Develop FUNdamental Mathematical Concepts in Elementary Students

Differentiate instruction without juggling multiple lesson plans and tons of materials. Using games to teach rich mathematical content is not only possible, but highly effective to ensure that No Child is Left Behind!

A 2-day workshop for mainstream, special education, remedial and gifted teachers of grades 2 through 6 who want to give their students an opportunity to engage in strong mathematical content and strategic thinking, while practicing the essential skills they must learn.

Teachers are *expected* to work miracles with a very big smile and a very small budget! But, keeping a large group of mixed-ability students constructively engaged in relevant mathematical tasks is no small feat. Using games works wonders with student motivation and mastery of mathematical concepts.

In this workshop you will learn what distinguishes a "ho-hum" game from one that students will beg to play. You will increase your repertoire of engaging activities which allow students to participate at many different skill levels at the same time. You will familiarize yourself with techniques which allow for adaptation of games to meet differing skill levels and varied objectives. Every game you play will be one which relates directly to the specific math content required of your students. And, you will have fun along with them!

In This Workshop You Will Discover...
the benefits of playing engaging mathematical games!

* Students of different ability levels can play the same game at the same time, each at his/her own level.
* Less time and effort is expended on motivation. Play is the motivator!
* Materials require very little investment of time or money.
* Students can increase their skills just by continuing to play.
* "Fast Finishers" have an incentive to do more "work."
* The "smartest" student doesn't always win.
* Learning a concept can be an "aha!" experience in the middle of a game!
* Informal assessment can be done by teacher observation of pairs at play.
* Parents become willing partners.

Rich Mathematical Content:
...students will learn through games:

* Fractions from the basic idea of equal parts to flexible thinking about equivalence
* Multiplication, from basic facts to two-dimensional representations and factoring
* Place value, trading, number sense, and ordering from whole numbers to decimals
* Computation, from simple practice to strategic planning for max and min results
* Coordinate graphing, from plotting points to a beginning concept of slope
* Set theory and representation in Venn diagrams from the simple to the more complex
* Problem solving, from the best way to play a move to a complete game-winning strategy

Mary Behr Altieri

Students just want to have fun…and you will too, when you discover how much they actually learn.

Mathematics
Grades 2-6
2 days

NEW