depends on similarity ideas from geometry to show that slope can be defined and then used to show that a linear equation has a graph which is a straight line and conversely.

<https://achievethecore.org/category/774/mathematics-focus-by-grade-level>





Table A.3. Grades 6–8 Curriculum Focal Points and Connections Compared with the Expectations of the Content Standards in *Principles and Standards for School Mathematics*

Curriculum Focal Points and Connections	Expectations of the Content Standards
<p><b>Grade 6 Curriculum Focal Points</b></p> <p><b>Number and Operations: Developing an understanding of and fluency with multiplication and division of fractions and decimals</b></p> <p>Students use the meanings of fractions, multiplication and division, and the inverse relationship between multiplication and division to make sense of procedures for multiplying and dividing fractions and explain why they work. They use the relationship between decimals and fractions, as well as the relationship between finite decimals and whole numbers (i.e., a finite decimal multiplied by an appropriate power of 10 is a whole number), to understand and explain the procedures for multiplying and dividing decimals. Students use common procedures to multiply and divide fractions and decimals efficiently and accurately. They multiply and divide fractions and decimals to solve problems, including multistep problems and problems involving measurement.</p> <p><b>Number and Operations: Connecting ratio and rate to multiplication and division</b></p> <p>Students use simple reasoning about multiplication and division to solve ratio and rate problems (e.g., “If 5 items cost \$3.75 and all items are the same price, then I can find the cost of 12 items by first dividing \$3.75 by 5 to find out how much one item costs and then multiplying the cost of a single item by 12”). By viewing equivalent ratios and rates as deriving from, and extending, pairs of rows (or columns) in the multiplication table, and by analyzing simple drawings that indicate the relative sizes of quantities, students extend whole number multiplication and division to ratios and rates. Thus, they expand the repertoire of problems that they can solve by using multiplication and division, and they build on their understanding of fractions to understand ratios. Students solve a wide variety of problems involving ratios and rates.</p> <p><b>Algebra: Writing, interpreting, and using mathematical expressions and equations</b></p> <p>Students write mathematical expressions and equations that correspond to given situations, they evaluate expressions, and they use expressions and formulas to solve problems. They understand that variables represent numbers whose exact values are not yet specified, and they use variables appropriately. Students understand that expressions in different forms can be equivalent, and they can rewrite an expression to represent a quantity in a different way (e.g., to make it more compact or to feature different information). Students know that the solutions of an equation are the values of the variables that</p>	<p><b>Number and Operations, Grades 6–8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●●● Work flexibly with fractions, decimals, and percents to solve problems</li> <li>●●● Compare and order fractions, decimals, and percents efficiently and find their approximate locations on a number line</li> <li>●● Develop meaning for percents greater than 100 and less than 1</li> <li>●●● Understand and use ratios and proportions to represent quantitative relationships</li> <li>●●● Develop an understanding of large numbers [identified in Grades 4 and 5 Curriculum Focal Points] and recognize and appropriately use exponential, scientific, and calculator notation</li> <li>●● Use factors, multiples, prime factorization, and relatively prime numbers to solve problems</li> <li>●● Develop meaning for integers and represent and compare quantities with them</li> <li>●●● Understand the meaning and effects of arithmetic operations with fractions, decimals, and integers</li> <li>●●● Use the associative and commutative properties of addition and multiplication and the distributive property of multiplication over addition to simplify computations with integers, fractions, and decimals</li> <li>●●● Understand and use the inverse relationships of addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, and squaring and finding square roots to simplify computations and solve problems</li> <li>●●● Select appropriate methods and tools for computing with fractions and decimals from among mental computation, estimation, calculators or computers, and paper and pencil, depending on the situation, and apply the selected methods</li> </ul>



<https://www.nctm.org/curriculumfocalpoints/>





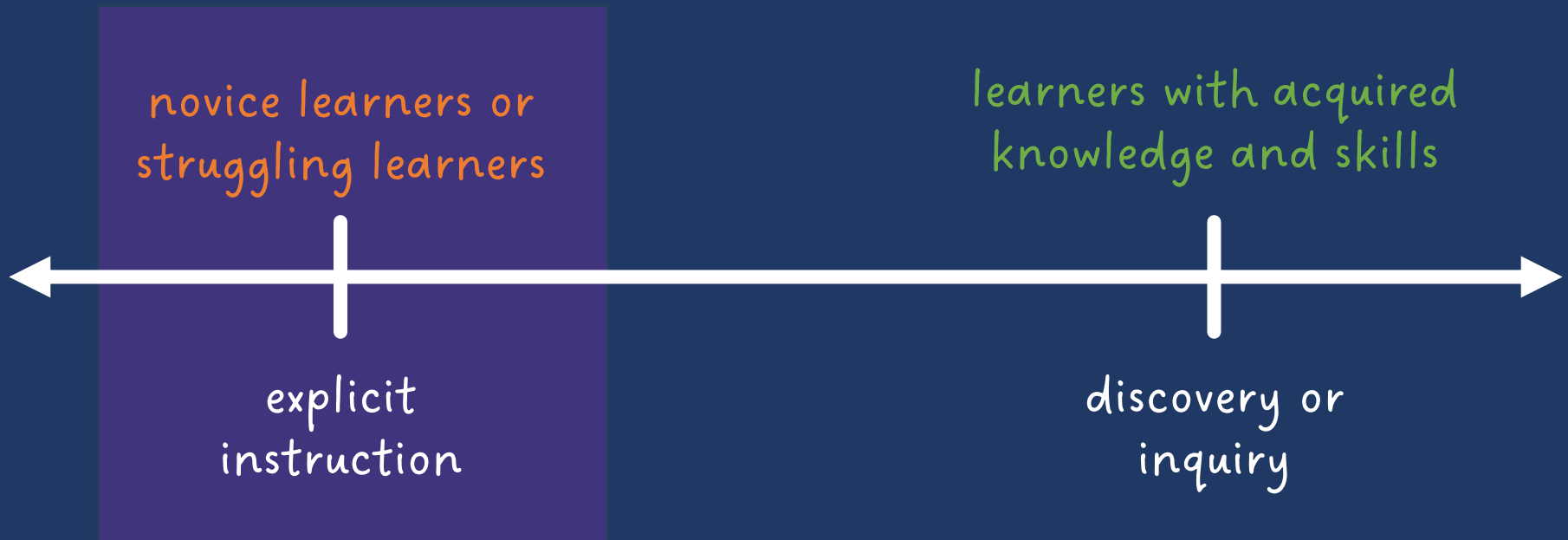
What is the critical math content  
for your students?



# Instructional Platform



# What's the continuum of mathematics support?



Anita Archer (2019) [facebook.com/watch/?v=320845308601739](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=320845308601739)



# Instructional Platform



evidence-based practice

A practice that  
has shown  
consistent and  
positive results



evidence-based practice



evidence-based intervention

An intervention  
(i.e., packaged  
program) that  
has shown  
consistent and  
positive results



evidence-based practice



evidence-based intervention

evidence-based strategy

A method or strategy  
that has shown  
consistent and  
positive results

Teachers should use systematic and explicit instruction to help students develop a strong foundation for specific mathematics skills.

Students require modeling and practice on how to use the language of mathematics.

Students should use hands-on tools, virtual manipulatives, drawings, and other visuals to understand mathematics concepts and procedures.

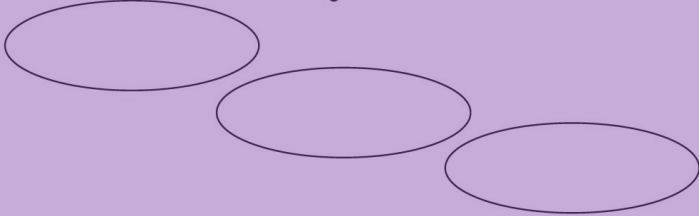
Teachers should use fluency building activities to build counting fluency and fluency with the operations.

Students should learn how to set up and solve word problems by combining an attack strategy with a focus on word-problem schemas.



Instructional Platform

Instructional Delivery



Instructional Strategies





# Instructional Platform

## INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit

Vocabulary

Representations

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Fluency

Word Problems



Be Explicit



# Instructional Platform

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY


Explicit


INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES




## Explicit Instruction

Research and Information

 What are your strengths?

 What are your opportunities for growth?

 What are your immediate next steps?





Over a half century of research supports explicit (i.e., direct, systematic) instruction.  
(Stockard et al., 2018)

When compared to discovery approaches, explicit instruction demonstrates higher outcomes.  
(Alfieri et al., 2011; Kroesbergen et al., 2004; Poncy et al., 2010)

Numerous meta-analyses and large-scale studies have identified explicit instruction as essential for the teaching and learning of mathematics.  
(Chodura et al., 2015; Ennis & Losinski, 2019; Jitendra et al., 2018; Kong et al., 2021; Morgan et al., 2015; Nelson & McMaster, 2019; Powell et al., 2021).



Explicit Instruction

MODELING

PRACTICE

SUPPORTS



## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback



Modeling is a dialogue between the teacher and students.

## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

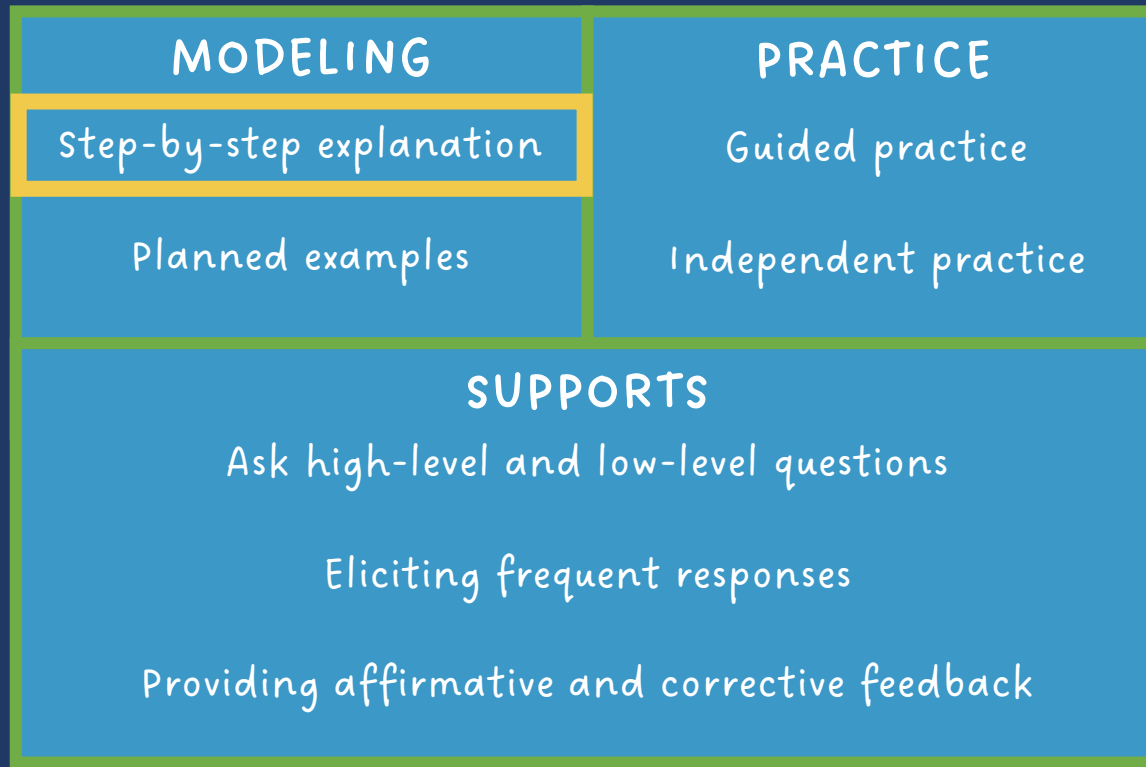
Providing affirmative and corrective feedback

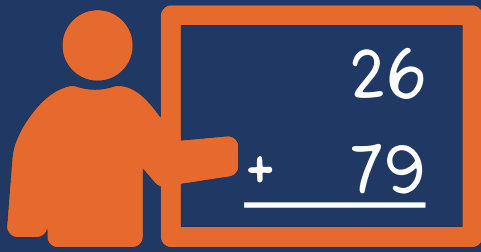




Modeling includes a step-by-step explanation of how to do a math problem.

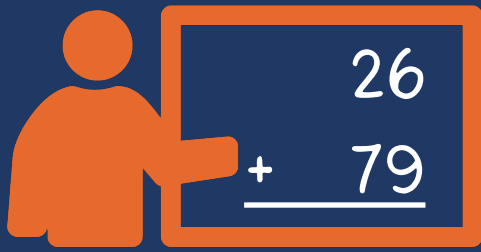
A teacher may do 1 modeled problem or several.





"Today, we are learning about addition. This is important because sometimes you have different amounts - like money - and you want to know how much money you have altogether."





"Let's solve this problem. What's the problem?"

"26 plus 79."



"To solve 26 plus 79, first decide about the operation. Should we add, subtract, multiply, or divide?"

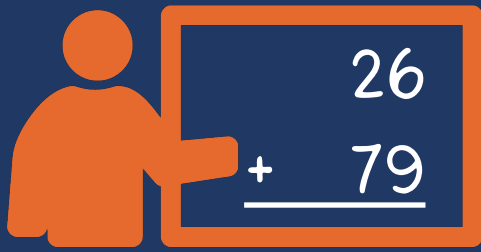
"Add."



"How did you know we want to add?"

"There's a plus sign."





"The plus sign tells us we want to add. To add, let's use the partial sums strategy. What strategy?"

"Partial sums."



"What might partial mean?"

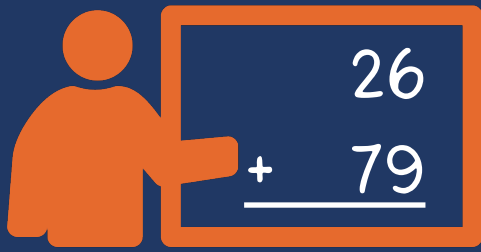
"Part of."



"We'll find parts - or partial sums - then add them together. With the partial sums strategy, we start adding in the greatest place value. What's the greatest place value in this problem?"

"The tens."





"So, let's add the tens. What's 20 plus 70? Use your base-10 blocks or other tools."

"20 plus 70 equals 90. Let's write 90 right here below the equal line. What will we write?"

"90 is the partial sum when you add the tens. What does 90 represent?"

"Now, let's add the ones. What should we add?"

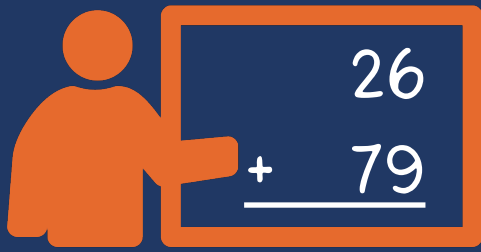
"90." 

"90." 

"It's the partial sum of adding 20 plus 70." 

"6 plus 9." 





"6 plus 9 equals what? Use your base-10 blocks or other tools."

"15." 

"How did you get 15?"

"We knew we had 9, then we added on 6." 

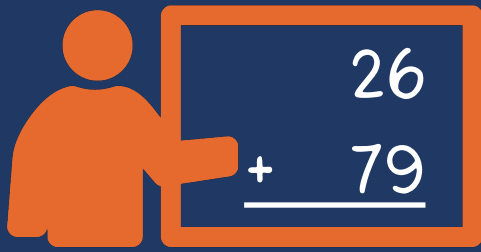
"Let's write 15 below the 90. Where do we write the 15?"

"Below the 90." 

"15 is the partial sum when you add the ones. Now, let's add the partial sums together. What will we add?"

"90 plus 15." 





"What's 90 plus 15?  
Use your go-to  
strategy."

"105."



"How did you add  
those addends?"

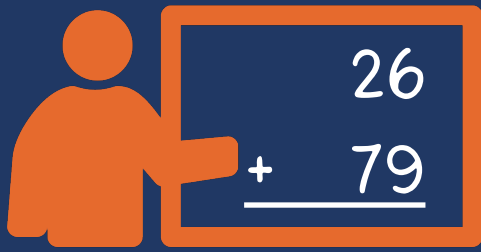
"I added 90 plus  
10 then added 5  
more."



"So, when you add  
26 plus 79, the sum  
is 105. Who can  
share how we solved  
this problem?"

"We used the  
partial sums  
strategy. We  
added the tens  
then added the  
ones. Then we  
added the partial  
sums."





What did you observe?

How would you improve this example?



Modeling  
needs to  
include  
planned  
examples.

## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback

These examples  
should be  
sequenced so  
easier skills  
lead to more  
difficult skills.



## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback



## Explicit Instruction

Problem

Step-by-Step Explanation



Select a math problem.  
Work with a partner to  
outline a step-by-step  
explanation.



## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

Practice continues as a dialogue between the teacher and students.

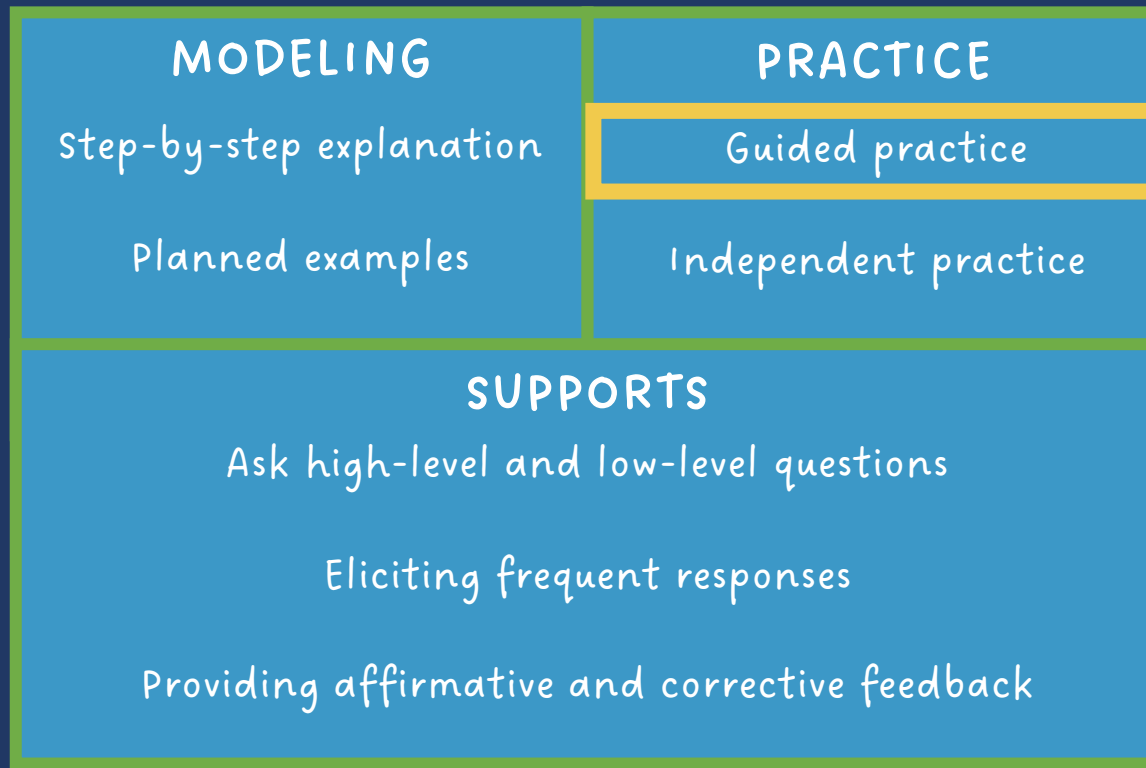
## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback



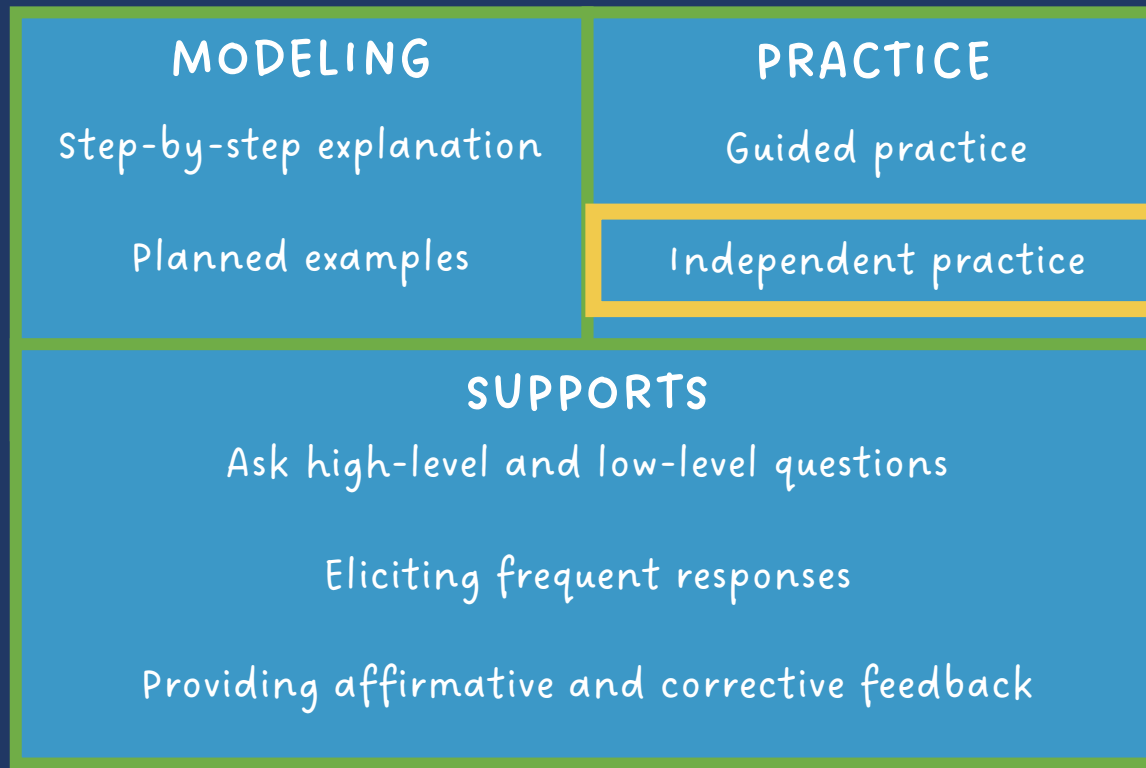


Guided practice is practice in which the teacher and students practice problems together.



“Let’s work on a problem together.”





Independent practice is practice in which the students practice independently with teacher support.



“Now, you’ll practice a problem on your own. Use your attack strategy!”



## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback



## Explicit Instruction

Problem

Practice Opportunities

High-Level Questions

Low-Level Questions

Affirmative Feedback

Corrective Feedback



Describe how you would engage students in practice.





## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

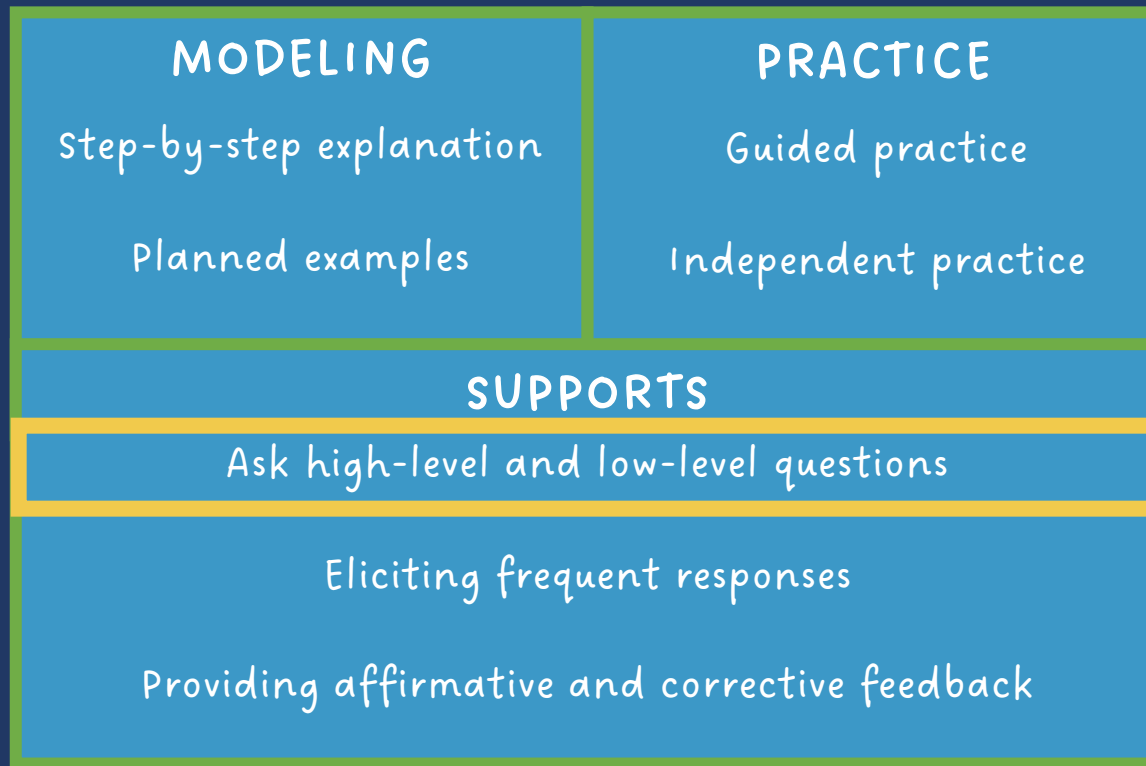
Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback

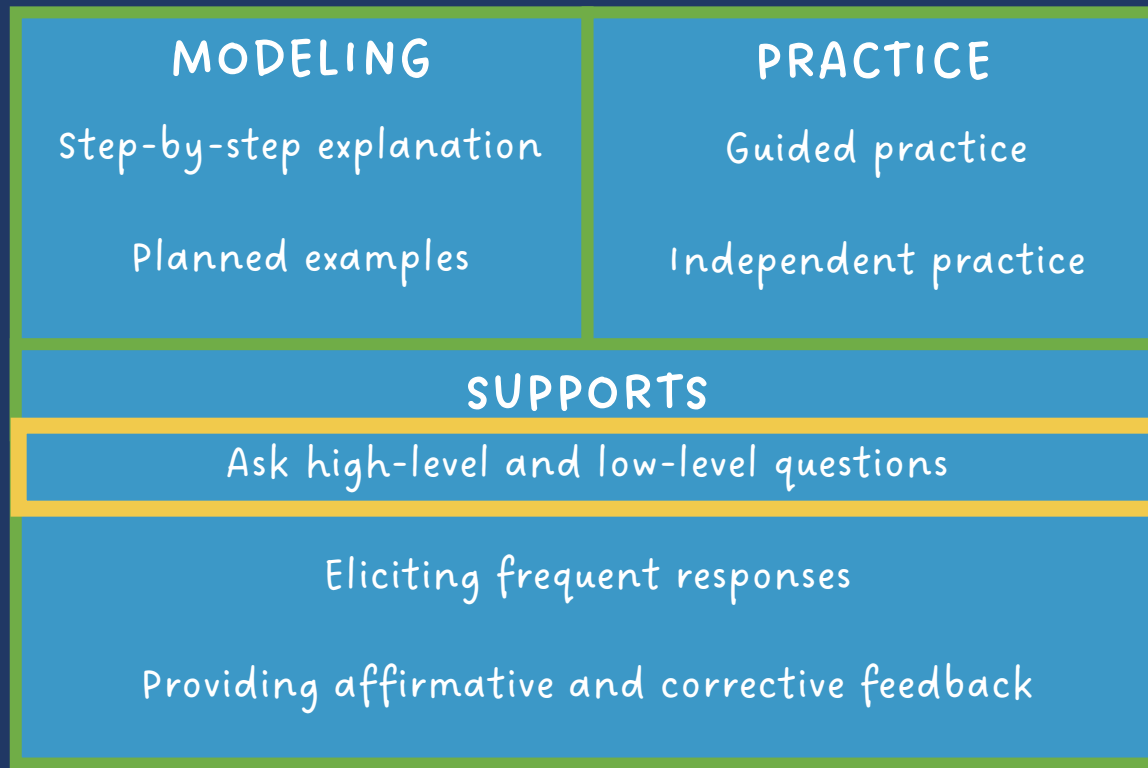
These Supports should be used in both  
Modeling and Practice.





During Modeling and Practice, it is essential to engage students and check for understanding.

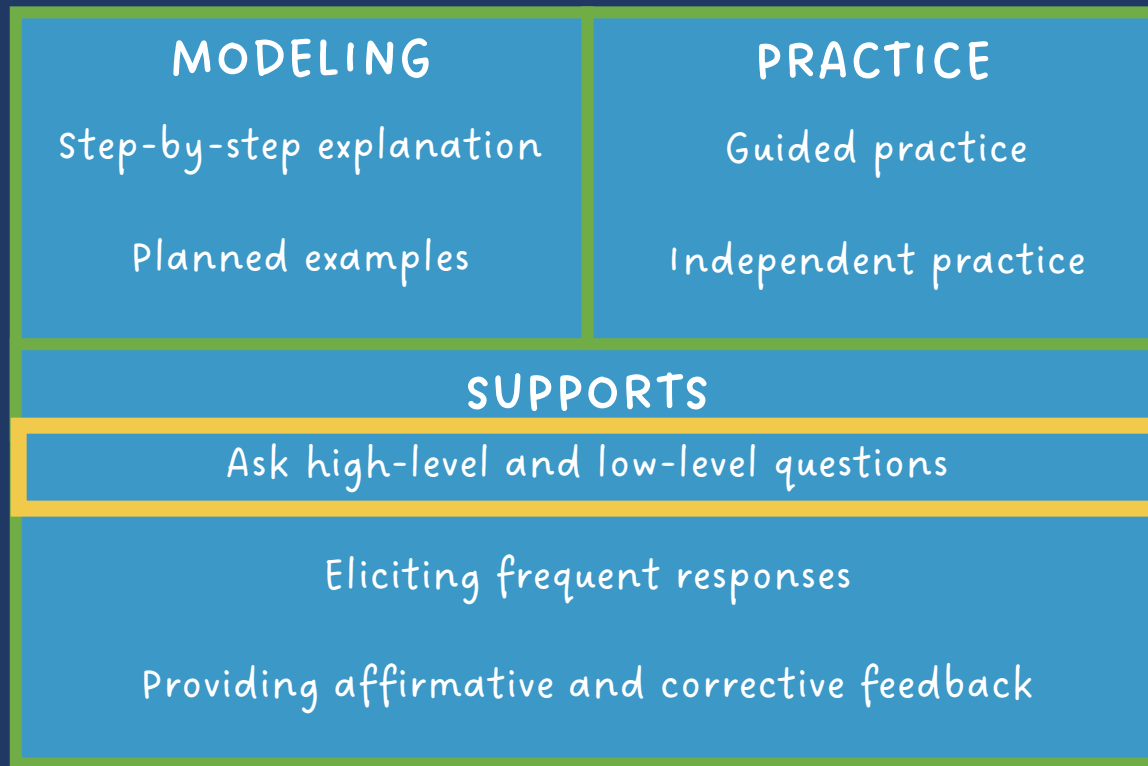




“What is 7 times 9?”

“63.” 

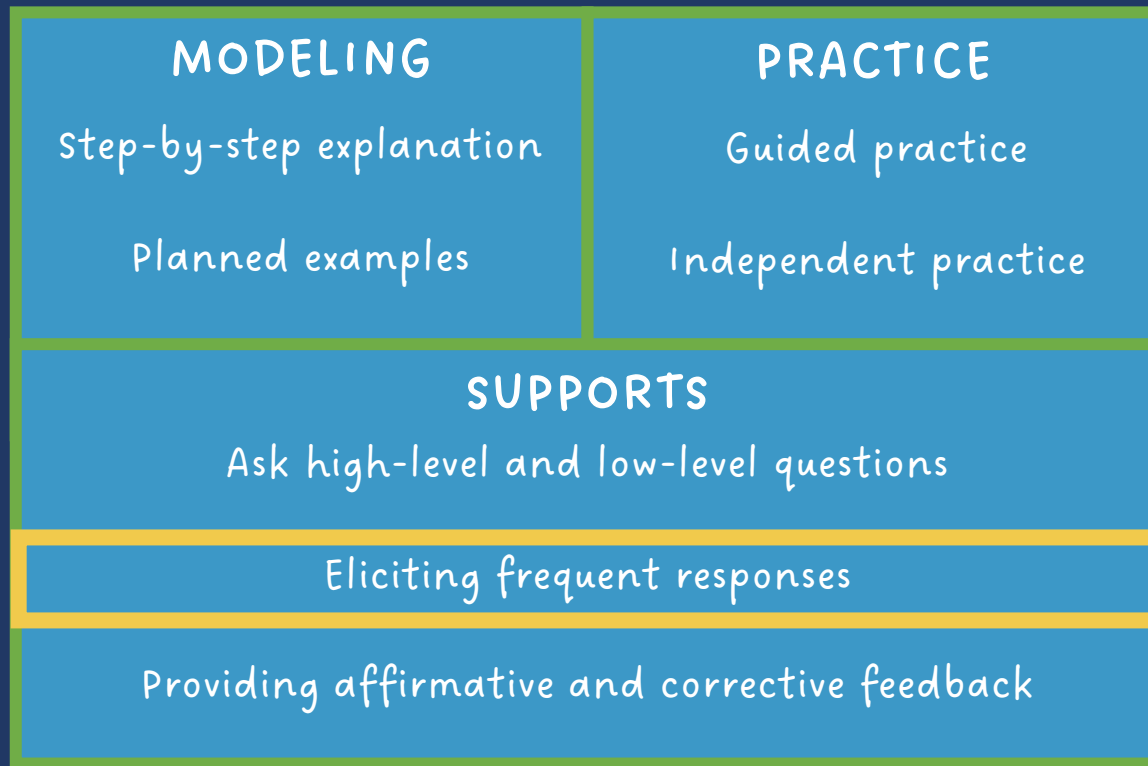




“Why do you use zero pairs?”

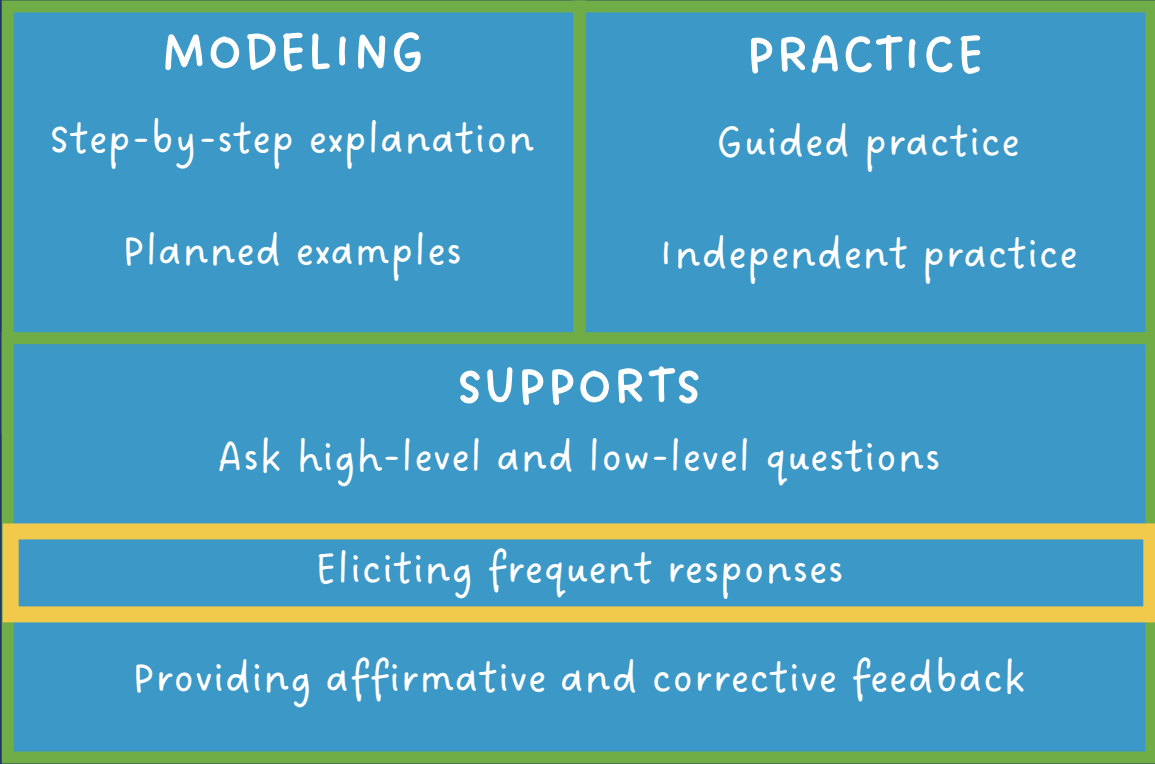
“Because a positive 1 and a negative 1 equal 0. I use the zero pair to help me subtract.”

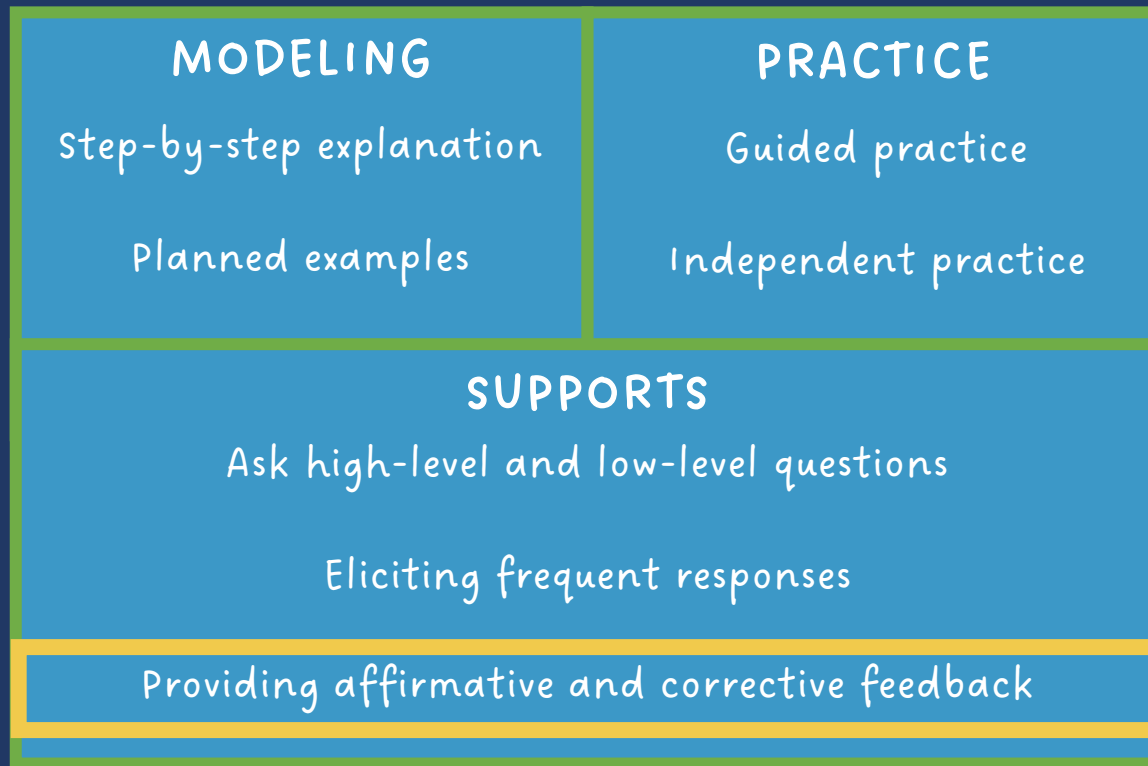




During Modeling and Practice, students should frequently respond. The frequent responses keeps student attention and keeps student learning active.







During Modeling and Practice, students should receive immediate feedback on their responses.



## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback



"Nice work using your word  
problem attack strategy."





## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback



“Let’s look at that again. Tell me how you added in the hundreds column.”



## MODELING

Step-by-step explanation

Planned examples

## PRACTICE

Guided practice

Independent practice

## SUPPORTS

Ask high-level and low-level questions

Eliciting frequent responses

Providing affirmative and corrective feedback



## Explicit Instruction

Problem

Practice Opportunities

High-Level Questions

Low-Level Questions

Affirmative Feedback

Corrective Feedback




Provide several of your questions.

Provide examples of your feedback.




## Explicit Instruction

Research and Information

 What are your strengths?

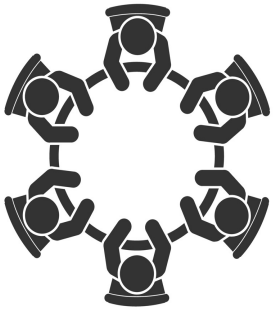
 What are your opportunities for growth?

 What are your immediate next steps?

MATH

MATH

Teachers should use systematic and explicit instruction to help students develop a strong foundation for specific mathematics skills.



What are your strengths with explicit instruction?

What are the opportunities for growth?

What are your immediate next steps?

Teachers should use systematic and explicit instruction to help students develop a strong foundation for specific mathematics skills.

Students require modeling and practice on how to use the language of mathematics.

Students should use hands-on tools, virtual manipulatives, drawings, and other visuals to understand mathematics concepts and procedures.

Teachers should use fluency building activities to build counting fluency and fluency with the operations.

Students should learn how to set up and solve word problems by combining an attack strategy with a focus on word-problem schemas.



# Focus on Vocabulary



# Instructional Platform

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit

Vocabulary

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES





## Math Vocabulary

Research and Information

## Use Formal Mathematics Language

Instead of that...	Say this...





Significant correlation ( $r = .49$ ) between mathematics vocabulary and mathematics performance. Mathematics vocabulary appears most important for word-problem performance ( $r = .58$ ).

(Lin et al., 2021)

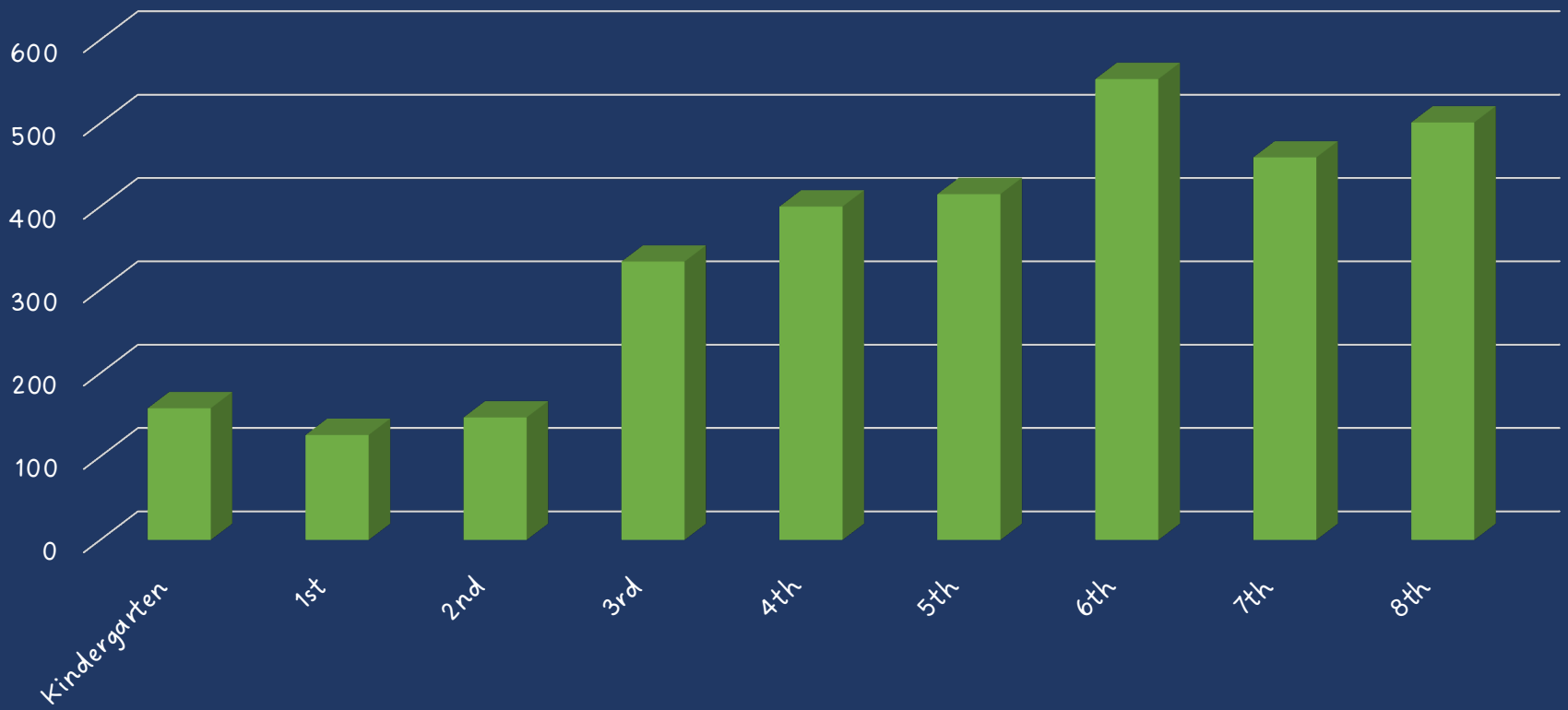
Early mathematics vocabulary related to mathematics and literacy.

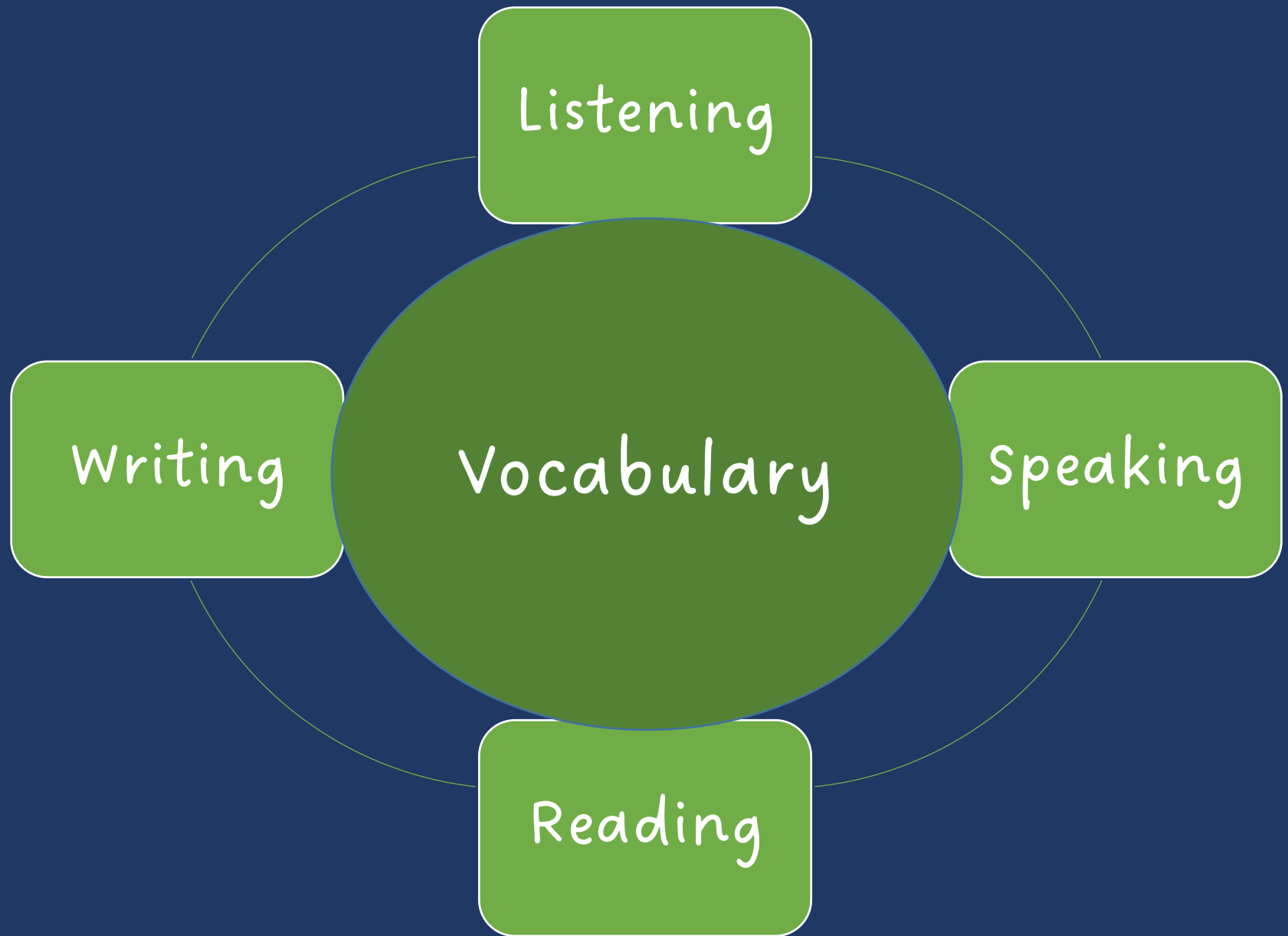
(Hornburg et al., 2018; Purpura et al., 2017)

Students who experience difficulty with mathematics demonstrate lower mathematics vocabulary performance.

(Hughes et al., 2020; Powell & Nelson, 2017; Powell et al., 2017; Unal et al., 2021)







1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings

base

right

degree

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings

2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings  
(but a more precise math meaning)

difference

even

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math

trapezoid

numerator

parallelogram

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning

round

square

second

base

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)





1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings

divide vs.  
Continental  
Divide

variable vs.  
variably cloudy

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs

eight vs. ate

sum vs. some

rows vs. rose

base vs. bass

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings

factor vs.  
multiple

hundreds vs.  
hundredths

numerators vs.  
denominator

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings

mesa vs. tabla

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings
9. English spelling and usage may have irregularities

four vs. forty

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings
9. English spelling and usage may have irregularities
10. Some math concepts are verbalized in more than one way

skip count vs.  
multiples

one-fourth vs.  
one quarter



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings
9. English spelling and usage may have irregularities
10. Some math concepts are verbalized in more than one way
11. Informal terms may be used for formal math terms

rhombus vs.  
diamond

vertex vs. corner




Use formal math language


Use terms precisely







What number is in the tens place?




What digit is in the tens place?  
What is the value of the digit in the tens place?

135


**Why this is important...**

- A number refers to the entire amount.
- The 3 in the tens place value is not a number, but rather a digit in the number 135.
- Reinforces conceptual understanding of place value.
- Emphasizes that 3 is part of the number 135 with a value of 30.





The alligator eats the  
bigger number



is less than  
OR  
is greater than

**Why this is important...**

- Students must learn how to read and write the inequality symbols.
- Students must learn to read equations correctly from left to right because  $<$  and  $>$  are two distinct symbols.





carry OR borrow





regroup OR  
trade OR  
exchange

$$\begin{array}{r} 167 \\ + 294 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

**Why this is important...**

- “Carry” or “borrow” is procedural.
- The other terms reinforce the conceptual understanding or regrouping ones into tens, tens into hundreds, and so on (i.e., the total amount does not change) *or* ungrouping hundreds into tens, tens into ones, and so on.





top number and  
bottom number



numerator and  
denominator

**Why this is important...**

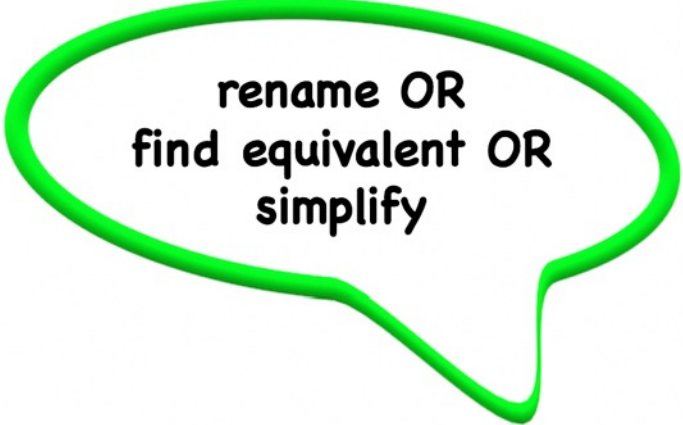

- Identifying that there are two separate (whole) numbers suggests that whole number properties can be applied to fractions.
- Emphasizing that a fraction is ONE number with ONE magnitude on a number line that is communicated with a numerator and denominator is important.







reduce the fraction




rename OR  
find equivalent OR  
simplify

**Why this is important...**

- Reducing suggests that the quantity or magnitude of the new number will be less than the original number.





Four point seven  
Four point oh seven



Four and seven tenths  
Four and seven hundredths

4.7  
4.07

**Why this is important...**

- Accurately shares the magnitude of the decimal.
- Emphasizes place value.

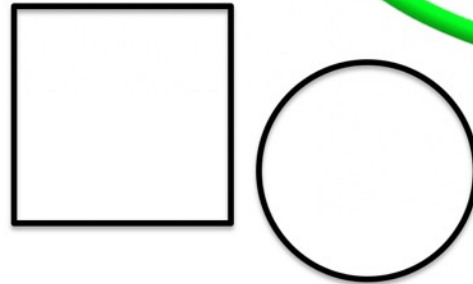




box OR ball



square OR  
circle



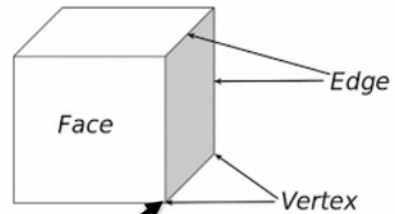
**Why this is important...**

- Use the formal language of shapes to confirm informal language.



point

vertex



**Why this is important...**

- This is the endpoint where two or more line segments or rays meet.





flips, slides, turns





reflections,  
translations,  
rotations


**Why this is important...**

- The informal language helps children remember the actions, but this vocabulary is not used on assessments.
- Use the formal mathematical terms.





long hand and  
short hand



minute hand and  
hour hand

**Why this is important...**

- The informal language describes the length of clock hands but not the meaning.
- Help students understand the hours and minutes.

## Math Vocabulary

Research and Information

## Use Formal Mathematics Language

Instead of that...	Say this...



Identify examples of  
"Instead of \_\_\_\_\_, say \_\_\_\_\_."



Use formal math language

Use terms precisely



## Math Vocabulary

Use Terms With Precision

Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language



What are your strengths?



What are your opportunities for growth?



What are your immediate next steps?



## ***Factor***

$$1 \times 8 = 8$$

$$2 \times 4 = 8$$

*factor*

*factor*

## ***Multiple***

$$8 \times 1 = 8$$

$$8 \times 2 = 16$$

*multiples of 8*

E



***Improper fraction***

$$\frac{8}{5}$$

***Mixed number***

$$1\frac{3}{5}$$

***Proper fraction***

$$\frac{2}{9}$$

***Proportion***

$$\frac{2}{5} = \frac{8}{20}$$

***Ratio***

$$4:3$$

***Unit fraction***

$$\frac{1}{6}$$

D



**Coefficient**

**Constant**

**Term**

**Variable**

term                  term                  term

$2x^2 + x - 3$

coefficient      variable      variable      constant

A





**Equation**  $9x - 4 = 7x$

**Expression**  $9x - 4$

**Formula**  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

**Function**  $f(x)$

**Inequality**  $9x - 4 > 6x$

c



# ***Quadrilaterals***

***Kite***



***Rhombus***



***Parallelogram***



***Square***



***Rectangle***

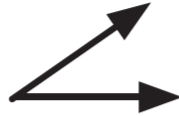


***Trapezoid***

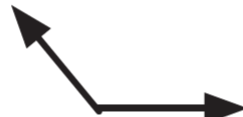


A

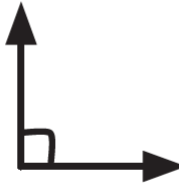
***Acute angle***



***Obtuse angle***



***Right angle***



***Straight angle***



B

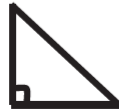
***Acute triangle***



***Obtuse triangle***



***Right triangle***



***Equilateral triangle***



***Isosceles triangle***

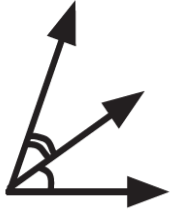


***Scalene triangle***

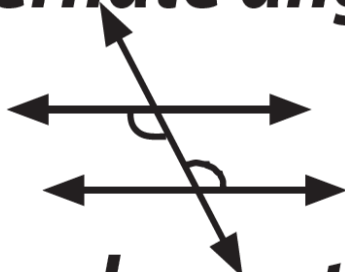


C

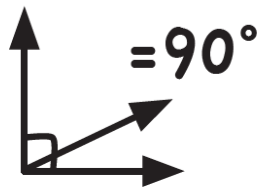
## **Adjacent angles**



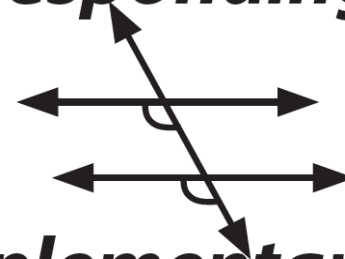
## **Alternate angles**



## **Complementary angles**



## **Corresponding angles**

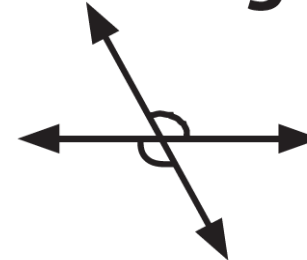


## **Supplementary angles**

**= 180°**



## **Vertical angles**



D

## ***Congruent figures***

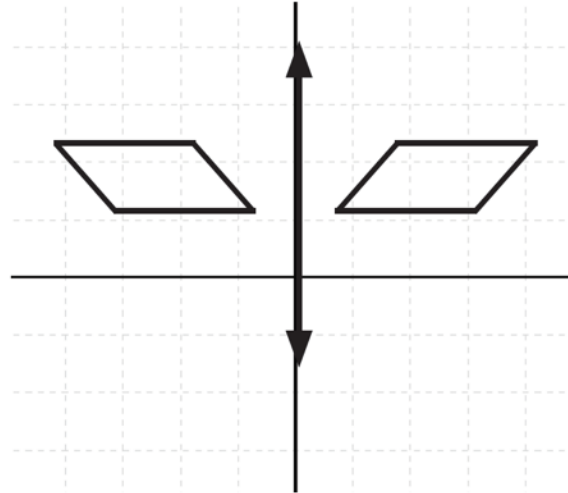


## ***Similar figures***

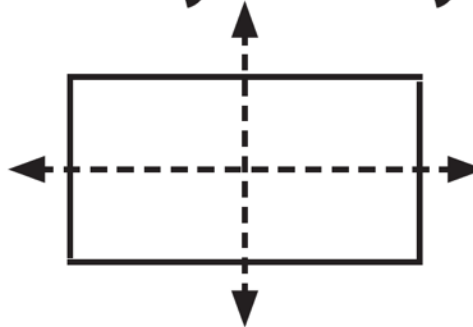


E

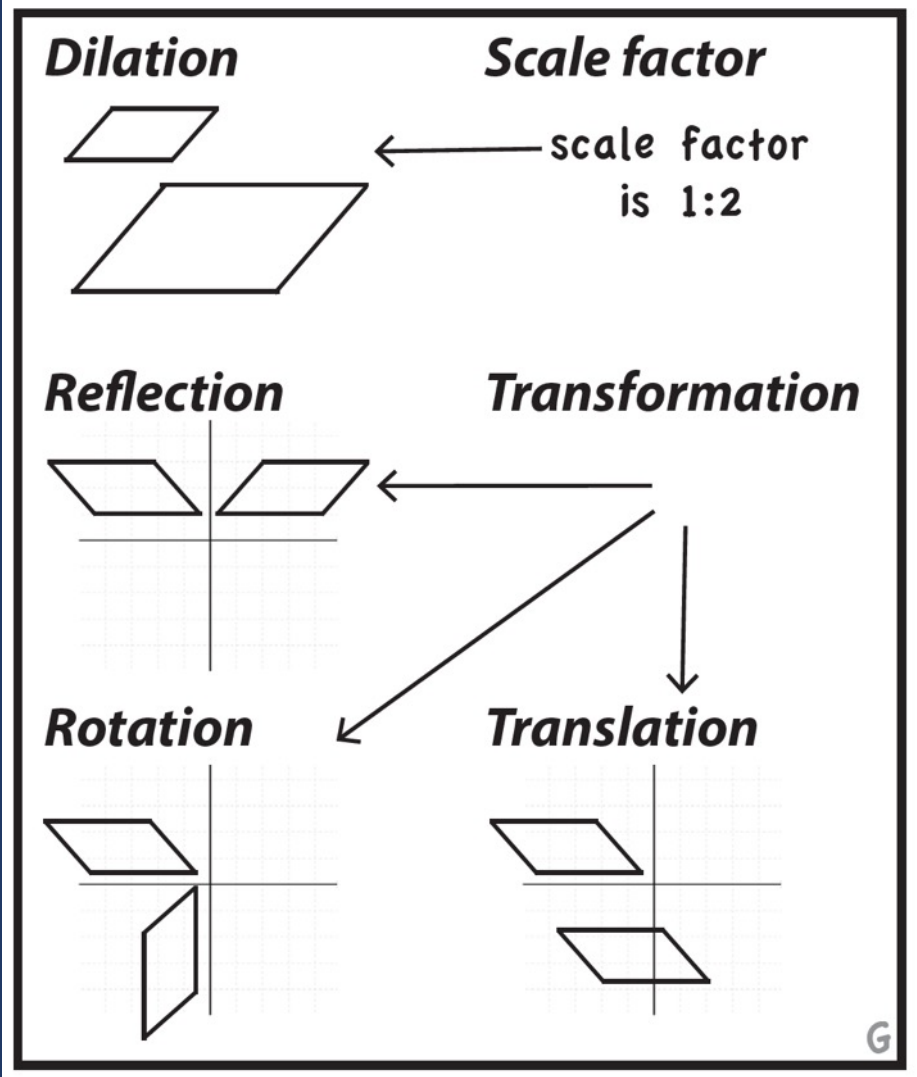
***Line of reflection***



***Line of symmetry***

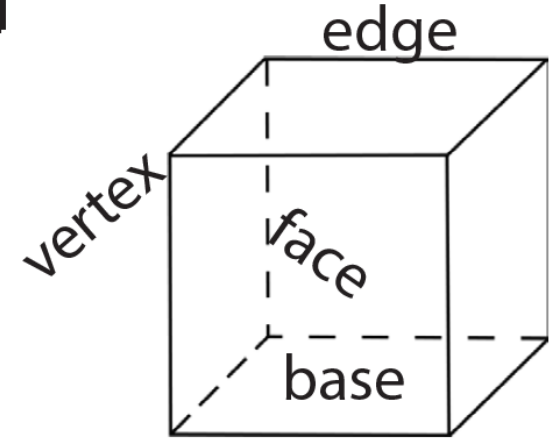
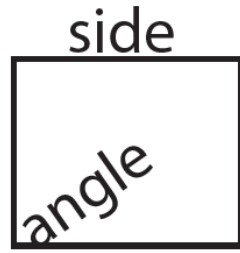


F



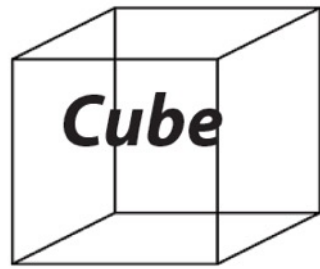


***Angle***  
***Base***  
***Edge***  
***Face***  
***Side***  
***Vertex***



#





I

## Coordinate plane

**Ordered pair** Quadrant 2

**Quadrants**

**x**

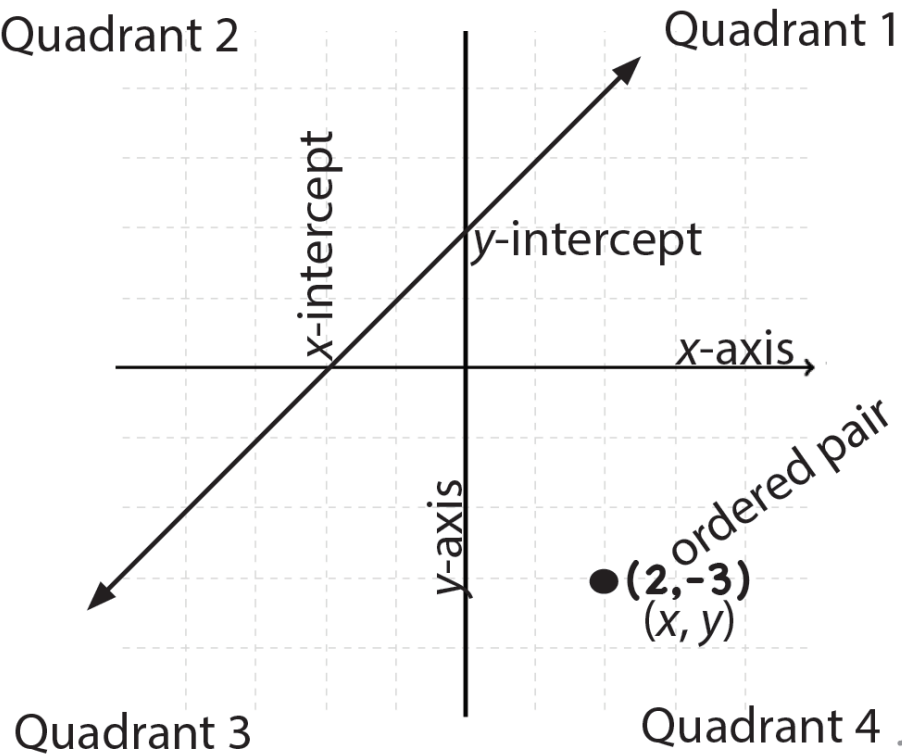
**x-axis**

**x-intercept**

**y**

**y-axis**


**y-intercept**





## Math Vocabulary

Use Terms With Precision

Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language

 What are your strengths?

 What are your opportunities for growth?

 What are your immediate next steps?



Discuss terms you want  
your students to use with  
precision.



Use formal math language

Use terms precisely



## Math Vocabulary

Use Terms With Precision

Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language



What are your strengths?



What are your opportunities for growth?



What are your immediate next steps?





Use explicit instruction.  
(Powell & Driver, 2015; Stevens et al., 2022)

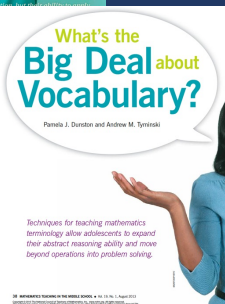
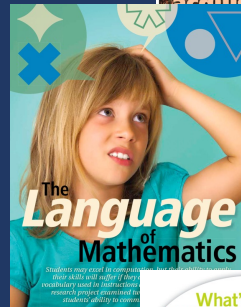
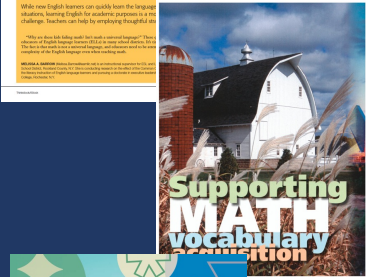
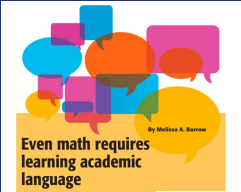
Use semantic maps.  
(Stevens et al., 2022)

Use visuals.  
(Powell & Driver, 2015)

Use flashcards with spaced  
practice.  
(Petersen-Brown et al., 2019)

Use read-alouds.  
(Purpura et al., 2017)


Use explicit instruction.  
Use multiple  
representations.  
Create opportunities  
for discussion and  
feedback.  
Monitor student  
progress.  
Coordinate vocabulary  
instruction across  
settings.  
Create additional  
practice opportunities.  
(Nelson et al., 2020)




## Math Vocabulary

Use Terms With Precision

Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language

 What are your strengths?

 What are your opportunities for growth?

 What are your immediate next steps?



Discuss your strategy for focusing on mathematical vocabulary in your teaching.








## Math Vocabulary

Use Terms With Precision

Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language

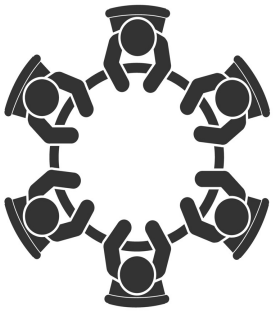
 What are your strengths?

 What are your opportunities for growth?

 What are your immediate next steps?



Students require modeling and practice on how to use the language of mathematics.



What are your strengths with mathematical language?

What are the opportunities for growth?

What are your immediate next steps?

Teachers should use systematic and explicit instruction to help students develop a strong foundation for specific mathematics skills.

Students require modeling and practice on how to use the language of mathematics.

Students should use hands-on tools, virtual manipulatives, drawings, and other visuals to understand mathematics concepts and procedures.

Teachers should use fluency building activities to build counting fluency and fluency with the operations.

Students should learn how to set up and solve word problems by combining an attack strategy with a focus on word-problem schemas.



# Use Representations



# Instructional Platform

## INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit

Vocabulary

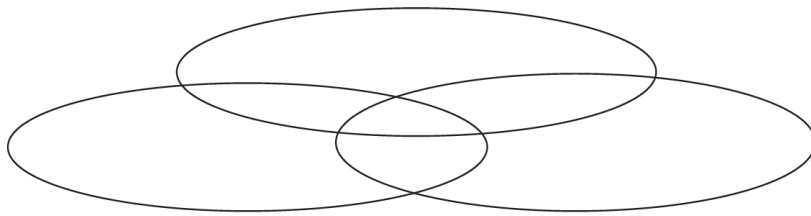
Representations

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



Representations

Research and Information





Hands-on manipulatives contribute to increases in mathematics performance.

(Bouck & Park, 2018; Carbonneau et al., 2013; Namkung & Bricko, 2021; Sherman & Bisanz, 2009; Strickland & Maccini, 2012)

Virtual manipulatives contribute to increases in mathematics performance.

(Bouck et al., 2020; Satsangi et al., 2016)

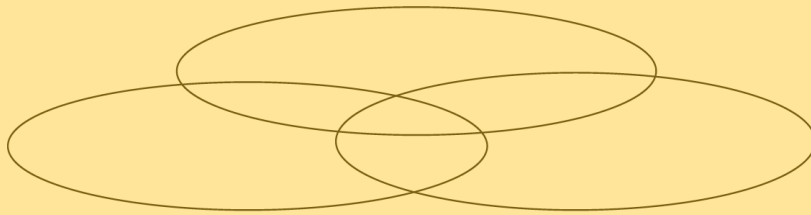
Other visuals (e.g., graphic organizers) contribute to increases in mathematics performance.

(Jitendra et al., 2009; Sharp & Dennis, 2017; van Garderen, 2007; Xin, 2008)

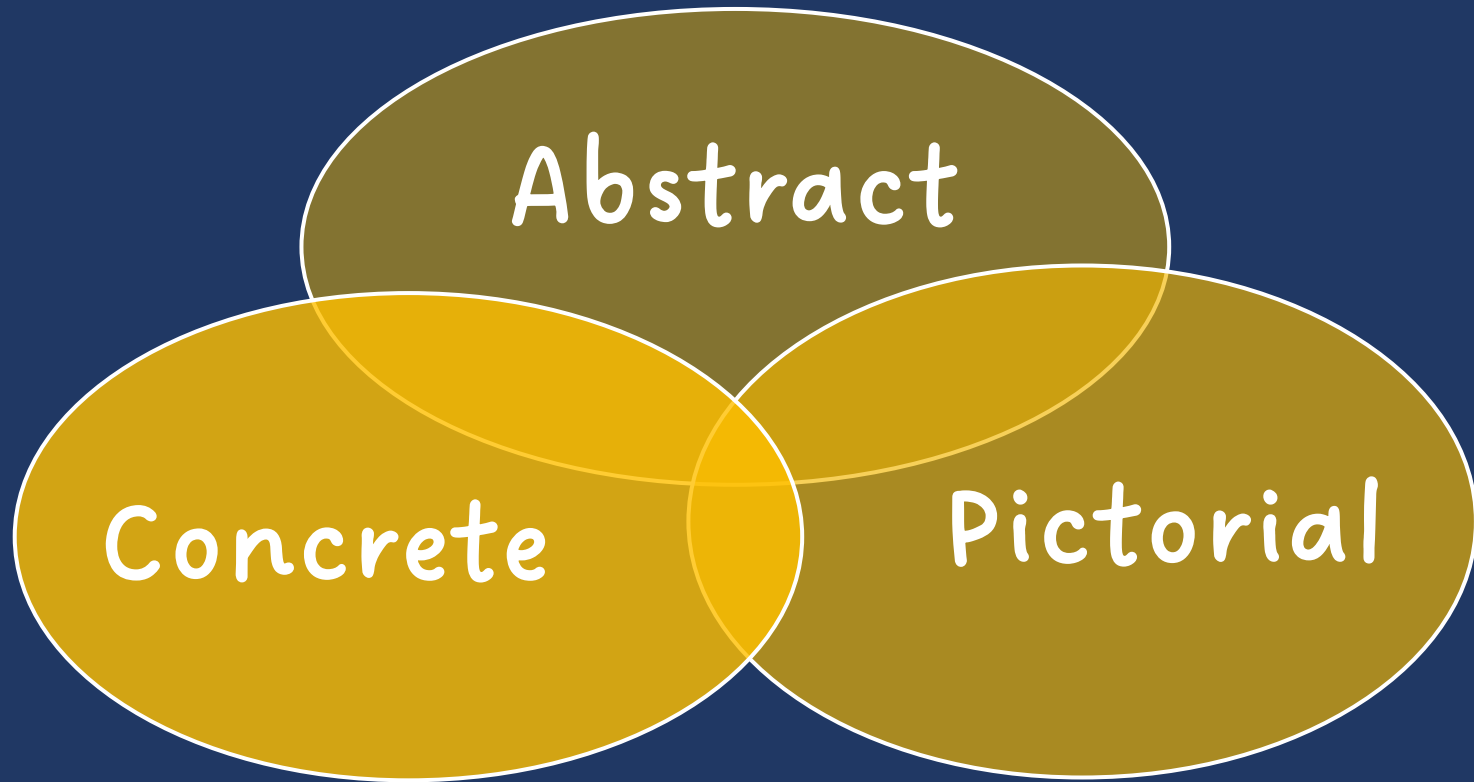


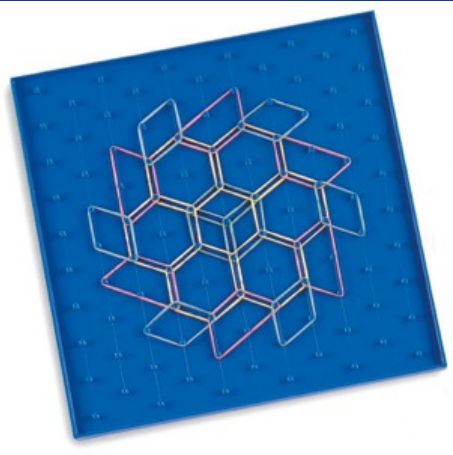
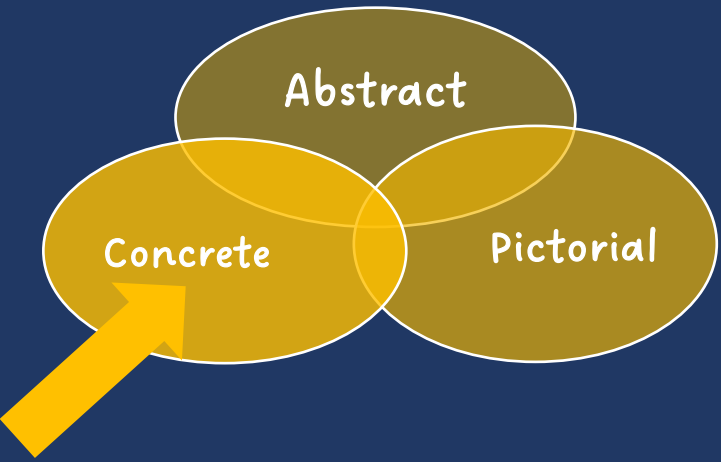
## Representations

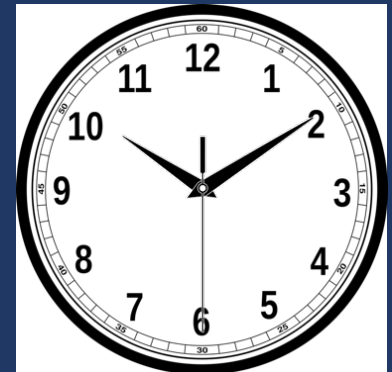
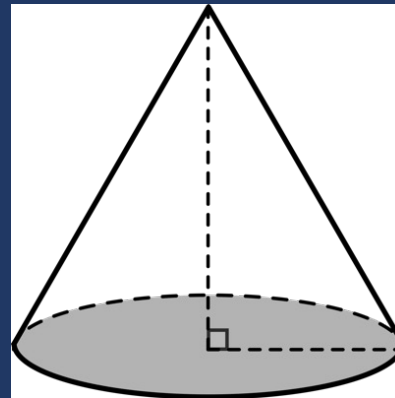
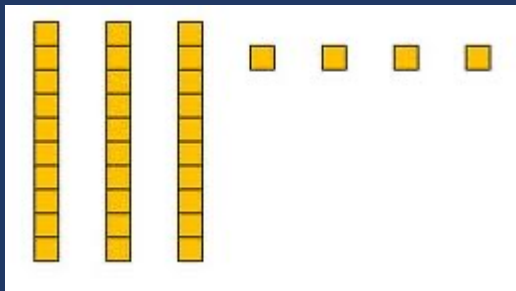
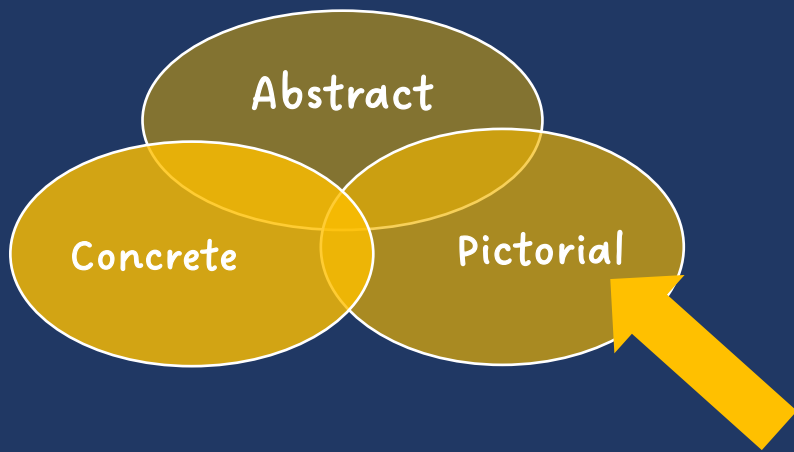
Research and Information

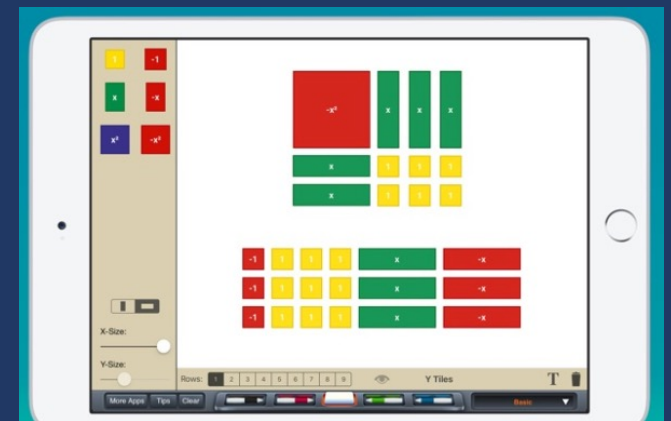
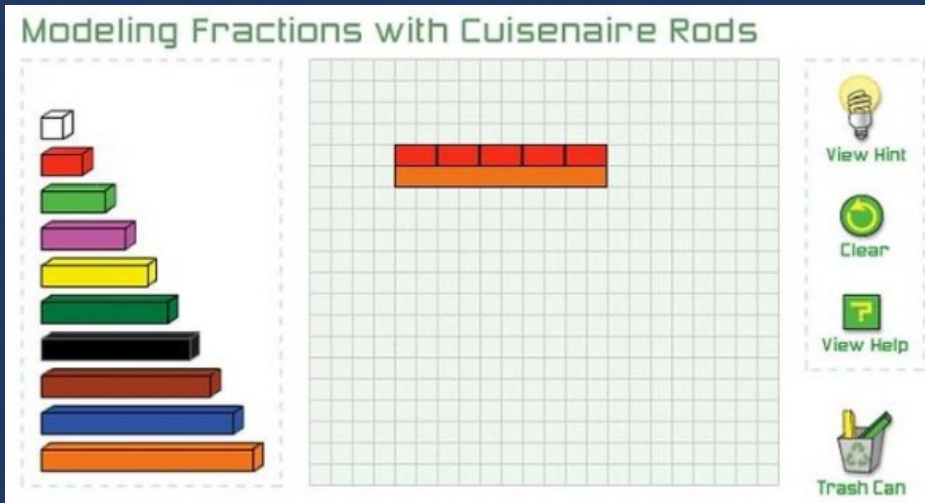
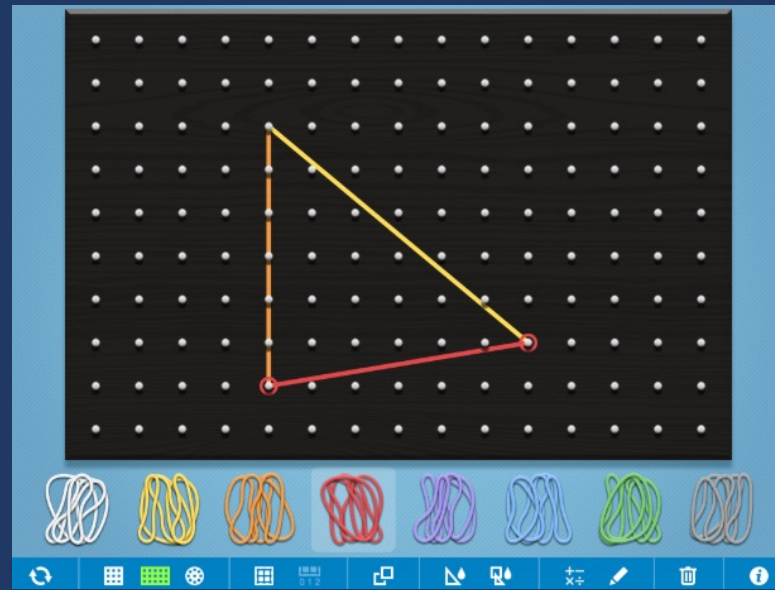
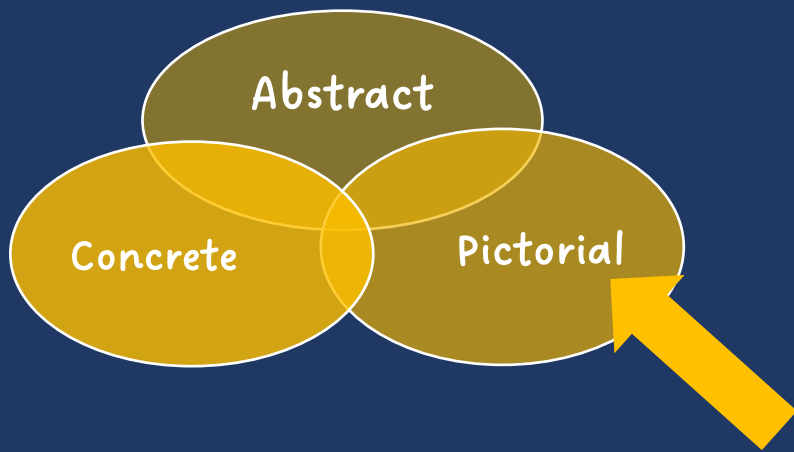


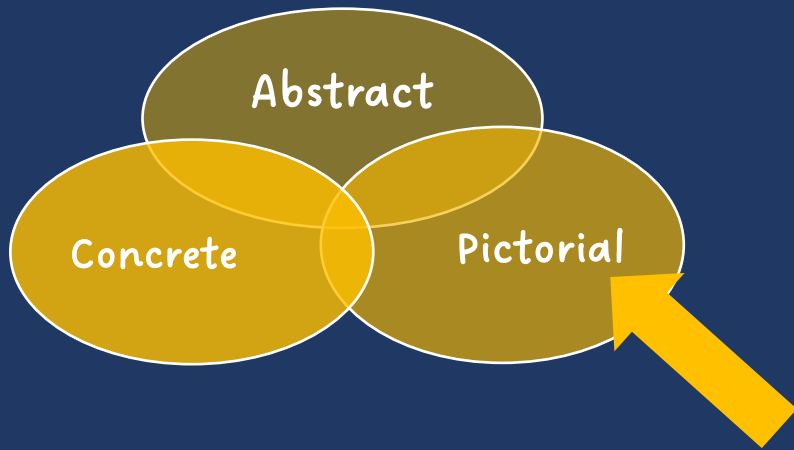












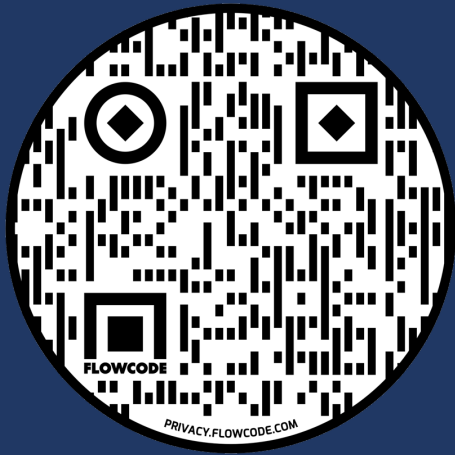
# Virtual Manipulatives

Help students see and learn math using different tools!

- Number & Operations
- Fractions & Decimals
- Geometry
- Data & Probability

- Place Value
- Integers & Algebra
- Time & Money
- Extras

Sarah R. Powell, Ph.D.  
srpowell@utexas.edu  
www.sarahpowellphd.com  
@sarahpowellphd



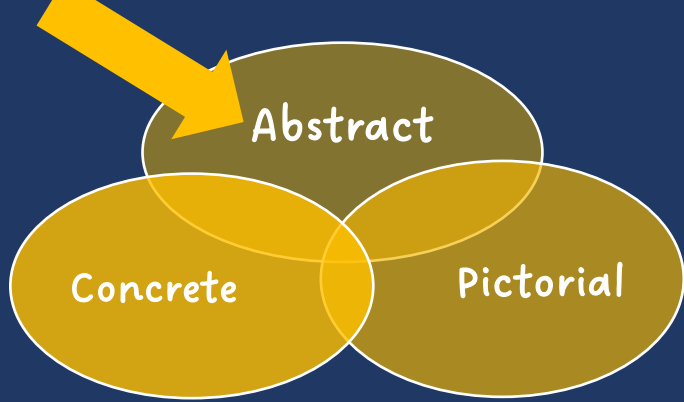
<b>Fractions &amp; Decimals</b>	fraction strips	fraction strips	fraction strips	Cuisenaire rods
fraction circles	geoboard	geoboard	geoboard	pattern blocks
two-color counters	decimal strips	place value disks	percentage strips	





Explore 3 virtual manipulatives.

Share with a partner.



$$2 + 8 = 10$$

34 = 3 tens and 4 ones

$$x - 6 = 8$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4,179 \\ + \quad 569 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

## Representations



What are your strengths?



What are your opportunities for growth?

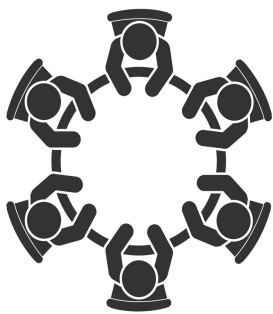


What are your immediate next steps?





Students should use hands-on tools, virtual manipulatives, drawings, and other visuals to understand mathematics concepts and procedures.



What are your strengths with multiple representations?

What are the opportunities for growth?

What materials do you need?

Teachers should use systematic and explicit instruction to help students develop a strong foundation for specific mathematics skills.

Students require modeling and practice on how to use the language of mathematics.

Students should use hands-on tools, virtual manipulatives, drawings, and other visuals to understand mathematics concepts and procedures.

Teachers should use fluency building activities to build counting fluency and fluency with the operations.

Students should learn how to set up and solve word problems by combining an attack strategy with a focus on word-problem schemas.



# Build Fluency



# Instructional Platform

## INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit

Vocabulary

Representations

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Fluency



## Fluency

Research and Information

## Types of Fluency

Type	Memorization?	
	Yes	No





Mathematics fluency, particularly fluency with facts and computation, is related to overall mathematics performance.

(Bailey et al., 2012; Cirino et al., 2019; Koponen et al., 2007, 2017; Vukovic et al., 2014)

Fact fluency practice improves mathematics fact performance.

(Burns et al., 2010; Coddington et al., 2011; McCallum et al., 2004; Nelson et al., 2013; Poncy et al., 2010; Schutte et al., 2015; Stocker & Kubina, 2017)



Fluency is  
doing  
mathematics  
easily and  
accurately.

Fluency in  
mathematics  
makes  
mathematics  
easier.

Fluency  
provides less  
stress on  
working  
memory.

Fluency helps  
students build  
confidence  
with  
mathematics.

With fluency, it is important to emphasize both  
conceptual learning and procedural learning.



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Counting

Comparing numbers

Identifying equivalent fractions

Knowing multiples

Counting coins

Telling time

Identifying shapes

Knowing formulas



Memorization  
or automaticity

Ease and  
accuracy



## Fluency

Research and Information

### Types of Fluency

Type	Memorization?	
	Yes	No



List different types of fluency. Discuss whether they require memorization.



## Fluency with Facts

Addition

Subtraction

Multiplication

Division



# 100 addition facts

Single-digit addends sum to a single- or double-digit number

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ + 4 \\ \hline 9 \end{array}$$

(addend)  
(addend)  
(sum)



Total

Addition

Count one set, count another set, put sets together, count sum

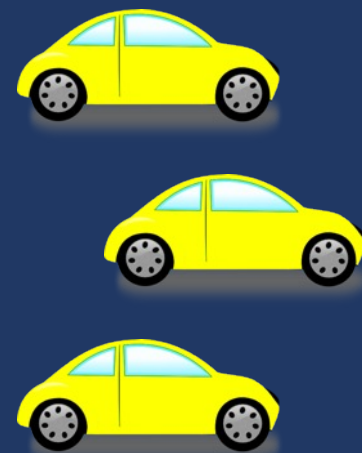
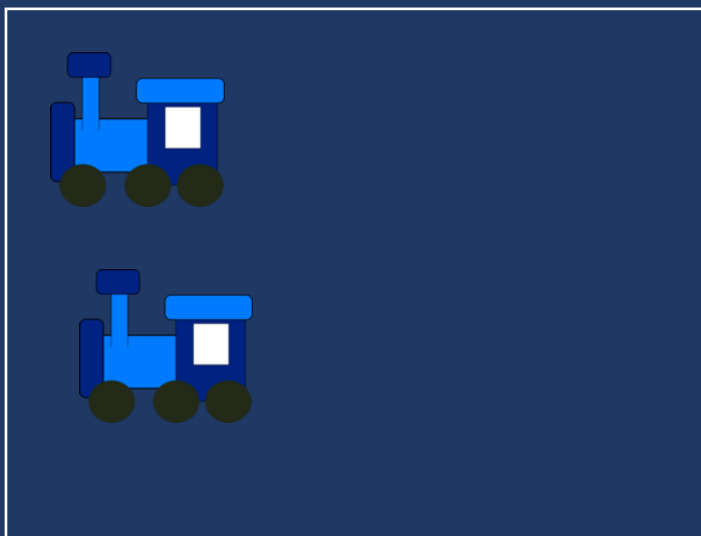


$$2 + 3 = 5$$

# Change

Addition

Start with a set, add the other set, count sum



$$2 + 3 = 5$$

Total

Addition

**Parts** put together into a **total**

Karly saw **4** cardinals and **5** blue jays. How many birds did Karly see?



# Change

Addition

An amount that increases or decreases

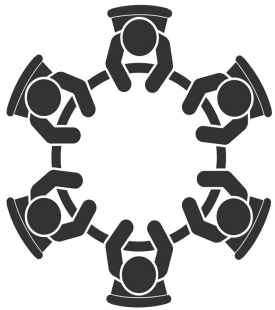
Premila had \$4. Then they earned \$5 for cleaning their room.  
How much money does Premila have now?





$$3 + 9 = \underline{\quad}$$

Addition



If you have brown eyes:

What's a Total story to show addition?

If you don't have brown eyes:

What's a Change/Join story to show addition?

# 100 subtraction facts

Subtrahend and difference are single-digit numbers and minuend is single- or double-digit number

$$\begin{array}{r} 16 \\ - \quad 8 \\ \hline 8 \end{array}$$

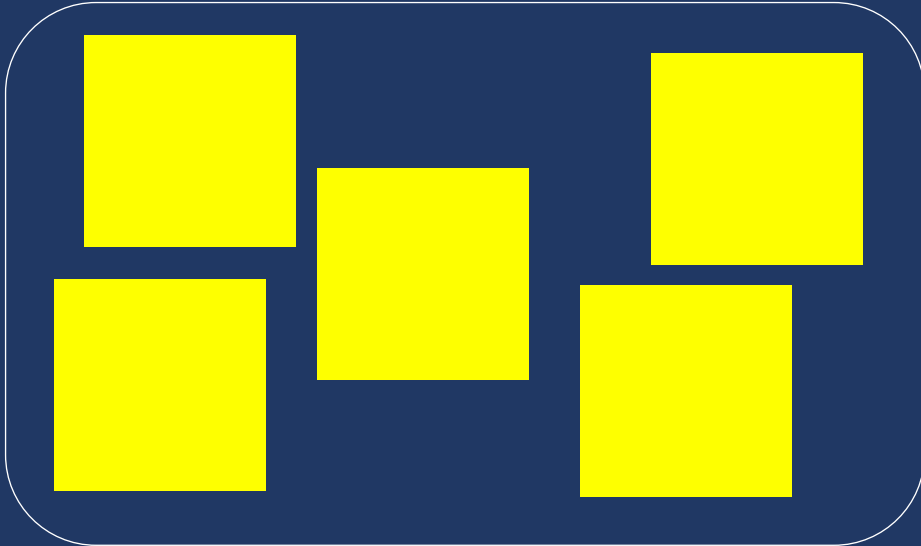
(minuend)  
(subtrahend)  
(difference)



# Change

Subtraction

start with a set, take away from that set, count difference

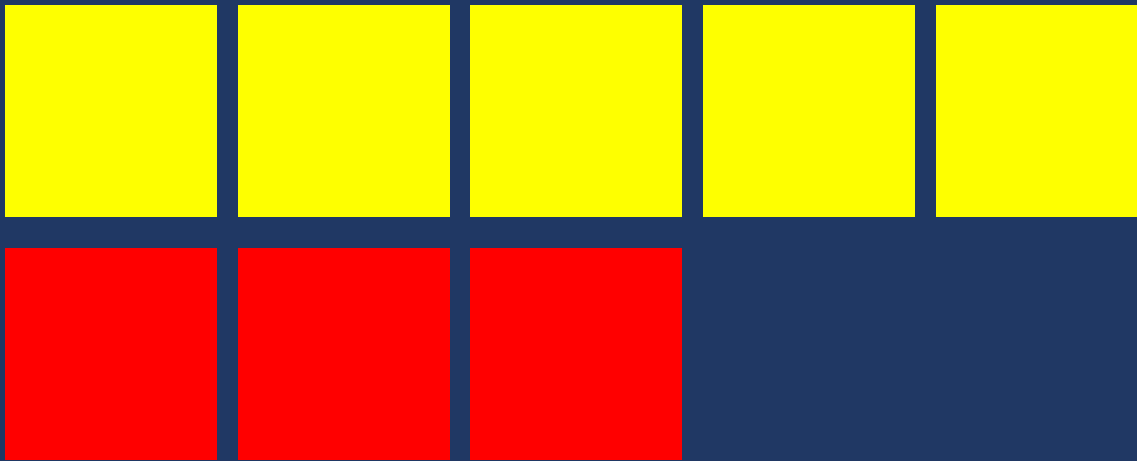


$$5 - 3 = 2$$

# Difference

Subtraction

Compare two sets, count difference



$$5 - 3 = 2$$

# Change

Subtraction

An amount that increases or decreases

Bronwyn had 9 cookies. Then they ate 2 of the cookies. How many cookies does Bronwyn have now?



# Difference

Subtraction

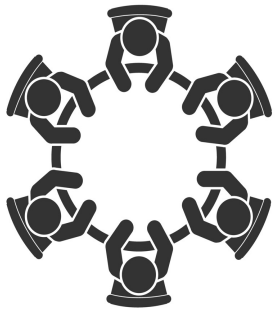
Greater and lesser amounts compared for a difference

Rachel has 9 apples. Jodie has 2 apples. How many more apples does Rachel have? (How many fewer does Jodie have?)



$$9 - 5 = \underline{\quad}$$

Subtraction



If you would chose beaches:  
What's a Change/Separate story  
to show subtraction?

If you would chose mountains:  
What's a Difference story to  
show subtraction?

# 100 multiplication facts

Multiplication of single-digit factors results in a single- or double-digit product

2	( <u>factor</u> )
$\times 3$	(factor)
<hr/>	
6	( <u>product</u> )

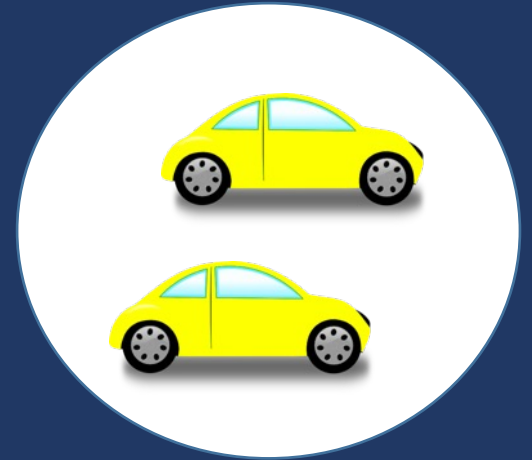
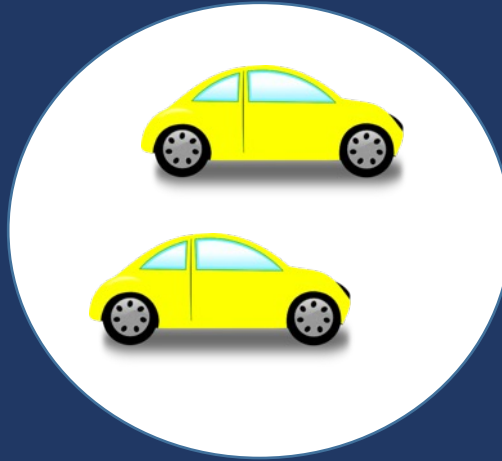
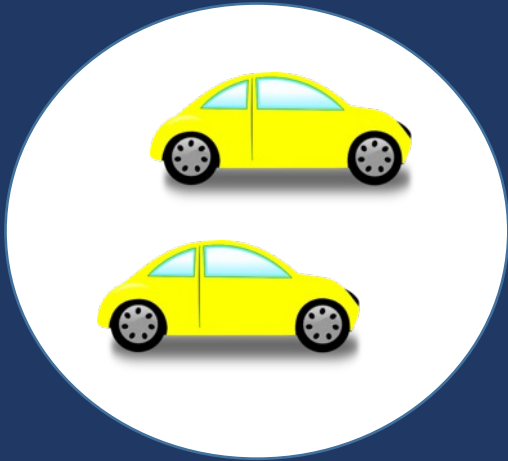




# Equal Groups

Multiplication

Show the groups, show the amount for each group, count product

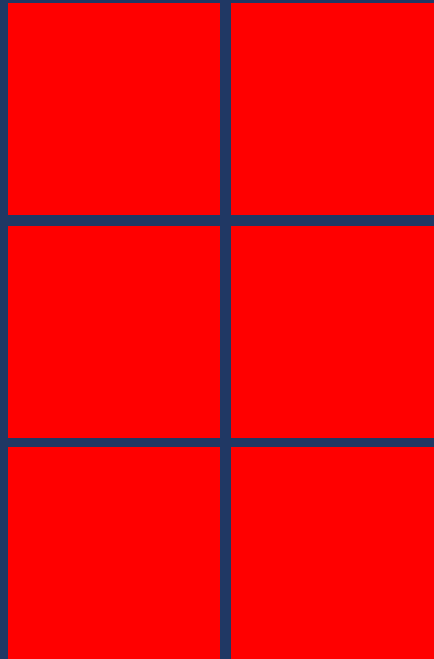


$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

# Equal Groups

Multiplication

Show the groups, show the amount for each group, count product



$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

# Comparison

Multiplication

Show a set, then multiply the set



$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

# Equal Groups

Multiplication

**Groups** multiplied by **number in each group** for a **product**

Rhiannon has **2** boxes of crayons. There are **12** crayons in each box. How many crayons does Rhiannon have altogether?



# Comparison

Multiplication

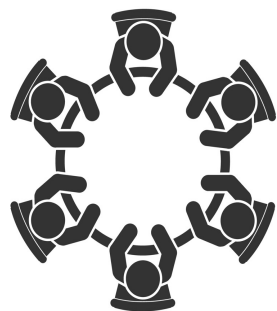
Set multiplied by a number of times for a product

Vivienne had 12 stickers. Jessica had 2 times as many stickers as Vivienne. How many stickers did Jessica have?



$$2 \times 5 = \underline{\quad}$$

Multiplication



If you wear glasses:

What's an Equal Groups story to show multiplication?

If you don't wear glasses:

What's a Comparison story to show multiplication?

# 90 division facts

Divisor and quotient are single-digit numbers and dividend is single- or double-digit number

$$8 \div 4 = 2$$

(dividend) (divisor) (quotient)

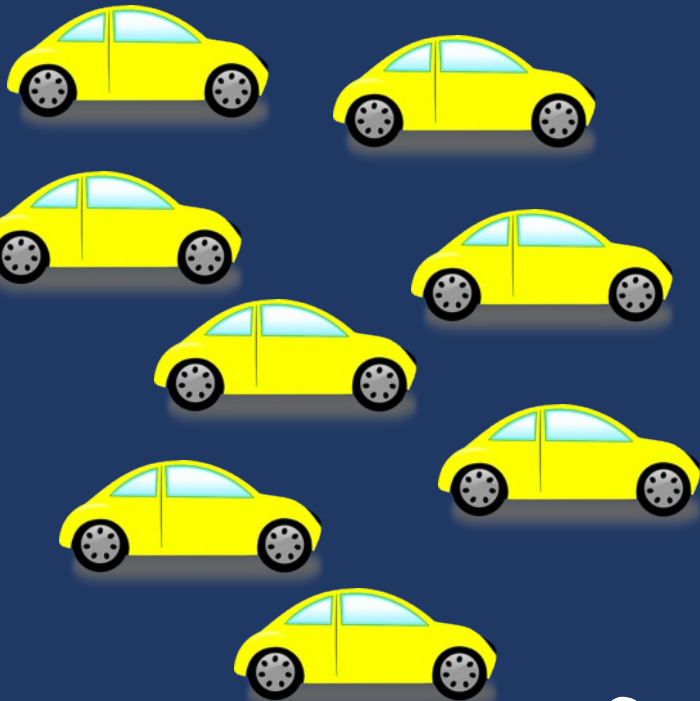


# Equal Groups

(Partitive Division)

Division

Show the dividend, divide equally among divisor, count quotient



$$8 \div 2 = 4$$



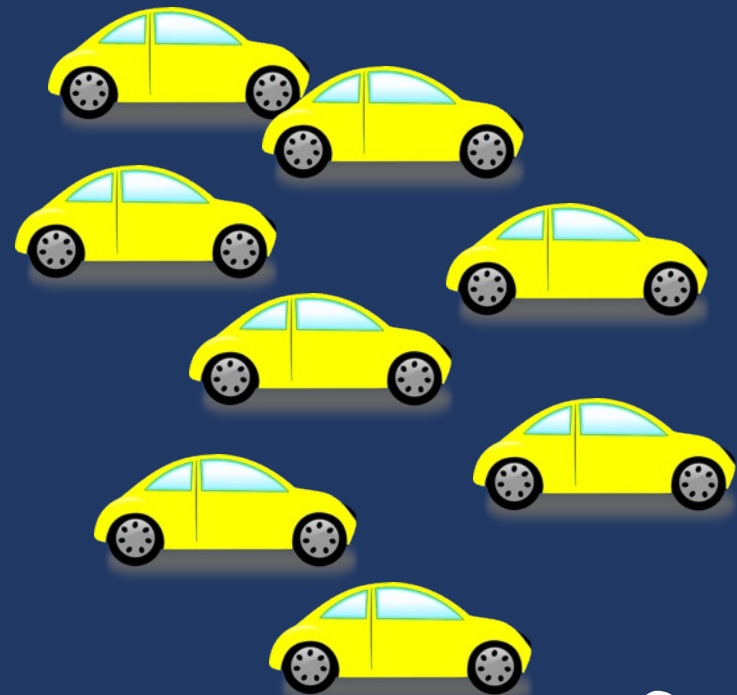


# Equal Groups

(Quotative Division)

Division

Show the dividend, make groups of the divisor, count groups



$$8 \div 2 = 4$$



# Equal Groups

Division

**Groups** multiplied by **number in each group** for a **product**

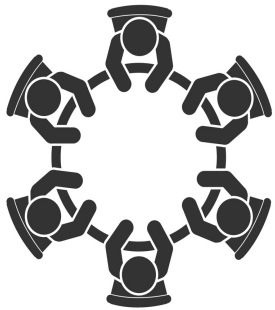
Stefanie has **12** pencils. She wants to share them equally among her **2** friends. How many pencils will each friend receive?

Nicole has **12** pencils. She put them into pencil pockets with **6** pencils each. How many pencil pockets did Nicole use?



$$12 \div 4 = \underline{\quad}$$

Division



If you watch *Stranger Things*:  
What's a Partitive story to show  
division?

If you watch *Ted Lasso*:  
What's a Quotative story to show  
division?

Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Build fluency with math facts.

- Addition: single-digit addends
- Subtraction: single-digit subtrahend
- Multiplication: single-digit factors
- Division: single-digit divisor

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ + 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ - 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 56 \\ \div 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



## Fluency

Strategies for Building Fluency



What are your strengths?



What are your opportunities for growth?



What are your immediate next steps?



Cover, Copy, Compare

$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline 54 \end{array}$$

$$54$$

$$7$$

$$\times 8$$

$$56$$

$$9$$

$$\times 9$$

$$81$$

$$6$$

$$\times 7$$

$$42$$

$$8$$

$$\times 8$$

$$64$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline 48 \end{array}$$

$$48$$

$$6$$

$$\times 5$$

$$30$$

$6+3=$

$1+7=$

$\times 6+4=$

$7+3=$

$2+7=$

$5+6=$

$4+7=$

$7+8=$

$6+7=$

$7+9=$

$7+6=$

$8+7=$

$7+0=$

$9+6=$

$6+0=$

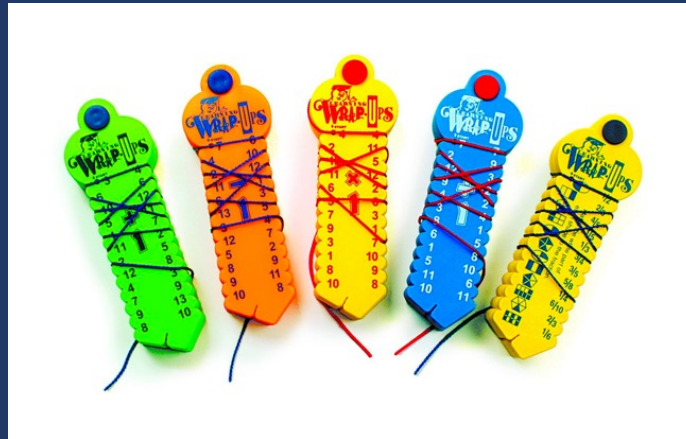
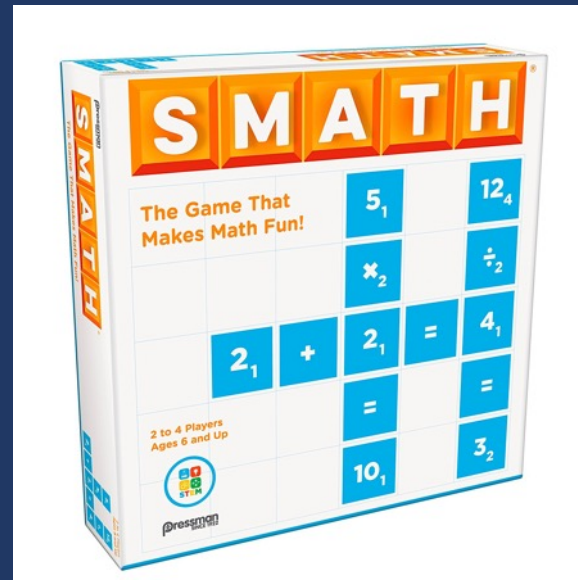
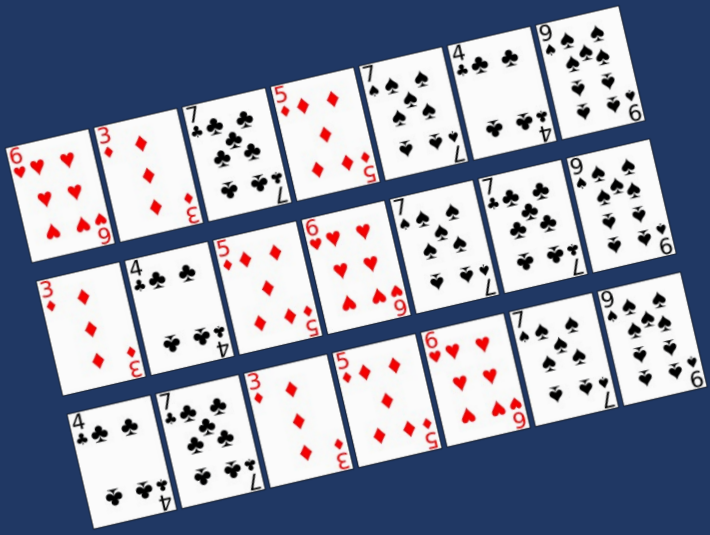
$6+8=$

File Folder

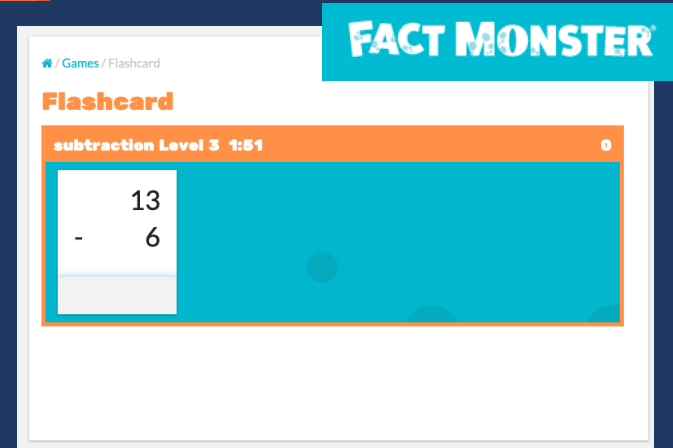
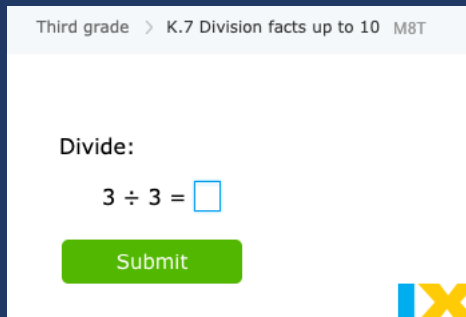
Taped Problems			
$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$











Reflex

Get your free 30-day trial

Help your students attain math fact fluency success whether in-person, remote, or through hybrid learning

Game-based system to improve math fact fluency for grades 2-6 in less than 30 days!

DAILY and BRIEF



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division



What are five ways you help students build fact fluency?

## Fluency with Computation

Addition

Subtraction

Multiplication

Division



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Build fluency with  
whole-number computation

$$\begin{array}{r} 15 \\ + 28 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 23 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1009 \\ - 724 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7250 \\ \div 15 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Build fluency with  
rational-number computation

Addition

Subtraction

Multiplication

Division

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.4 \\ + 3.9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{2} \\ 3 \end{array} \times \begin{array}{r} \underline{3} \\ 4 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{9} \\ 4 \end{array} - \begin{array}{r} \underline{3} \\ 8 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7.892 \\ \div \underline{0.14} \end{array}$$

Build fluency with  
integer computation

Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.4 \\ + -3.9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times -12 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$-14 - (-7) =$$

$$-135 \div 2 =$$

# Partial Sums

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 74 \\ + 18 \\ \hline 80 \\ + 12 \\ \hline 92 \end{array}$$

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 725 \\ + 365 \\ \hline 1,000 \\ 80 \\ + 10 \\ \hline 1,090 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 227 \\ + 185 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Opposite Change

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 74 \\ + 18 \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow{+4} \begin{array}{r} 70 \\ + 22 \\ \hline 92 \end{array}$$

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 725 \\ + 365 \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow{-5} \begin{array}{r} 730 \\ + 360 \\ \hline 1,090 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 227 \\ + 185 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



# Partial Differences

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 62 \\ - 17 \\ \hline + 50 \\ - 5 \\ \hline 45 \end{array}$$

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 305 \\ - 96 \\ \hline + 300 \\ - 90 \\ - 1 \\ \hline 209 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 232 \\ - 164 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Same Change

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 62 \\ - 17 \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow{+3} \begin{array}{r} 65 \\ - 20 \\ \hline 45 \end{array}$$

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 305 \\ - 96 \\ \hline \end{array} \xrightarrow{+4} \begin{array}{r} 309 \\ - 100 \\ \hline 209 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 232 \\ - 164 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Add Up

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 62 \\ - 17 \\ \hline \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 17 \\ 20 \\ 60 \\ \hline 62 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ 40 \\ 2 \\ \hline 45 \end{array}$$

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 305 \\ - 96 \\ \hline \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 96 \\ 100 \\ 300 \\ \hline 305 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ 200 \\ 5 \\ \hline 209 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 232 \\ - 164 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Partial Products

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 24 \\ \times 43 \\ \hline 800 \\ 160 \\ 60 \\ + 12 \\ \hline 1,032 \end{array}$$

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 132 \\ \times 53 \\ \hline 5000 \\ 15000 \\ 1000 \\ 3000 \\ 90 \\ + 6 \\ \hline 6996 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 13 \\ \times 47 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Area (Array)

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 24 \\ \times 43 \\ \hline 800 \\ 160 \\ 60 \\ + 12 \\ \hline 1,032 \end{array}$$

20	4	
800	160	40
60	12	3

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 132 \\ \times 53 \\ \hline 5000 \\ 1500 \\ 100 \\ 300 \\ 90 \\ + 6 \\ \hline 6996 \end{array}$$

100	30	2	
5000	1500	100	50
300	90	6	3



$$\begin{array}{r} 13 \\ \times 47 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Lattice

A.

$$\begin{array}{r} 24 \\ \times 43 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

0	8	1	6	4
0	6	1	2	3

1 0 3 2

B.

$$\begin{array}{r} 132 \\ \times 53 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

0	5	1	5	1	0	5
0	3	0	9	0	6	3

6 9 9 6



$$\begin{array}{r} 13 \\ \times 47 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Partial Quotients

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{A. } 12 \overline{) 158} \\ \underline{- 120} \quad 10 \\ 38 \\ \underline{- 36} \quad + 3 \\ 2 \quad \underline{+ 3} \\ \quad 13 \text{ R } 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{B. } 34 \overline{) 1170} \\ \underline{- 680} \quad 20 \\ 290 \\ \underline{- 170} \quad 5 \\ 120 \\ \underline{- 102} \quad + 3 \\ 18 \quad \underline{+ 3} \\ \quad 21 \text{ R } 18 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 804 \\ \div \\ \hline 12 \end{array}$$

# Lattice

A.  $12 \overline{)158} \quad 13 \text{ R}2$

12  $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 5 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$

B.  $34 \overline{)970} \quad 28 \text{ R}18$

34  $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 9 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 7 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$



$$\begin{array}{r} 804 \\ \div \quad 12 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



## Fluency

Strategies for Building Fluency



What are your strengths?



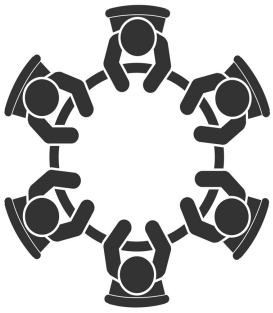
What are your opportunities for growth?



What are your immediate next steps?



Teachers should use fluency building activities to build counting fluency and fluency with the operations.



What are your strengths with building fluency?

What are the opportunities for growth?

What are your immediate next steps?

Teachers should use systematic and explicit instruction to help students develop a strong foundation for specific mathematics skills.

Students require modeling and practice on how to use the language of mathematics.

Students should use hands-on tools, virtual manipulatives, drawings, and other visuals to understand mathematics concepts and procedures.

Teachers should use fluency building activities to build counting fluency and fluency with the operations.

Students should learn how to set up and solve word problems by combining an attack strategy with a focus on word-problem schemas.



# Solve Word Problems



# Instructional Platform

## INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit

Vocabulary

Representations

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Fluency

Word Problems



Word Problems

Research and Information





Key words tied to operations is an ineffective word-problem strategy.

(Karp et al., 2019; Powell et al., 2022)

Using a meta-cognitive strategy improves word-problem performance.

(Freeman-Green et al., 2015; Krawec et al., 2012; Montague et al., 2011; Swanson et al., 2014)

A focus on schemas improves word-problem performance.

(Alghamdi et al., 2020; Cook et al., 2020; Flores et al., 2016; Fuchs et al., 2021; Griffin et al., 2019; Jitendra et al., 2013; Lein et al., 2020; Peltier et al., 2020; Powell et al., 2022; Xin & Xhang, 2009; Zheng et al., 2013)

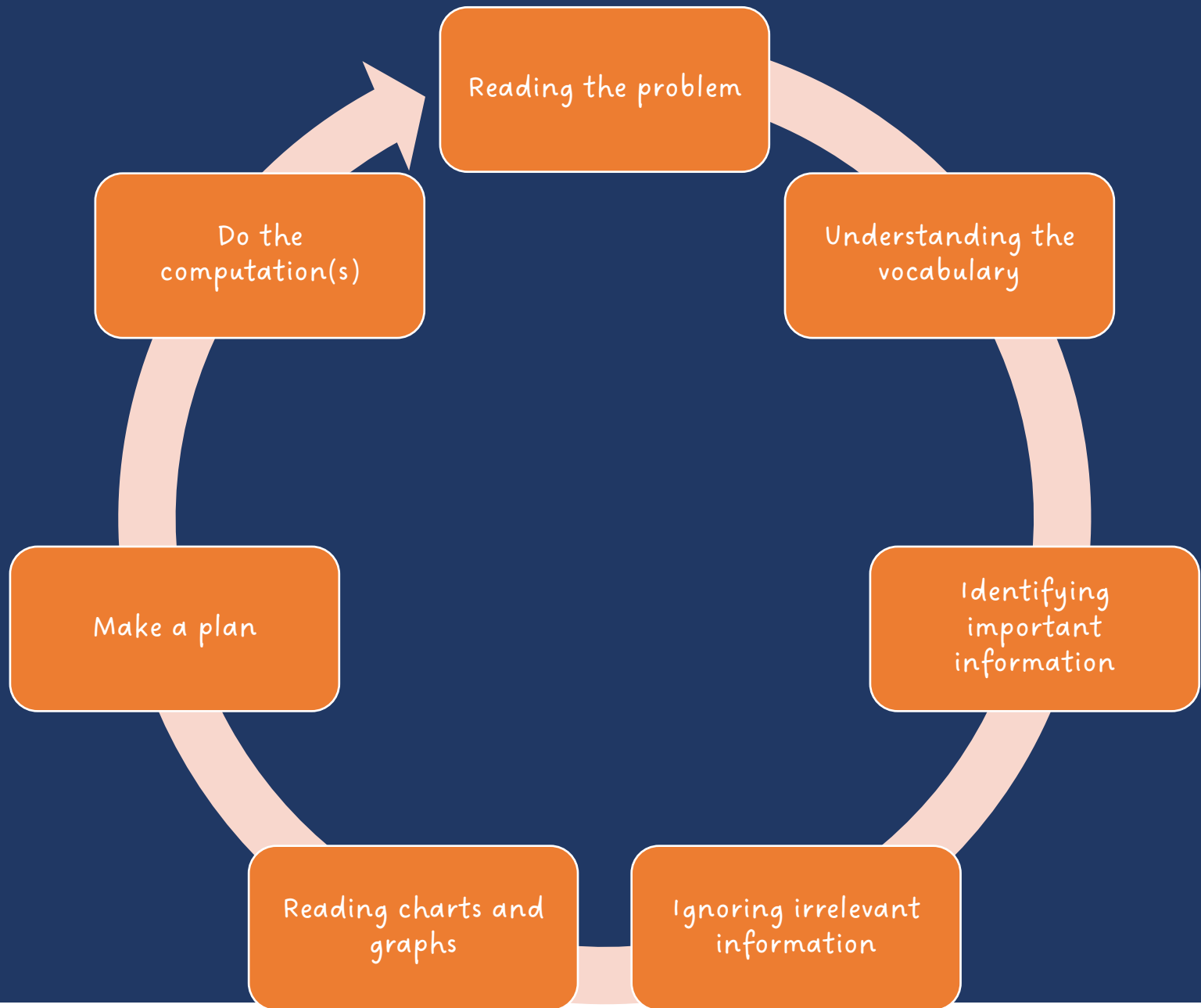


Word Problems

Research and Information









1. Keywords tied to operations

Lincoln had 8 pencils fewer than Roscoe. If Roscoe had 18 pencils, how many pencils did Lincoln have?

Lincoln had 8 pencils fewer than Roscoe. If Lincoln had 18 pencils, how many pencils did Roscoe have?

### Key Words Used in Math Word Problems

Addition Words	Subtraction Words
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>add</li> <li>all together or altogether</li> <li>and</li> <li>both</li> <li>combined</li> <li>how many in all</li> <li>how much</li> <li>in all</li> <li>increased by</li> <li>plus</li> <li>sum</li> <li>together</li> <li>total</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>change</li> <li>decreased by</li> <li>difference</li> <li>fewer or fewer than</li> <li>how many are left (or have left)</li> <li>how many did not have</li> <li>how many</li> <li>how much taller, heavier, less or less</li> <li>lost</li> <li>minus</li> <li>need to</li> <li>reduce</li> <li>remain</li> <li>subtract</li> <li>take away</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiplication Words</li> <li>x by (dimension)</li> <li>double</li> <li>each group</li> <li>every</li> <li>factor of</li> <li>increased by</li> <li>multiplied by</li> <li>x of</li> <li>product</li> <li>times</li> <li>triple</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Division Words</li> <li>as much</li> <li>cut up</li> <li>each group</li> <li>equal share</li> <li>half (or other parts)</li> <li>how many parts</li> <li>per</li> <li>percent</li> <li>quotient</li> <li>ratio of</li> <li>separated</li> <li>share some</li> </ul>

### OPERATION cue words

<b>ADDITION</b> and, total, join, more than, in all, altogether, sum, increased	<b>SUBTRACTION</b> less than, decreased, remaining, left, fewer, take away, difference, minus
<b>MULTIPLICATION</b> product, times, as many as, by, equal groups	<b>DIVISION</b> quotient, each, broken into, distribute evenly, parts

### Math POSTER

<b>ADDITION</b> -sum, -total, -more than, -plus, -both, -combined, -increased by, -perimeter, -plus	<b>MULTIPLICATION</b> -product, -double, -area, -times, -per, -every, -each, -by
<b>SUBTRACTION</b> -difference, -remain, -left, -less than, -minus, -how many more, -fewer than, -decrease, -give away, -reduce, -discount, -how many more	<b>DIVISION</b> -quotient, -divide by, -into, -split, -out of, -shared, -per, -every, -each, -evenly, -equal groups, -half

## Division

Taking a total and sharing it

(on)

## Addition

Putting two or more things/amounts together.

Keywords

Total  
Altogether  
In all  
Sum  
More than

### Problem Solving Key Words

Addition	Subtraction
add together	are not decrease difference fewer, larger, shorter left less than minus remain take away

### key words

addition sum both	in all together perimeter	total plus add
-------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------

more than

combined

triple  
factor  
product

multiply  
each  
per  
in all  
multiple  
area  
double

average

division  
equal groups  
half

split  
shared  
equally

quotient  
divide  
each

distribute

### Math Operation - Key Words

Addition	Subtraction
♦ add ♦ altogether ♦ and ♦ both ♦ in all ♦ sum ♦ total ♦ increase	♦ difference ♦ fewer than ♦ gave/take away ♦ decreased by ♦ how many more ♦ show much longer/smaller/shorter ♦ minus ♦ remaining
Multiplication	Division
♦ area ♦ product ♦ Each ♦ by - of - per ♦ Times ♦ double, twice, triple ♦ total ♦ increase	♦ quotient ♦ divide ♦ into ♦ equal parts/share equally ♦ per ♦ amount of each

### Math Key Words

Addition	Subtraction	Multiplication	Division
+	-	×	÷
plus	subtract	times	quotient
sum	minus	product	split
add	difference	factor	share
total	left	double	divide
all together	left over	groups	separate
increase	decrease	each	each
more	take away	area	average
combine	fewer	rows	equal groups



# Math Words Poster Set

★★★★☆ (4.1)

75%

[7 Reviews](#)  
[Write a Review](#)

Dependents would recommend this to a friend

Do you want to know about this product?

Answer in about 48 hours

with 3 monthly payments of just \$4.33. No fees.

[Learn more](#)

1 post

Quantity

-

1

Ready to buy

 Add to Wish list





*Description of Single-Step Word Problems (n = 132)*

Schema	Occurrence of schema		Any keyword		Schema-specific keywords <sup>a</sup>		Multiple keywords <sup>a</sup>		Keyword(s) led to correct solution <sup>a</sup>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Total	27	20.5	26	96.3	23	88.5	5	19.2	21	80.8
Difference	17	12.9	17	100.0	14	82.4	2	11.8	12	70.6
Change	11	8.3	7	63.6	5	71.4	5	71.4	2	28.6
Equal groups	29	22.0	26	89.7	22	84.6	18	69.2	8	30.8
Comparison	10	7.6	9	90.0	9	100.0	4	44.4	5	55.6
Ratios or proportions	29	22.0	23	79.3	9	39.1	9	39.1	6	26.1
Product of measures	9	6.8	9	100.0	8	88.9	1	11.1	5	55.6

<sup>a</sup>When a problem featured a keyword.







*Description of Multi-Step Word Problems (n = 84)*

Schema	Occurrence of schema <sup>a</sup>		Any keyword		Keyword(s) led to correct solution <sup>b</sup>	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Total	40	47.6	39	97.5	3	7.7
Difference	11	13.1	11	100.0	1	9.1
Change	21	23.8	19	95.0	1	5.3
Equal groups	49	58.3	48	98.0	1	2.1
Comparison	7	8.3	7	100.0	0	0.0
Ratios or proportions	22	25.0	16	76.2	1	6.3
Product of measures	7	8.3	7	100.0	2	28.6

<sup>a</sup>Sum across schemas does not equal 100 because each word problem featured more than one schema.

<sup>b</sup>When a problem featured a keyword.



Mr. Rivera's taxable income is \$20 each hour before taxes are taken out. Mr. Rivera worked a total of 40 hours each week for 50 weeks.

What is the dollar amount, to the nearest dollar, taken out for taxes based on Mr. Rivera's taxable income?

The temperature of a substance decreased by  $24^{\circ}\text{C}$  per minute for 3 minutes. What was the overall change of the temperature of the substance?





Keywords are important to identify and understand

Keywords are the mathematical vocabulary that help an students understand what the story is about and what they need to do

Talk about keywords ("What does *more than* tell you about?")



But, do not tie a keyword to a specific operation!



## 2. Presenting problems by operation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Addition Word Problems

Solve the word problems. Show your work.

1. Noah had 12 books. He got 5 more books. How many books did Noah have in all?
2. Bonnie found 8 rocks on her front yard and 7 rocks in her backyard. How many rocks did she find in all?
3. Edward had 5 toy cars. He got 3 more toy cars. How many toy cars did Edward have in all?
4. Mariela collected 11 feathers. She found 3 more feathers. How many feathers did she have in all?
5. LaMonte made 14 cookies. He made 7 more cookies. How many cookies did LaMonte have in all?

## Division Word Problems

1. Zookeeper Al had 567 bananas. He gave an equal number of bananas to 9 monkeys in the zoo and 567 bananas. How many bananas did each monkey get? And how many are left over?
2. Betty has 427 oranges. She wants to pack them up equally in 23 boxes. How many oranges will she have in each box and how much does she have left over?
3. Mr. King has 1376 pages of paper. He wants to give 32 pages to each student. How many students can he give paper to? How many extra pages will he have left over?
4. Mr. King has 1376 pages of paper. He wants to give 32 pages to each student. He instead gives 33 pages to each student. Will there be enough paper for all the students? How much more scrap paper does he need?

## Word Problems

Blank rectangular box for writing.

Blank rectangular box for writing.



What are your strengths?



What are your opportunities for growth?



What are your immediate next steps?



Teach an attack strategy

Teach about schemas



## RIDE

**R**ead the problem.

**I**dentify the relevant information.

**D**etermine the operation and unit for the answer.

**E**nter the correct numbers and calculate, then check the answer.

## RICE

**R**ead and record the problem.

**I**llustrate your thinking.

**C**ompute.

**E**xplain your thinking.

## RIDGES

**R**ead the problem.

**I** know statement.

**D**raw a picture.

**G**oal statement.

**E**quation development.

**S**olve the equation.



## SUPER

Slowly read the story problem twice.

Underline the question and circle the numbers you need.

Picture it. Draw the scenario to show what is happening.

Explain the problem with a number sentence.

Rewrite the answer in a sentence.

## SHINES

Slowly and carefully read the problem.

Highlight or underline key information.

Identify the question by drawing a circle around it.

Now solve the problem. Show your work.

Examine your work for precision, accuracy, and clarity.

Share your answer by writing a sentence.

## STAR

Stop and read the problem carefully.

Think about your plan and the strategy you will use.

Act. Follow your plan and solve the problem.

Review your answer.



## SOLVE

Study the problem.

Organize the facts.

Line up the plan.

Verify the plan with computation.

Examine the answer.

## R-CUBES

Read the problem.

Circle key numbers.

Underline the question.

Box action words.

Evaluate steps.

Solve and check.

# UPS✓

## UNDERSTAND

Read and explain.

## PLAN

How will you solve the problem?

## SOLVE

Set up and do the math!

## ✓CHECK

Does your answer make sense?

Created by: Sarah Powell (srpowell@austin.utexas.edu)







Share your favorite attack strategy.

Teach an attack strategy

Teach about schemas



Total

Difference

Change

Equal Groups

Comparison

Ratios/Proportions



Total

Part-part-whole  
Combine

**Parts** put together into a **total**

Daniela saw **3** canoes and **8** kayaks. How many boats did Daniela see?

Daniela saw **11** boats. If **3** of the boats were canoes, how many were kayaks?

Daniela saw **11** boats. **8** of the boats were kayaks, how many were canoes?

Total

Part

Part



# Difference

Compare

Greater and lesser amounts compared for a difference

Adrianna has 10 pencils. Tracy has 4 pencils. How many more pencils does Adrianna have?

Difference

Adrianna has 6 more pencils than Tracy. If Tracy has 4 pencils, how many does Adrianna have?

Greater amount

Tracy has 6 fewer pencils than Adrianna. Adrianna has 10 pencils. How many pencils does Tracy have?

Lesser amount



# Change

Join

An amount that increases or decreases

Nickole had 6 notebooks. Then, she bought 3 notebooks. How many notebooks does Nickole have now?

Nickole had 6 notebooks. Then, she bought a few more notebooks. Now, Nickole has 9 notebooks. How many notebooks did she buy?

Nickole had some notebooks. Then, she bought 3 notebooks. Now, Nickole has 9 notebooks. How many notebooks did she have to start with?

End amount

Change amount

Start amount



# Change

Separate

An amount that increases or decreases

Samantha baked 20 cookies. Then, she ate 3 of the cookies. How many cookies does Samantha have now?

Samantha baked 20 cookies. Then, she ate some of the cookies. Now, she has 17 cookies. How many cookies did Samantha eat?

Samantha baked some cookies. She ate 3 of the cookies and has 17 cookies left. How many cookies did Samantha bake?

End amount

Change amount

Start amount



# Equal Groups

Array  
Vary

**Groups** multiplied by **number in each group** for a **product**

Toni has **2** boxes of crayons. There are **12** crayons in each box. How many crayons does Toni have altogether?

Product

Toni has **24** crayons. They want to place them equally into **2** boxes. How many crayons will Toni place in each box?

Number in each group

Toni has **24** crayons. They put them into boxes with **12** crayons each. How many boxes did Toni use?

Groups





# Comparison

Set multiplied by a number of times for a product

Brooke ran 6 minutes. Shaleeni ran 4 times longer than Brooke. How many minutes did Shaleeni run?

Set

Number of  
times

Product



# Ratios/Proportions

Description of **relationships** among quantities

Melissa baked cookies and brownies. The ratio of cookies to brownies was **3:5**. If she baked **25** brownies, how many cookies did she bake?

Emma typed **56** words in **2** minutes. At this rate, how many words could Emma type in **7** minutes?



Total

Difference

Change

Equal Groups

Comparison

Ratios/Proportions



Teach an attack strategy

Teach about schemas



## Word Problems



What are your strengths?



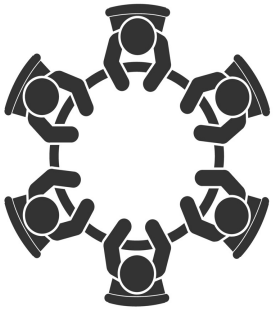
What are your opportunities for growth?



What are your immediate next steps?



Students should learn how to set up and solve word problems by combining an attack strategy with a focus on word-problem schemas.



What are your strengths with word-problem solving?

What are the opportunities for growth?

What's one thing you can start doing next week?

Teachers should use systematic and explicit instruction to help students develop a strong foundation for specific mathematics skills.

Students require modeling and practice on how to use the language of mathematics.

Students should use hands-on tools, virtual manipulatives, drawings, and other visuals to understand mathematics concepts and procedures.

Teachers should use fluency building activities to build counting fluency and fluency with the operations.

Students should learn how to set up and solve word problems by combining an attack strategy with a focus on word-problem schemas.



# Instructional Platform

## INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit

Vocabulary

Representations

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Fluency

Word Problems







# Pirate Math Equation Quest

About

Research

Individual

Small Group

STAAR

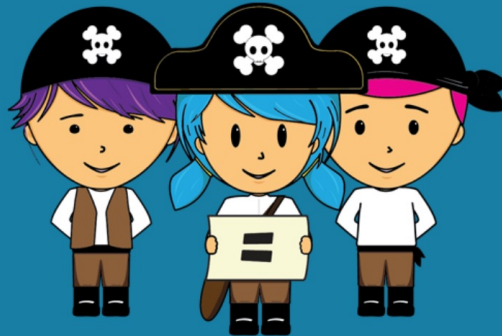
Videos

## Welcome to Pirate Math Equation Quest!

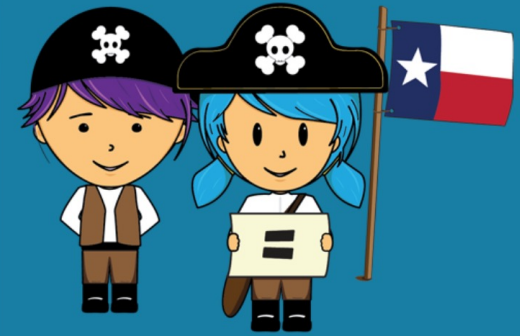
### Individual Word-Problem Intervention



### Small-Group Word-Problem Intervention



### Small-Group Word-Problem Intervention for STAAR



Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License



## Intensive Intervention in Mathematics Course Content

NCII, through a collaboration with the University of Connecticut, developed a set of course content focused on developing educators' skills in designing and delivering intensive mathematics instruction. This content is designed to support faculty and professional development providers with instructing pre-service and in-service educators who are developing and/or refining their implementation of intensive mathematics intervention.

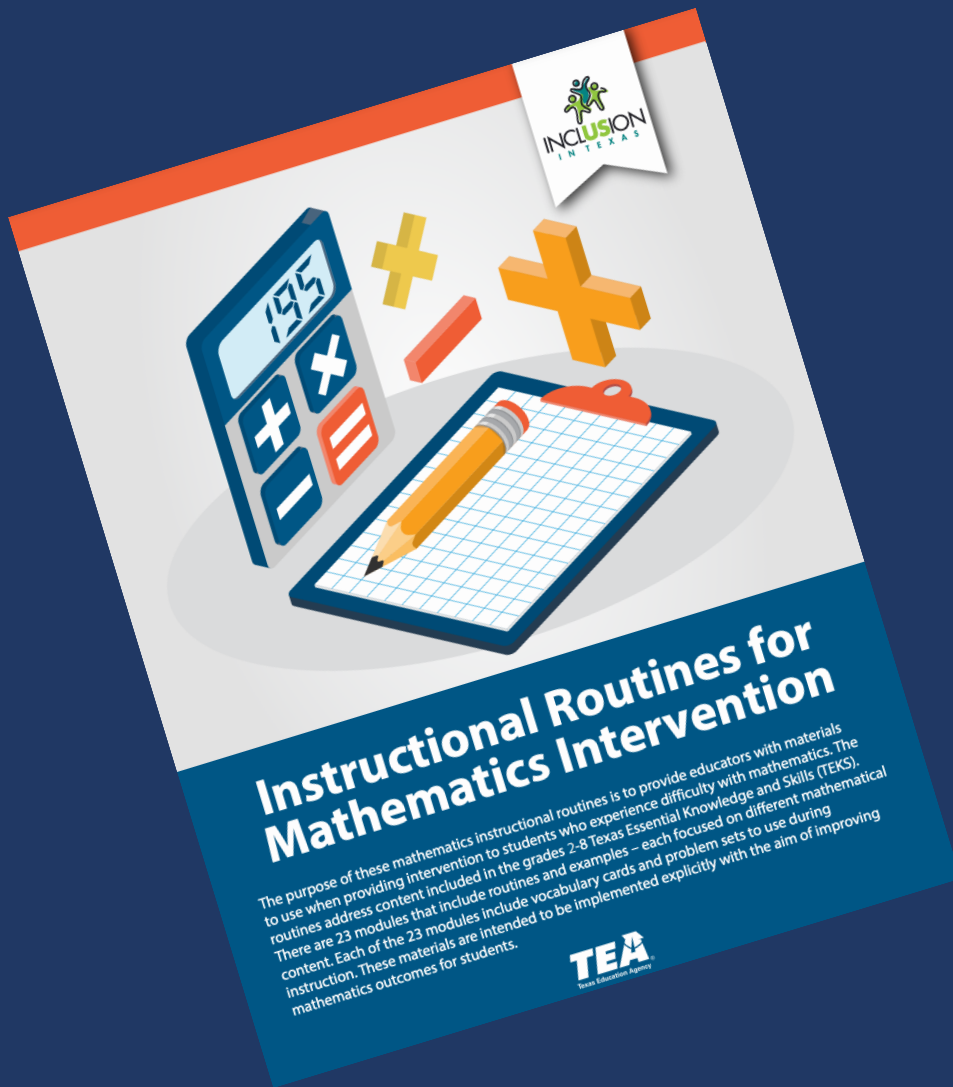
Intensive instruction was recently identified as a [high-leverage practice in special education](#), and DBI is a research based approach to delivering intensive instruction across content areas (NCII, 2013). This course provides learners with an opportunity to extend their understanding of intensive instruction through in-depth exposure to DBI in mathematics, complete with exemplars from actual classroom teachers.

NCII, through a collaboration with the University of Connecticut and the [National Center on Leadership in Intensive Intervention](#) and with support from the [CEEDAR Center](#), developed course content focused on enhancing educators' skills in intensive mathematics intervention. The course includes eight modules that can support faculty and professional development providers with instructing pre-service and in-service educators who are learning to implement intensive mathematics intervention through data-based individualization (DBI). The content in this course complements concepts covered in the [Features of Explicit Instruction Course](#) and so we suggest that users complete both courses.



### MODULE 5: INTENSIVE MATHEMATICS INTERVENTION: INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES





[https://www.inclusionintexas.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=2155039&type=d&pREC\\_ID=2169859](https://www.inclusionintexas.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=2155039&type=d&pREC_ID=2169859)







# Sarah R. Powell, Ph.D.

Associate Professor  
The University of Texas at Austin



[srpowell@utexas.edu](mailto:srpowell@utexas.edu)



[@sarahpowellphd](https://www.instagram.com/sarahpowellphd)