

Student Success in Mathematics Partnership Meeting

October 5, 2021

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Welcome



Laura Kassner
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Student Success in Mathematics partnership: REL Appalachia staff



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Amy Brodesky
Mathematics Education Expert

Agenda

- Welcome
- Goals and objectives
- Supporting students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties
- Student Success in Mathematics (SSM) partnership products and resources
 - Professional learning model (PLM) compendium
 - Resource collection
- Closing



Meeting goals

- Develop an increased understanding of evidence-based instructional approaches to support students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties.
- Enhance access to and use of Student Success in Mathematics (SSM) partnership products and resources.



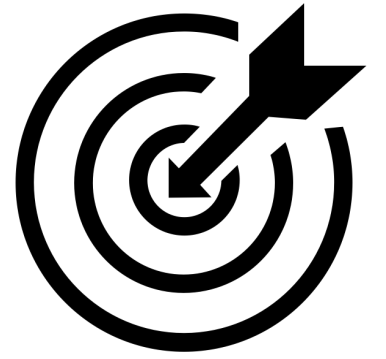
Meeting objectives

- Increase knowledge of *Assisting Students Struggling with Mathematics: Intervention in the Elementary Grades* practice guide recommendations.
- Provide strategies to assist mathematics educators in designing their instructional approaches to meet the needs of students struggling in mathematics.
- Engage in a process for planning high-quality, accessible mathematics lessons.
- Discuss the use of SSM products and resources, including the compendium of resources for the professional learning models (PLM) project and the partnership collection.

Supporting students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties



Amy Brodesky
Mathematics
Education Expert



Presentation goals

- Provide suggestions and examples of professional learning activities to help teachers support students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties.
- Make connections to Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) resources on students with disabilities.
- Discuss ways to implement the professional learning activities in your districts.
- Build knowledge of the new IES Practice Guide, *Assisting Students Struggling with Mathematics: Intervention in the Elementary Grades (2021)*.
- Take a deeper dive into the material from the March 2020 session (Brodesky, 2020).

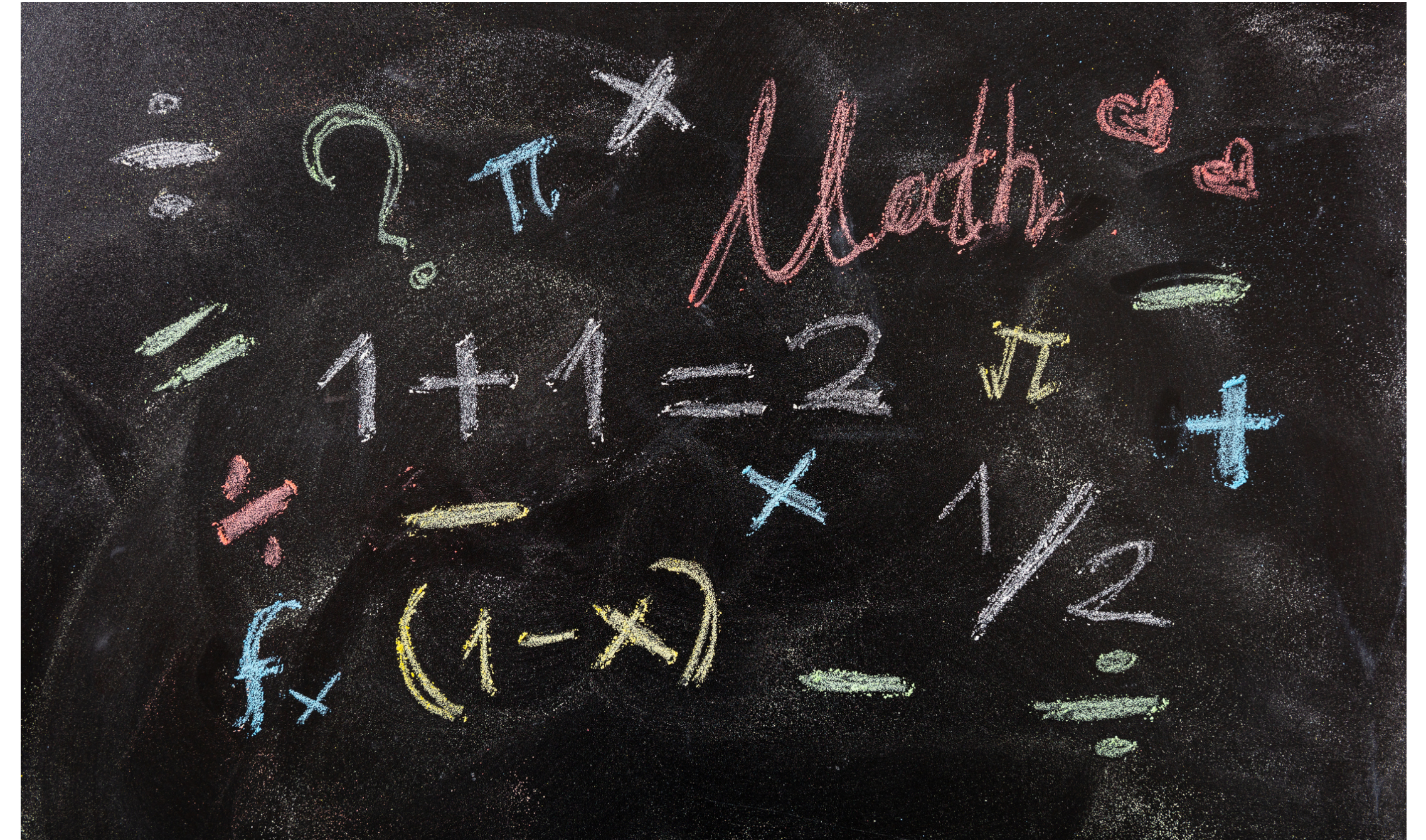
Agenda



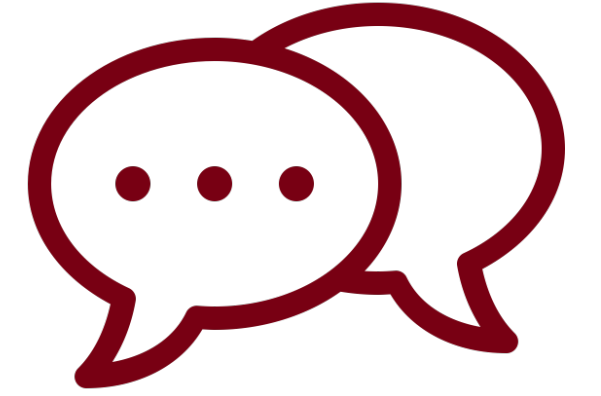
Professional learning approaches to build teachers' knowledge & practices for these topics:

1. Background information on students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties
2. High-quality, accessible mathematics instruction
3. Research-recommended instructional practices
4. Mathematics accessibility lesson planning process

Section 1: Students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties

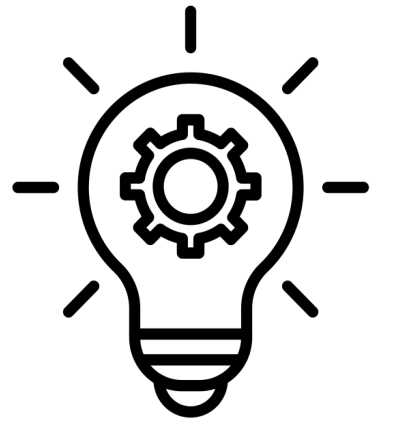


Discuss teachers' professional learning needs



- What is important for teachers to know about students with disabilities and difficulties in mathematics?
- What are ways to increase teachers' motivation and buy-in to improve instruction for students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties?
- What are ways to help teachers build strengths-based approaches for students with disabilities and difficulties?

Professional learning (PL) suggestions for this section



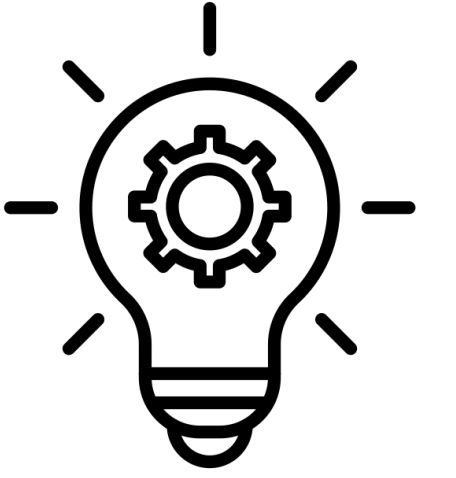
PL #1. Bring in the voices of students with disabilities: use video, quotes, and examples.

PL #2. Provide background information about mathematics disabilities and difficulties.

PL #3. Convey positive messages and promote strengths-based approaches.

(Lampert et al. 2019 ; Kobett & Karp, 2020)

PL #1. Bring in the voices of students with disabilities



Elementary Example: [Dear Teacher video](#)

After watching the video, discuss:

- What messages from this video resonate with you?
- While the video does not focus specifically on mathematics, what messages do you think are particularly important to keep in mind for mathematics teaching?

(Brain Highways, 2020)

PL #1. More ways to bring student voices into professional learning

A. Videos of students: *Through Your Child's Eyes: Math Challenges*

- Alex, Grade 6
- Sam, Grade 10

B. Quotes from students with disabilities & STEM professionals with disabilities

- See examples on the next two slides.

(Lampert et al. 2019 ; Lewis & Lynn, 2018; Understood for All, 2021)

“As I sat in that [gen. ed. math] class, something magical happened to me. I could understand what he was teaching. I was learning. I even started participating in the class, raising my hand and answering questions. I was LD. But then again, I wasn’t. I still couldn’t multiply or divide very well, and I had to use elaborate ways to come up with the answer. But I wasn’t memorizing, I was thinking, and I was figuring out the answer. I was learning. This was one of the experiences that shot a pinhole in the bubble that trapped me in my LDness.”

Student with a learning disability

(Rodis et al., 2001, p. 21)

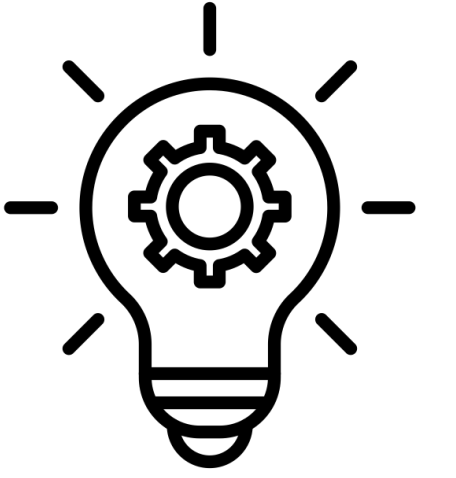
“I found visual things to click with me a little bit better, if someone uses manipulatives. When I’m struggling with a concept, if I can give it a really concrete foundation, it will stick with me much better.”

“The reason why it’s funny that I did statistics, but it makes a lot of sense, is that if I could take one of these concepts and apply it to something that was actually tangible to me, so like the percentage of people that are over the age of 55 that have a landline phone, if I come up with these stories or narratives, then I could actually recall how to do an operation, but I had to have some sort of narrative that was actually based in the real world.”

Dylan Lynn, PhD Statistician with Dyscalculia

(Lewis & Lynn, 2018)

PL #2. Provide background information on math disabilities and difficulties

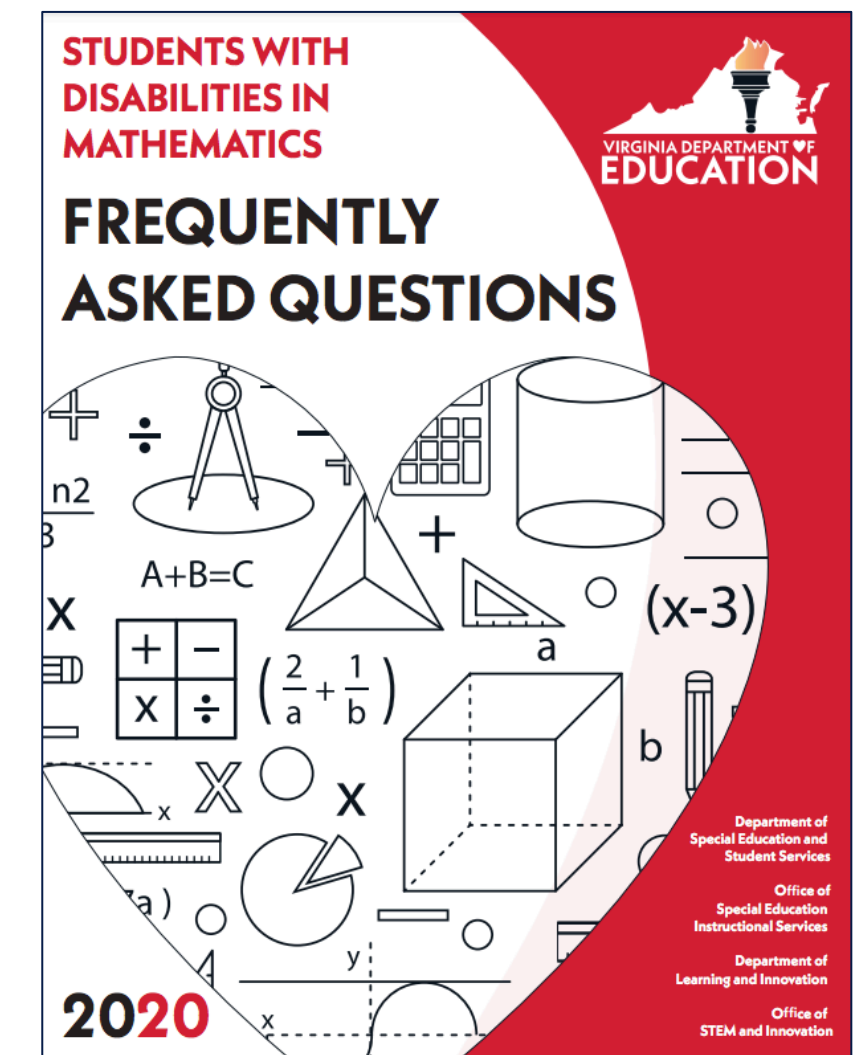


Purpose:

- Build teachers' knowledge of the characteristics of math disabilities/disabilities.

Resources:

- [VDOE \(2020a\) *Students with Disabilities in Mathematics: Frequently Asked Questions*](#)
- Example slides in this deck (18–24)



Specific learning disabilities

- 14 percent of U.S. public school students are served by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): **7 million students**
- 34 percent have a “specific learning disability”

A disorder in one or more psychological processes involved in:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Basic reading
- Reading comprehension
- Written expression
- Arithmetic calculation
- Mathematical reasoning

(Learning Disabilities Association of America, 2021; U.S. Department of Education, 2018)

Mathematics learning disabilities (MLD)

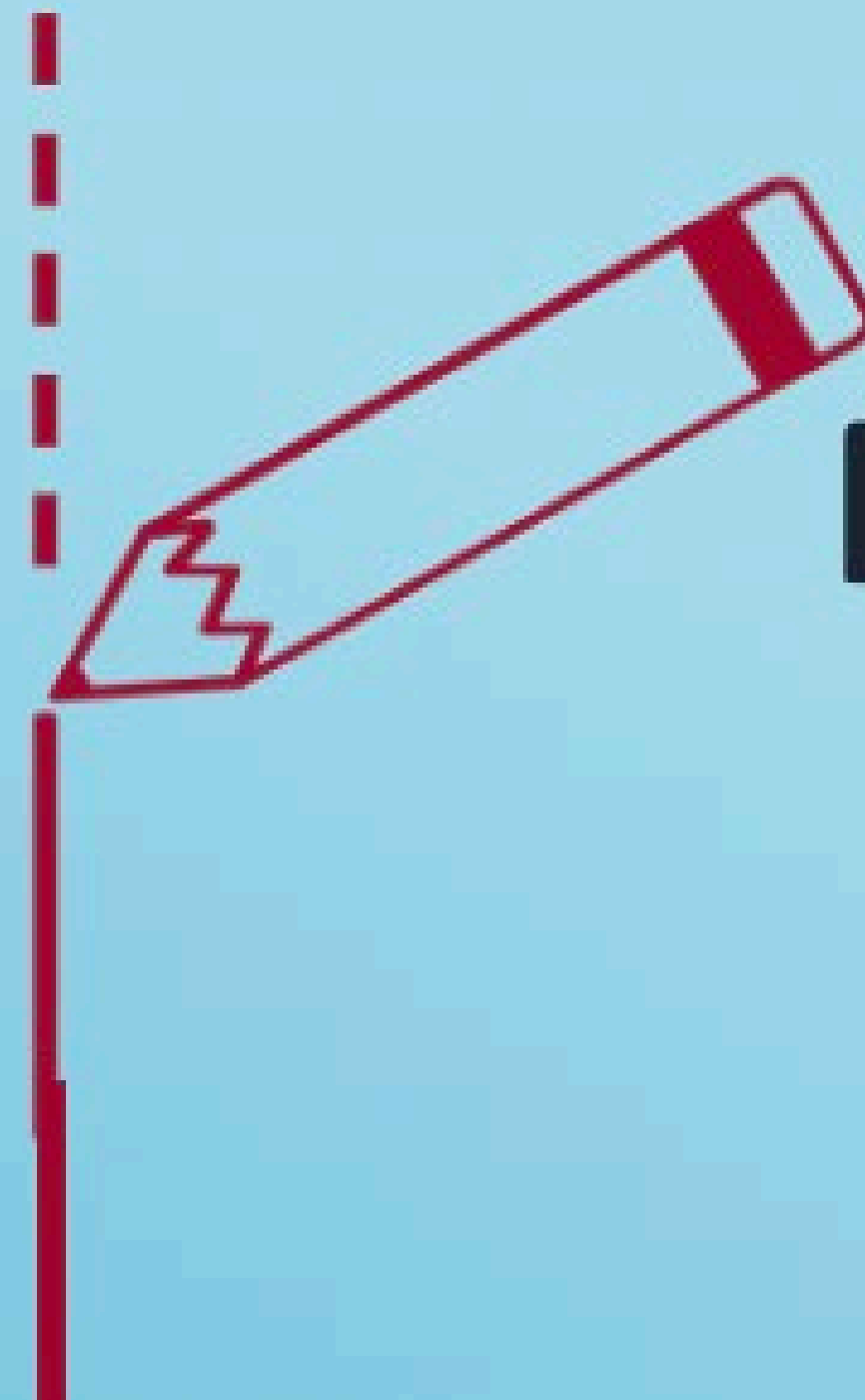
- *Prevalence:* About 5–8 percent of public school students in the United States have MLD
- *Students with MLD tend to:*
 - Have persistent difficulties with math facts
 - Use problem-solving procedures that younger students use
 - Make frequent errors when executing procedures
 - Have a poor understanding of foundational concepts.
- *Possible causes:*
 - Underdeveloped cognitive structures, which are the mental processes necessary to connect new information with prior knowledge
 - Memory deficits related to working memory

(Geary, 2004, 2011)

MLD research issues

Lack of consensus about where to draw the line between:

**Mathematics
Disabilities**



**Mathematics
Difficulties**

(Lewis & Fisher, 2016)

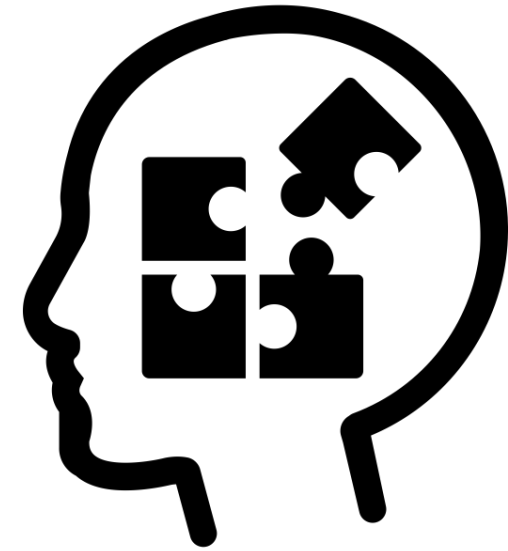
Mathematics difficulties



- Number sense
- Fluency with math facts
- Problem solving
- Word problems
- Moving from concrete to abstract
- Making generalizations
- Applying strategies to new situations
- Reflecting on thinking—metacognition

(Allsop et al., 2018)

Students who struggle with mathematics over time may:



- Experience mathematics anxiety
- Have learned helplessness
- Take a passive approach to learning
- Become discouraged easily
- Not know how to ask for help
- Try to hide that they are having difficulty.

(Allsop et al., 2018)

Research on dyslexia and mathematics

- Common difficulties: memorization, math facts
- Areas of strength: 3-D spatial thinking, complex reasoning, patterns, making connections, thinking in narratives – related to mathematical proofs

(Attree et al., 2009; Eide & Eide, 2012; Everatt et al., 2008; Trott, 2015)

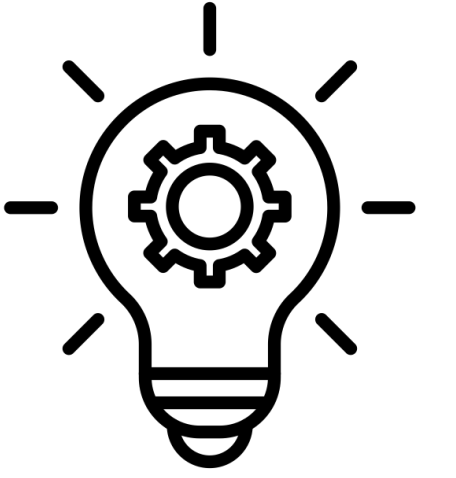
“As a dyslexic, I’ve never been good at calculations or recalling rote facts like times tables. Here’s the thing: beyond a certain point in mathematics, it’s not really about calculations... Geometry class was when math became interesting, and easier for me. Suddenly I was in a world, not of strands of symbols to be processed, but of shape, space, lines, angles, concepts, and narrative-like proofs. Suddenly everything made sense.”

PhD mathematician in topology who has dyslexia and ADHD

Source: <https://toomai.wordpress.com/2014/09/17/dyslexic-mathematician/>.

(Lewis & Lynn, 2018)

PL #3. Promote strengths-based approaches to math teaching for students with disabilities



In professional learning with teachers, it's helpful to:

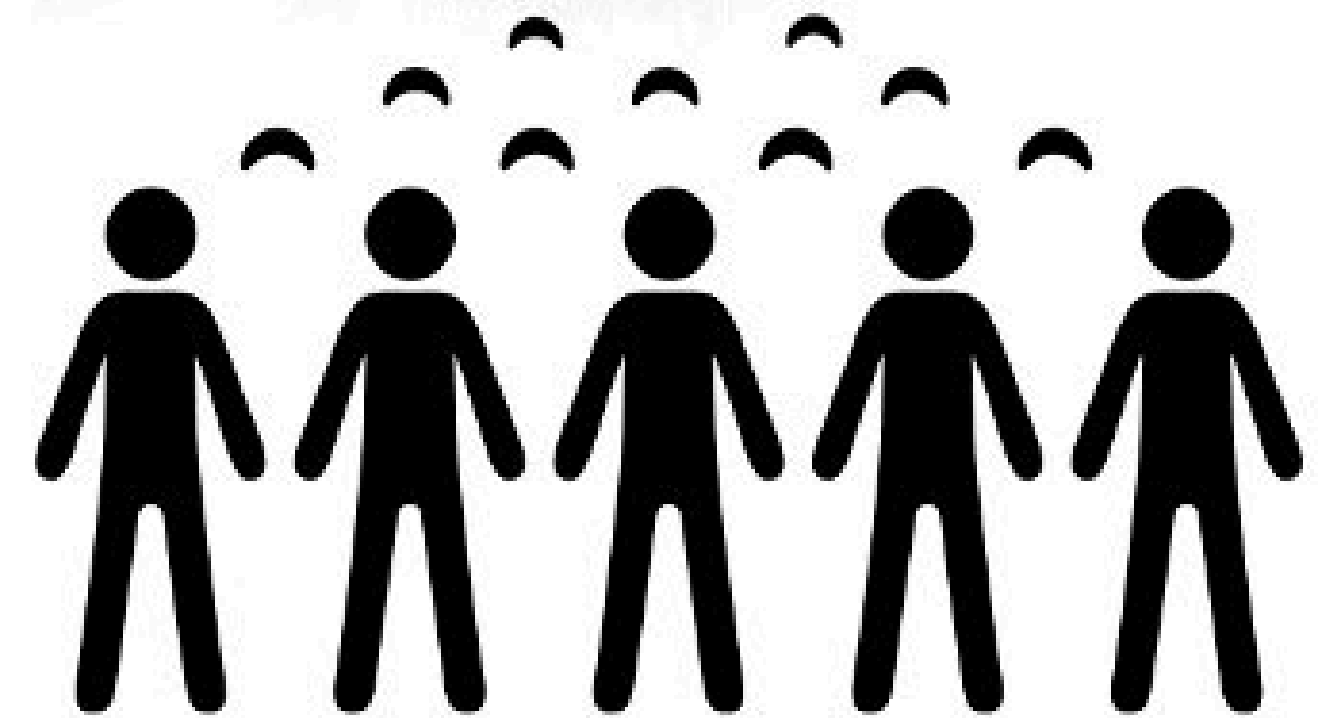
- Shift mindsets away from deficit models of students with disabilities.
- Communicate the importance of strengths-based approaches.
- Address myths about learning math and students with disabilities, such as:
 - Myth: some people are “math people” and some are not.
 - Myth: students with learning disabilities do not benefit from multiple strategies and should be shown only one way to learn.

Resource: Example slides 26–28

(Lambert, 2018; Kobett & Karp, 2020)

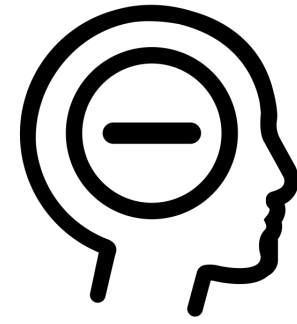
Neurodiversity of learners

- We all learn differently.
- Students with disabilities are part of a **continuum** of learners.
- Move away from viewing disabilities as deficits.

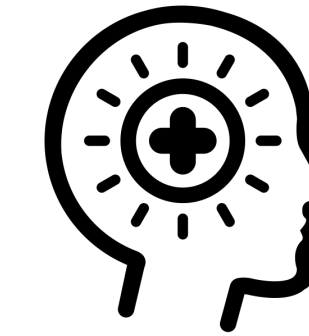
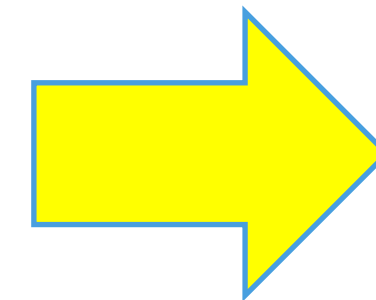


(Lambert, 2018)

Essential shifts

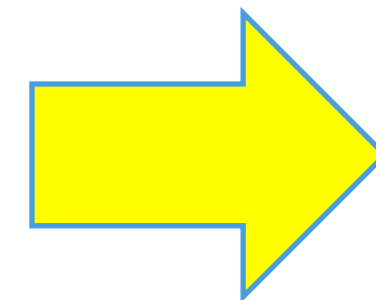


**Deficit Models
of Students with Disabilities**



**Strengths-Based
Approaches**

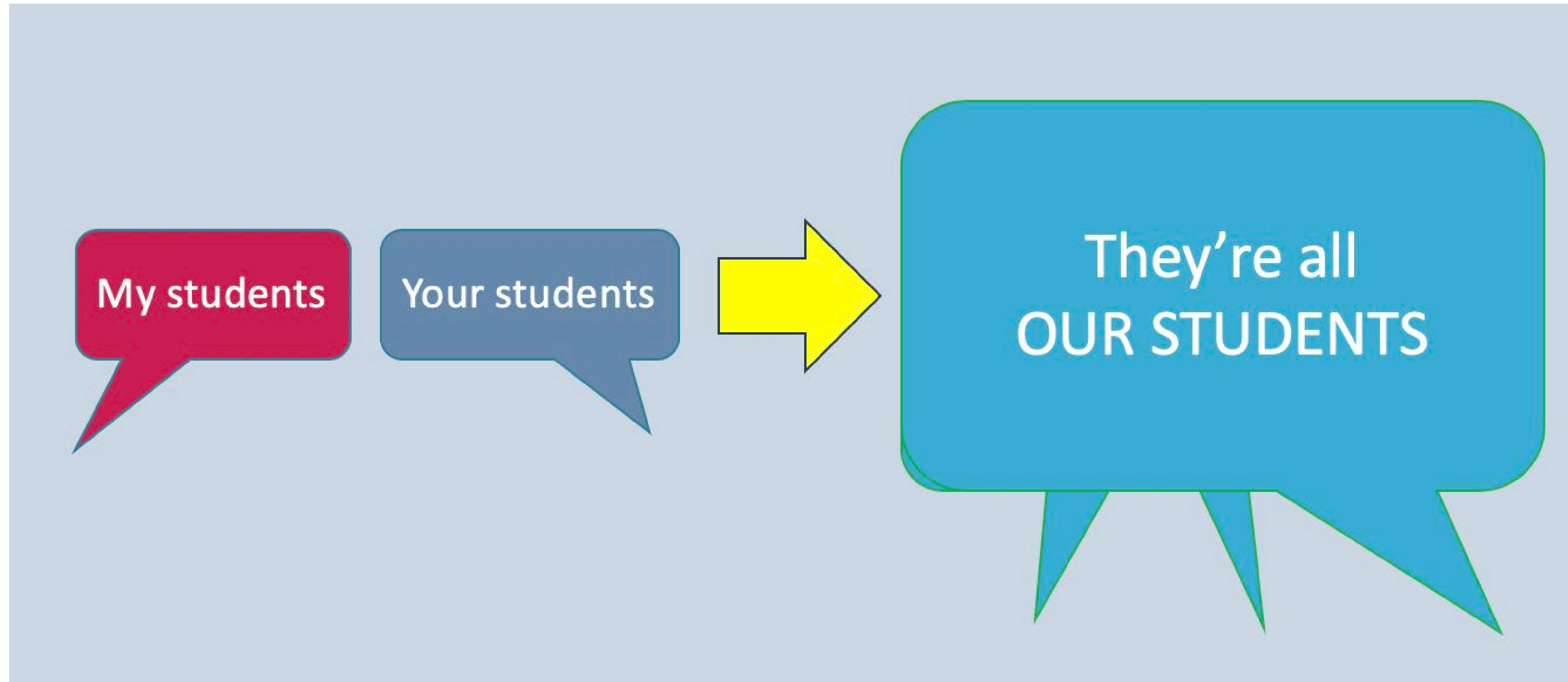
**Making Assumptions
that Students *Cannot* Do Mathematics**



**Uncovering and Respecting
Student Thinking**

(Brodesky et al. 2020; Lambert, 2018)

General educators & special educators need to work together

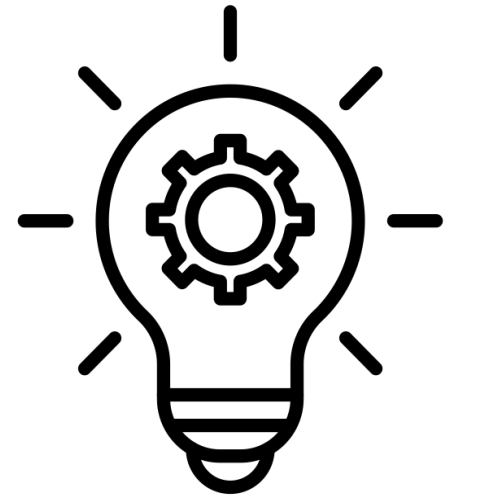


(Bottge et al., 2015; Brodesky, 2020; Brodesky et al. 2020; Geary et al., 2012; Hourcade & Bauwens, 2001; Pashler et al., 2007)

Section 2. High-quality, accessible mathematics instruction



Professional learning (PL) suggestions for this section



PL#4. Build a shared vision of high-quality, accessible, and inclusive mathematics instruction.

PL#5. Use common language and clarify terms.

5A. Modifications

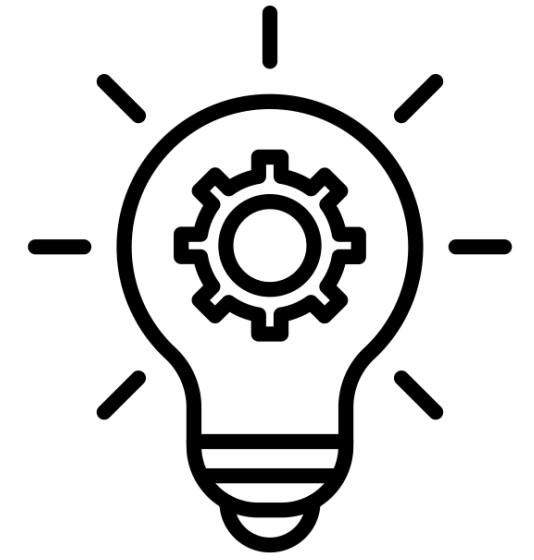
5B. Accommodations

5C. Scaffolding vs. Accommodations

5D. Scaffolding Suggestions

(Allsopp et al., 2018; Brodesky, 2016)

PL #4. Build a shared vision of high-quality, accessible, and inclusive mathematics instruction



Example professional learning activity: Imagine that you are visiting a mathematics class. *What would you look for as evidence of high-quality accessible mathematics instruction?*

Write ideas for each prompt on a sheet of paper.

1. What would you hope to **see**? Teachers... Students...
2. What would you hope to **hear**? Teachers.... Students...
3. What would the classroom environment **feel** like?

High-quality, accessible mathematics instruction

- ▶ Meets the needs of a range of learners while maintaining the integrity of the math.
- ▶ Teaches math in a way that builds conceptual understanding, reasoning, and sense-making
- ▶ Provides opportunities to experience joy in doing math and to struggle productively.
- ▶ Helps build positive identities as math thinkers and doers.
- ▶ Sets high expectations for student learning.
- ▶ Provides accommodations and support while helping to build independence.
- ▶ Uses research-based instructional strategies for supporting students with math disabilities/difficulties.

(Allsopp et al., 2018; Brodesky, 2016)

PL #4. Build a shared vision by discussing recommendations from leaders in the field

Equity Principle

“Excellence in mathematics education requires equity—high expectations and strong support for all students.”

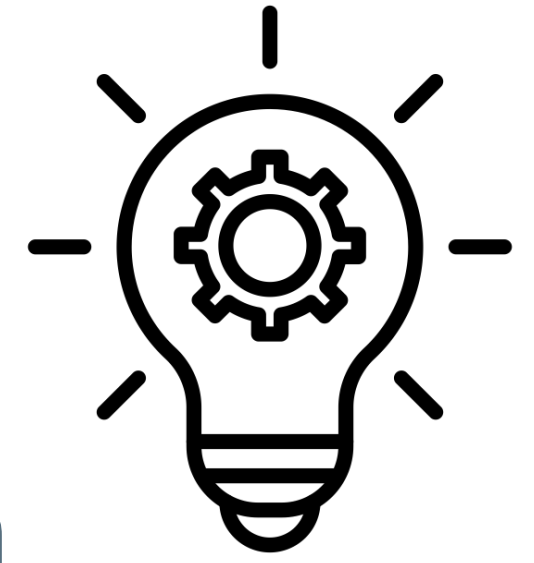
“Equity does not mean that every student should receive identical instruction; instead, it demands that reasonable and appropriate accommodations be made as needed to promote access and attainment for all students.”

(National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, 2000)

“Teachers so want their students to succeed that they sometimes fall into the trap of doing the work, and the thinking, for their students. However, as tempting as it is to show students how to perform the mathematics before releasing them to try it on their own so they do not have to struggle, **it is imperative that teachers allow all learners, including those who struggle, to make sense of and reason about the mathematics on their own first.**”

(Dixon et al., 2019, p. 11)

PL #5. Use common language & clarify terms



A modification changes what a student is taught or expected to learn.

–Changes the mathematics goals

An accommodation changes *how* a student learns the material.

–Keeps the mathematics goals; provides support to help students *access* mathematics tasks and reach goals

Professional learning suggestions:

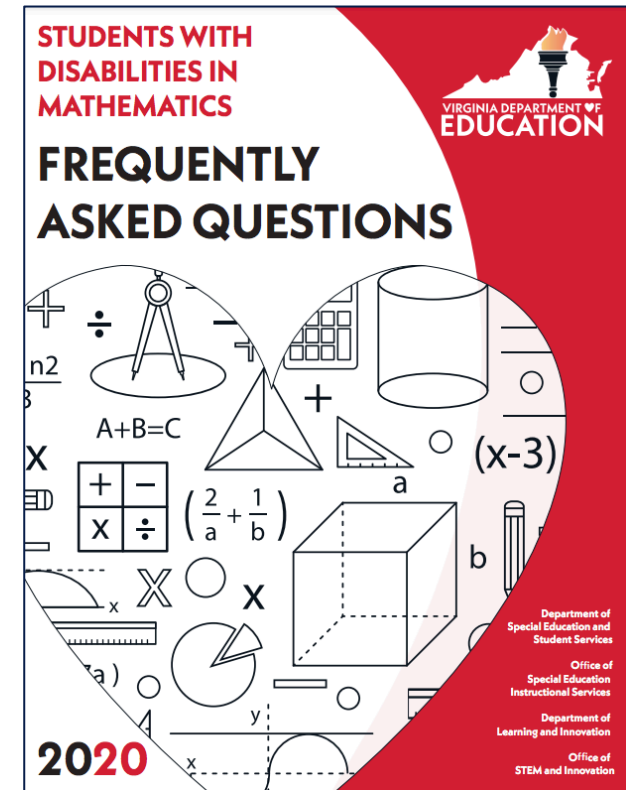
- Clarify terms
- Provide and discuss relevant examples and non-examples

Understood for All (2021). *Difference between accommodations and modifications*. Understood.org. <https://www.understood.org/articles/en/the-difference-between-accommodations-and-modifications>

PL #5A. Modifications

Example points to review with teachers:

- Modifications are typically made for students with significant disabilities.
- Modifications are focused on the individual student's IEP goals.
- Student may be working on objectives below grade level, but the subject should be the same as for the rest of the class. For example:
 - If a student is working on developing knowledge about addition and the class is practicing addition and subtraction facts, have the student focus solely on addition.
 - If a fourth-grade class is solving word problems but a student is at a second-grade level, modify the word problem's content to align with the second-grade standards. Use the [Mathematics Vertical Articulation Tool](#) (MVAT) as a resource.



(VDOE, 2020a, 2020b)

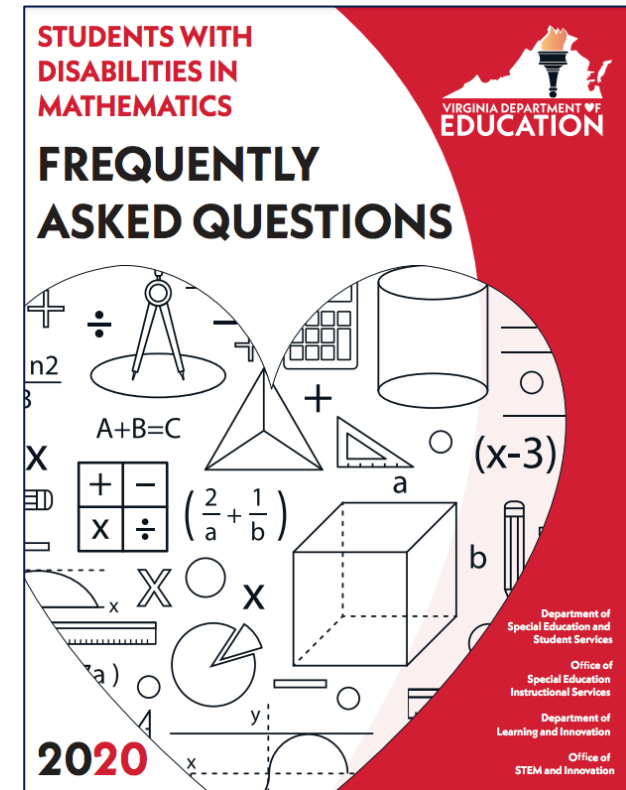
PL #5B. Accommodations

Student Difficulty	Math Tasks: Potential Barriers	Accommodations
Reading difficulties	Word problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read aloud•
Fine motor difficulties	Manipulatives and diagrams	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a larger manipulative•
Difficulty staying focused	Student handout with multiple problems on page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give fewer problems at a time•
Auditory processing difficulties	Verbal directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give visual and verbal directions•

(Brodesky et al., 2002)

Resource: Examples of accommodations

[Table of Accommodations](#) with examples for different student difficulties



Challenge Areas: Language & Reading; Memory; Processing Speed & Response Time, Visual-Spatial Processing, Fine Motor Skills, Executive Functioning Skills; Attention, Psycho-Social

SPECIFIC DIFFICULTIES	ACCOMMODATIONS	INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following and understanding verbal directions; giving directions Using and understanding vocabulary (multiple meanings, similarities/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read text aloud to students Create digital versions of pencil/paper documents Use an audio recorder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present instructions both orally and in written form with visual cues Keep oral and written instructions short and simple

Based on EDC's *Addressing Accessibility in Mathematics* project and other sources (e.g., Brodesky et al., 2002)

PL #5C. Accommodations vs. scaffolding

Accommodations: Provide *access* to mathematics tasks, such as larger print. Accommodations are specified by student's IEPs.

Scaffolding Strategies: Provide tailored supports based on students' current level of understanding with the goal of advancing their learning; scaffolding provides support without giving too much away. Scaffolding strategies are useful for *all* students.

Examples of Scaffolding:

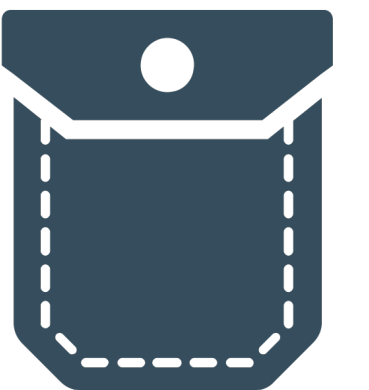
- Help students get started and connect to what they already know
- Help students stay on track rather than showing them how to solve the problem
- Ask students questions to help them access the problem at their level of understanding
- Nudge students toward working independently

(Dixon et al., 2019)

PL #5D. Suggestions for scaffolding

- **Use Just-in-Time scaffolding:** Start by encouraging students to problem-solve and reason about the mathematics to see what they already know. Once teachers have a clear idea of what students understand, they can make the scaffolding much more precise and targeted to students' needs.
- **Avoid Just-in-Case scaffolding:** A “just-in-case” strategy is suggesting a strategy *before* providing students with the time to discover strategies for solving the task on their own.
- **Anticipate potential difficulties but keep strategies in your back pocket.**

(Dixon et al., 2019, p. 13)



Section 3. Research-Recommended Instructional Practices



Guiding questions for this section

Learn about recommendations

- **What** are the evidence-based recommendations in the IES Practice Guide?
- **Why** are they important for students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties?

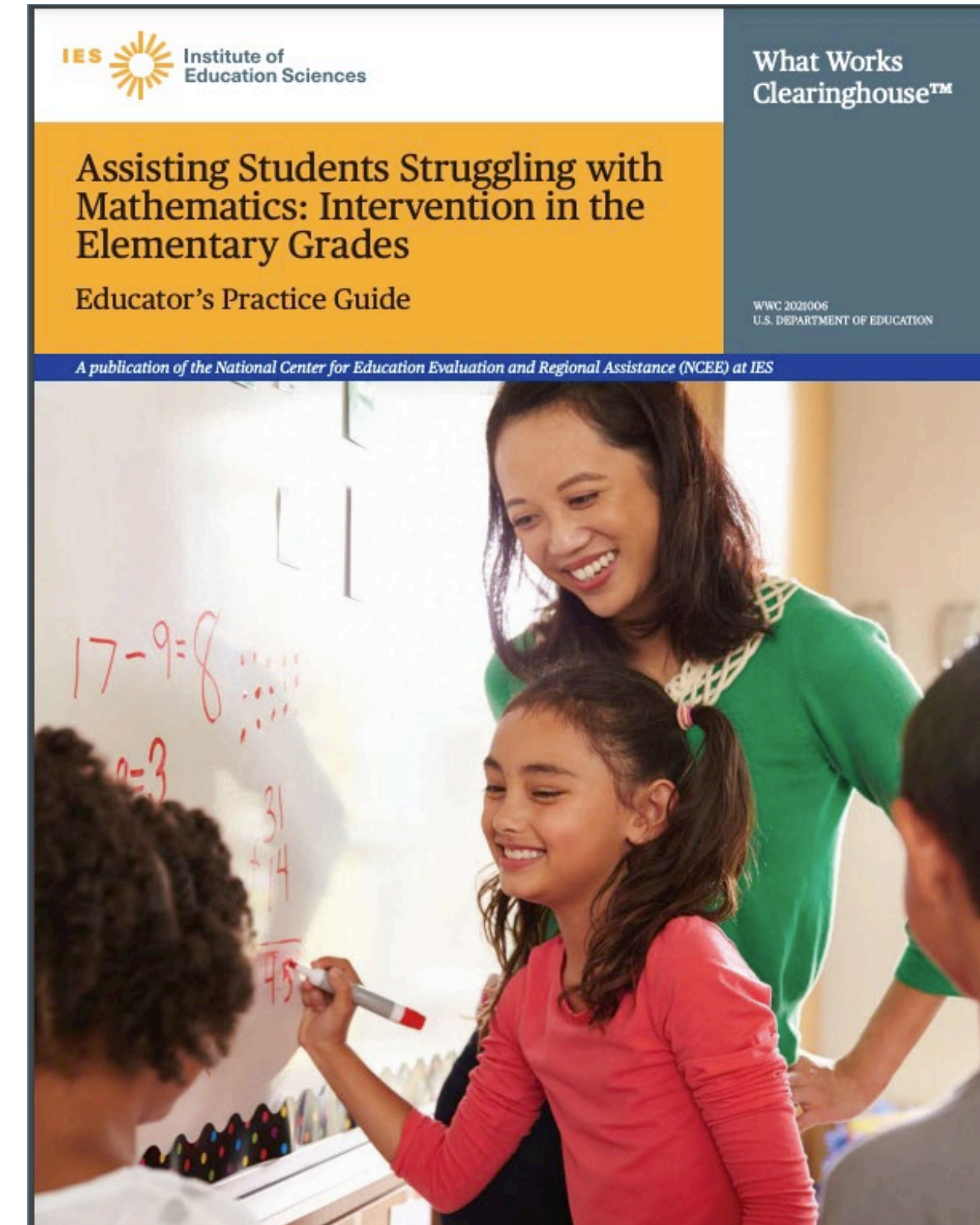
Identify focus practices for future professional learning

- **Reflect on current practices:** To what extent are teachers using these evidence-based practices?
- **Which evidence-based practice(s)** might you want to focus on in **future professional learning** with teachers?

IES practice guide: *Assisting Students Struggling with Mathematics*

Evidence-Based Recommendations

1. Systematic Instruction
2. Mathematical Language
3. Representations
4. Number Lines
5. Word Problems
6. Timed Activities



(Fuchs et al., 2021)

Crosswalk of recommendations

IES Practice Guide

1. Systematic Instruction

2. Mathematical Language

3. Representations

4. Number Lines

5. Word Problems

6. Timed Activities

VDOE Resource Guides

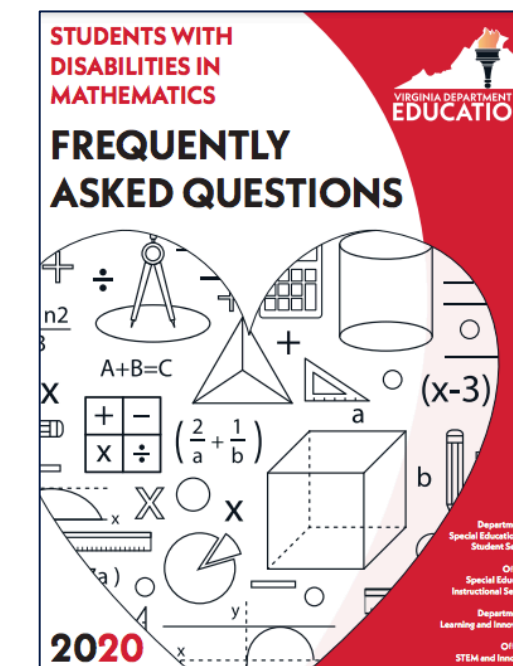
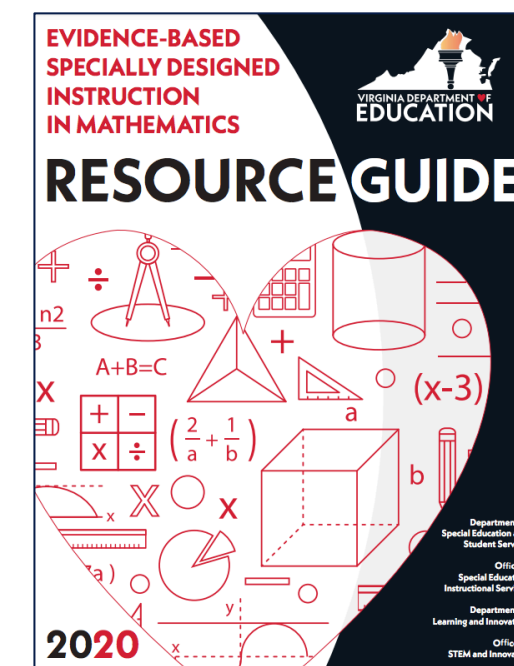
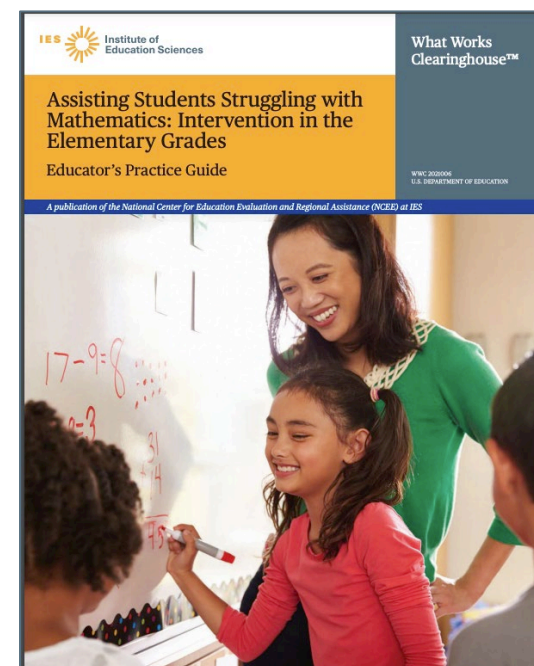
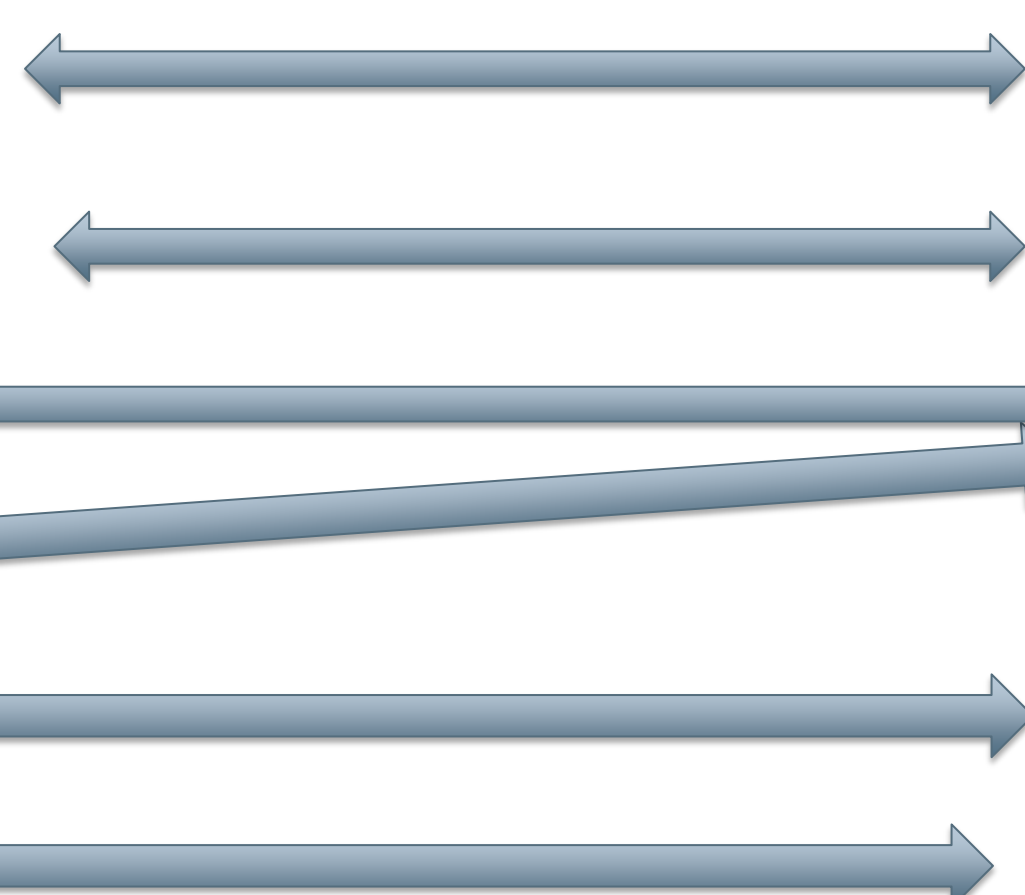
1. Explicit Instruction

2. Formal Mathematical Language

3. Concrete, Representational, & Abstract Connections

4. Word Problem Solving

5. Fact and Computational Fluency



*(Fuchs et al., 2021;
VDOE, 2020a,
2020b)*

Professional learning (PL) suggestions for this section

PL #6. Strengthen teachers' mathematical language practices

PL #7. Strengthen teachers' use of manipulatives

PL #8. Build teachers' practices for using representations (concrete, semi-concrete, abstract)

PL #9. Engage teachers in number line activities

PL #10. Strengthen understanding of word problems types

10A. Explain why key word approach should be avoided

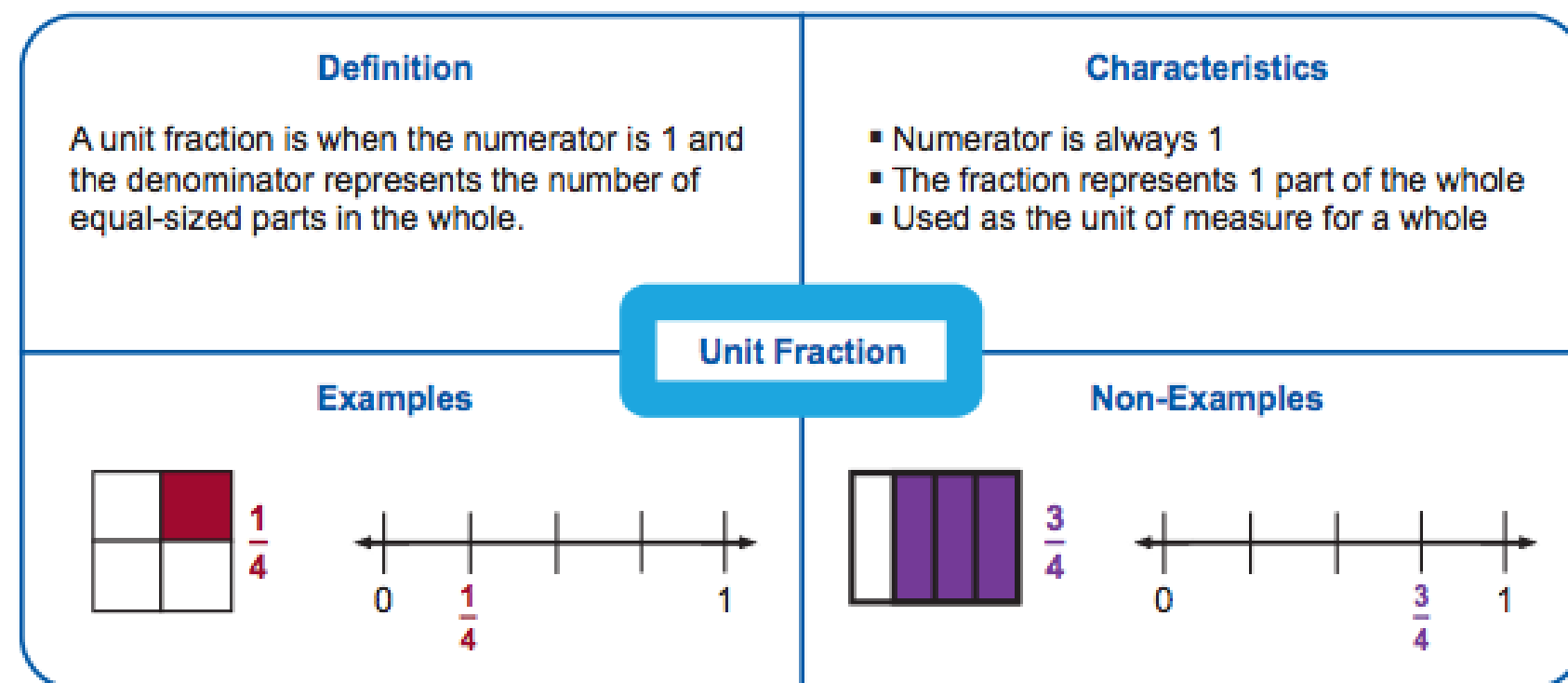
10B. Explore different ways to help students with word problems

(Fuchs et al. 2021)

Practice Guide Recommendation 2: Mathematical language

1. Routinely teach mathematical vocabulary to build students' understanding of the mathematics they are learning.

Graphic Organizer



Word Wall

Equivalent

$$\frac{75}{100} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$0.75 = \frac{3}{4}$$

Mixed Number

$$\frac{16}{10} = 1\frac{6}{10} = 1.6$$

2. Use clear, concise, and correct mathematical language throughout lessons to reinforce students' understanding of important mathematical vocabulary words.
3. Support students in using mathematically precise language during their verbal and written explanations of their problem solving.

(Fuchs et al., 2021)

Complexities of mathematics vocabulary

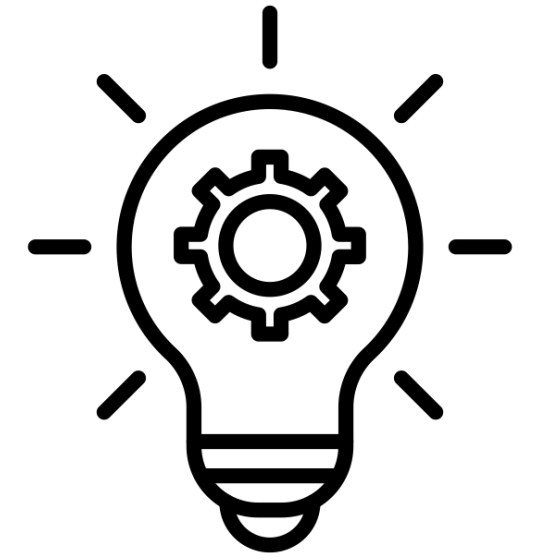
Some terms...

- Are shared with everyday English but have distinct meanings in mathematics
 - *right, volume, expression*
- Sound like everyday English words
 - *sum and some*
- Have more than one meaning in mathematics
 - *square, round*
- Are related and often confused
 - *mean and median; factor and multiple*

What mathematical terms do your students find confusing?

(Rubenstein, 2007)

PL #6. Strengthen teachers' mathematical language practices



Suggestions for teachers:

1. Use formal mathematical terms that are consistent across grade levels.
2. Be precise and specific when using mathematical terms.
3. Plan for language use in lessons.
 - Incorporate vocabulary activities.
 - Provide opportunities for students to speak and write about mathematics using formal mathematical language.
4. Hold students accountable for using formal mathematical language correctly.
5. Listen for students' use of mathematical language and provide feedback.

(Fuchs et. al, 2021; Powell et al., 2018; VDOE, 2020)

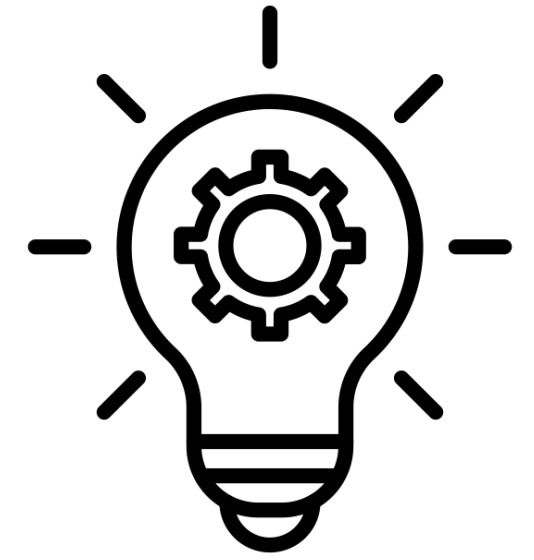
Resource: [VDOE Guide](#)

- VDOE Guide’s table shows formal mathematical terms to use instead of informal ones.

INSTEAD OF THAT.....	SAY THIS.....
Numbers in the Fraction <u>Problem:</u> Language suggests that each part of a fraction (i.e., numerator, denominator) is a separate and independent number instead of a digit (or series of digits) that comprise a fraction.	This fraction is a number <u>Solution:</u> A fraction is a number in itself and has a magnitude on a number line. A fraction is not two separate numbers.
Top number and bottom number <u>Problem:</u> This suggests that the numerator and denominator are separate and independent numbers.	Numerator and Denominator <u>Solution:</u> A fraction is a number with a specific magnitude that can be represented on a number line. While a fraction may have different parts, these parts do not work in isolation but rather contribute to one number – the fraction.
Two over three <u>Problem:</u> This communicates the location of the digits but not the actual number and magnitude.	e.g., Two-Thirds <u>Solution:</u> This is accurate and communicates the magnitude of the number.

(VDOE, 2020a)

PL #6. Strengthen teachers' mathematical language practices



Examples of professional learning activities

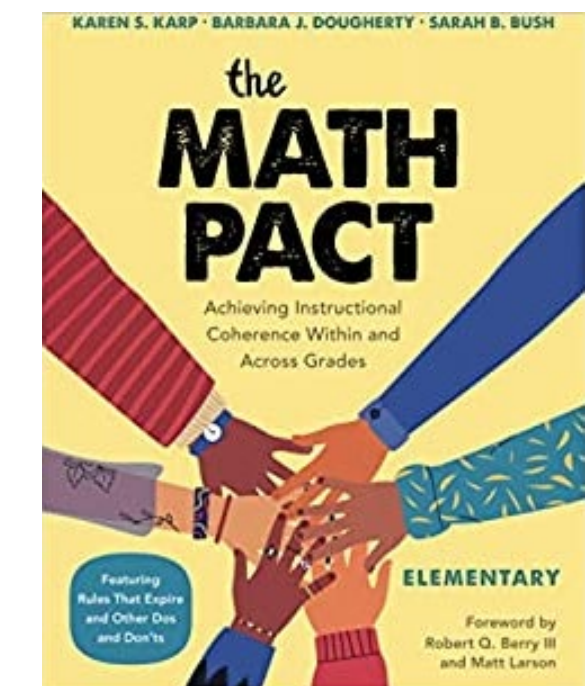
1. Article Discussions

- Discuss a “Rules that Expire” article for your grade level (elementary, middle, or high school) from the NCTM Journals.

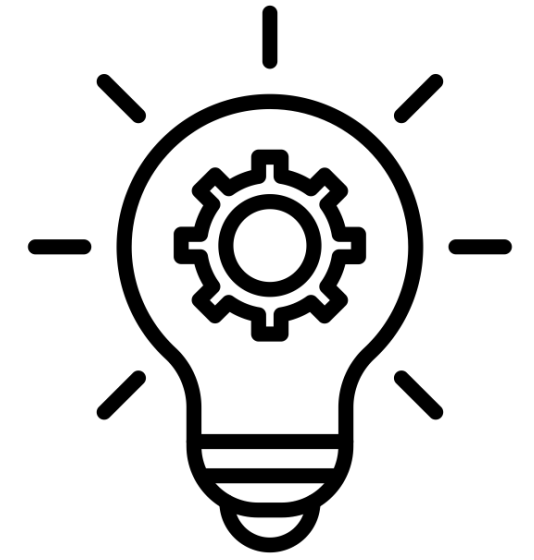


2. Whole School Agreement (Math Pact):

- Facilitate collaborative sessions with teachers to identify consistent math terms to use across grade levels.



PL #6. Strengthen teachers' mathematical language practices, cont.



Focus on Common Pitfalls

- Vocabulary terms are taught in isolation
- Word Walls become wallpaper
- A lot of time is spent on creating vocabulary tools, such as student-created dictionaries, but then they are not used

Brainstorm and Discussion Suggestions

- Set expectations for using mathematical language, “I’m going to listen for...”
- Plan and teach lessons to incorporate active use of vocabulary tools

(Brodesky et al., 2019; Fuchs et al., 2021)

Discuss: Why is it important to promote student communication?

When students share their ideas ...

- They solidify mathematical understandings
- They find mistakes and correct them
- Teachers gain insight into their mathematical thinking
- It helps build a learning community

Discuss: *Why might students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties be hesitant to share their ideas in class?*



(Brodesky et al., 2019)

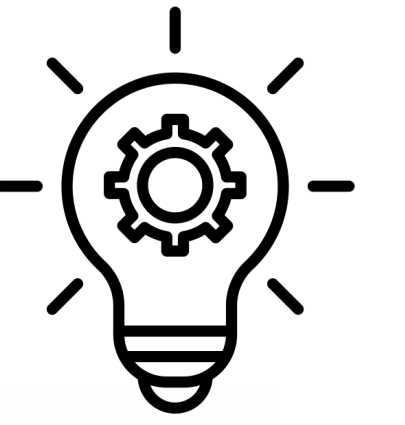
Student participation is an issue of equity

Low-achieving students tend to participate less in class discussion and make fewer mathematical contributions than their higher-performing peers.

Equitable participation can be promoted through teachers' use of classroom structures, high expectations, resources, such as concrete materials, and other supports.

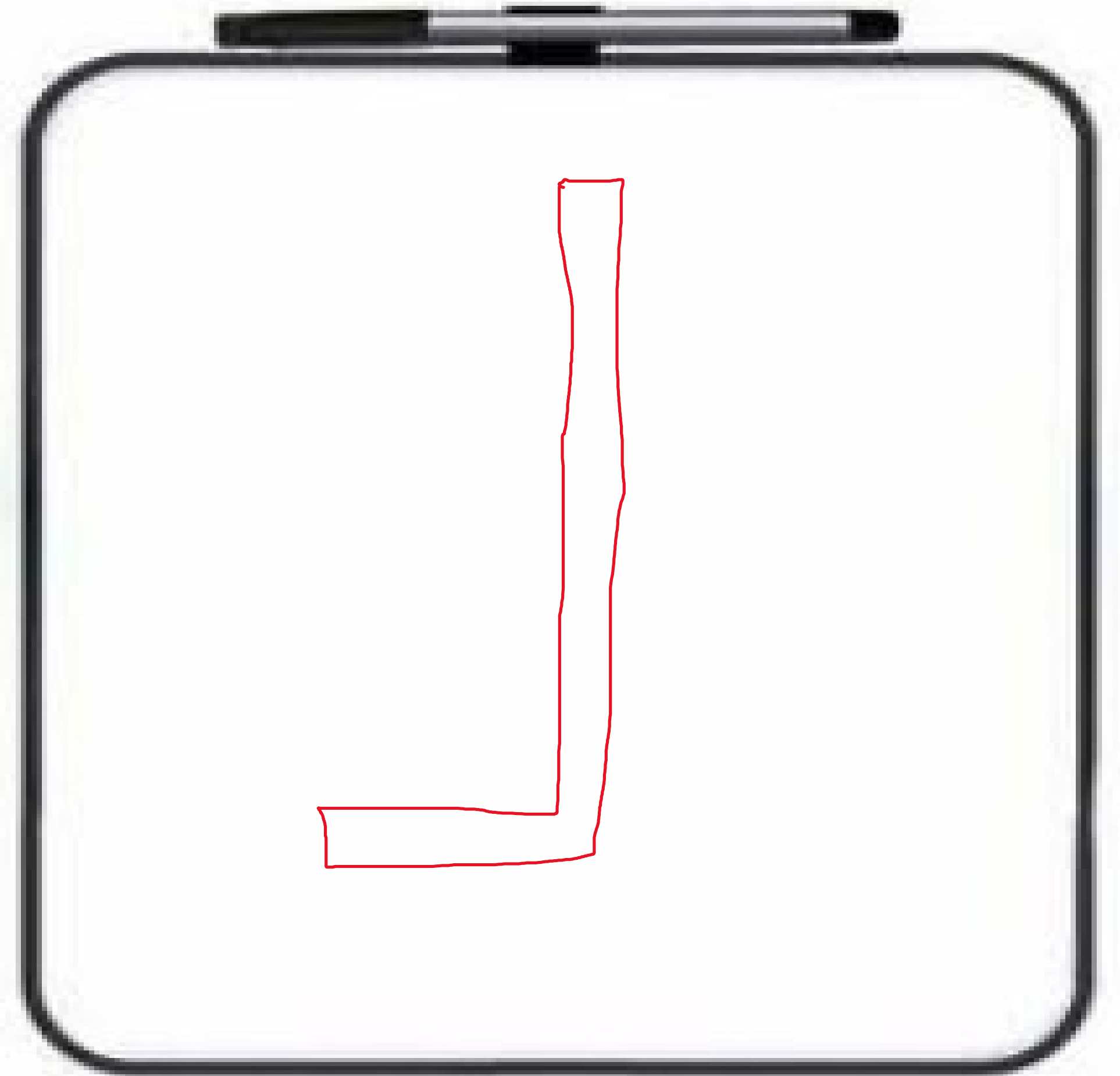
(Baxter et al., 2001; Foote & Lambert, 2011)

Example PL #6 activity: Mini-whiteboard questioning



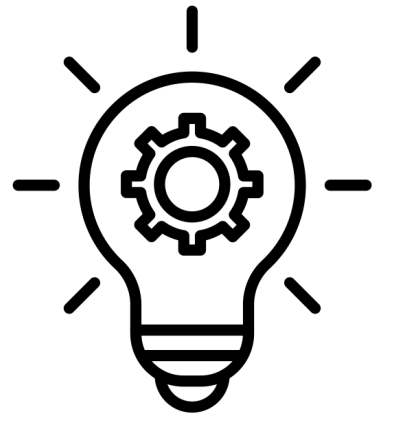
“Show me an example of...”

- *A shape that has a large perimeter and a small area*
 - *Two integers that have a sum of -3*
 - *Two fractions that have a product $> \frac{1}{2}$*



(Swan, 2005)

Example PL #6 activity: Using sentence starters and frames



Sentence Starters and Stems

- “First, I did... ”
- “I agree because... ”
- “I know this makes sense because... ”

Sentence Frames

“ I chose the fraction _____ because it is _____ than $\frac{1}{2}$. ”

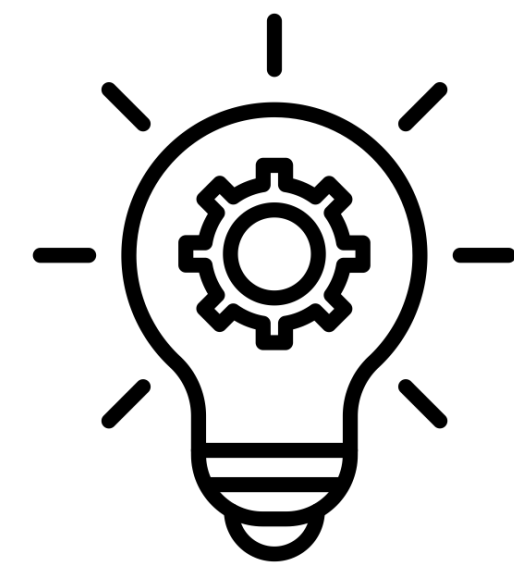
(Brodesky et al., 2019)



Recommendation 3: Representations

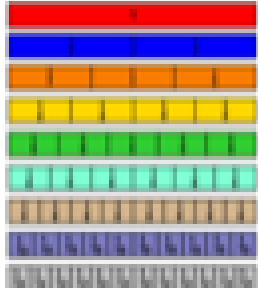

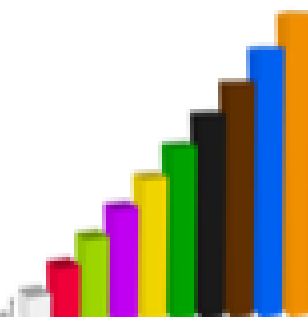
Use a well-chosen set of concrete and semi-concrete representations to support students' learning of mathematical concepts and procedures.

(Fuchs et al., 2021)



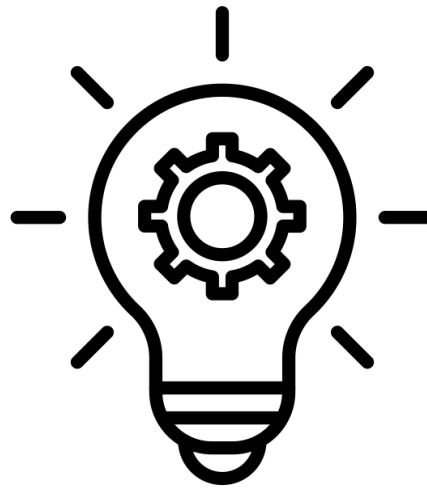
PL #7. Strengthen teachers' use of manipulatives

- During professional learning sessions, engage teachers in using different types of manipulatives— start with concrete, physical manipulatives and then move to virtual manipulatives.
- Helpful resources for manipulatives:
 - [VDOE \(2020a\), Appendix C: Mathematics Instructional Connections for Physical and Visual Representations](#)
 - Virtual Manipulatives, such as [Math Learning Center Free Apps](#)

REPRESENTATION			CONTENT CONNECTIONS
Fraction Models			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Represent fractions (area or length model)• Equivalent fractions• Compare and order fractions• Operations with fractions <p><i>Challenges or limitations could include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modeling certain fractions
Bars	Circles	Rods	
			

(Brodesky et al., 2019)

PL #7. Strengthen teachers' use of manipulatives

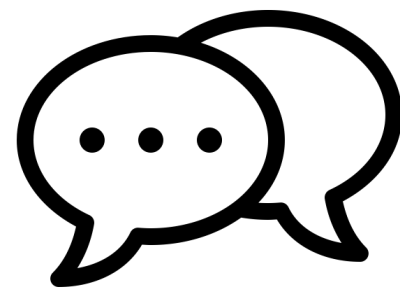


Professional learning activity suggestions

- Provide rich tasks for teachers to solve by using manipulatives and then discuss the mathematical ideas that the manipulatives help to bring out
- Discuss strengths and limitations of specific manipulatives for a chosen math topic.
- Compare manipulatives by having teachers using different ones for the same task.

Address common concerns from teachers about manipulatives

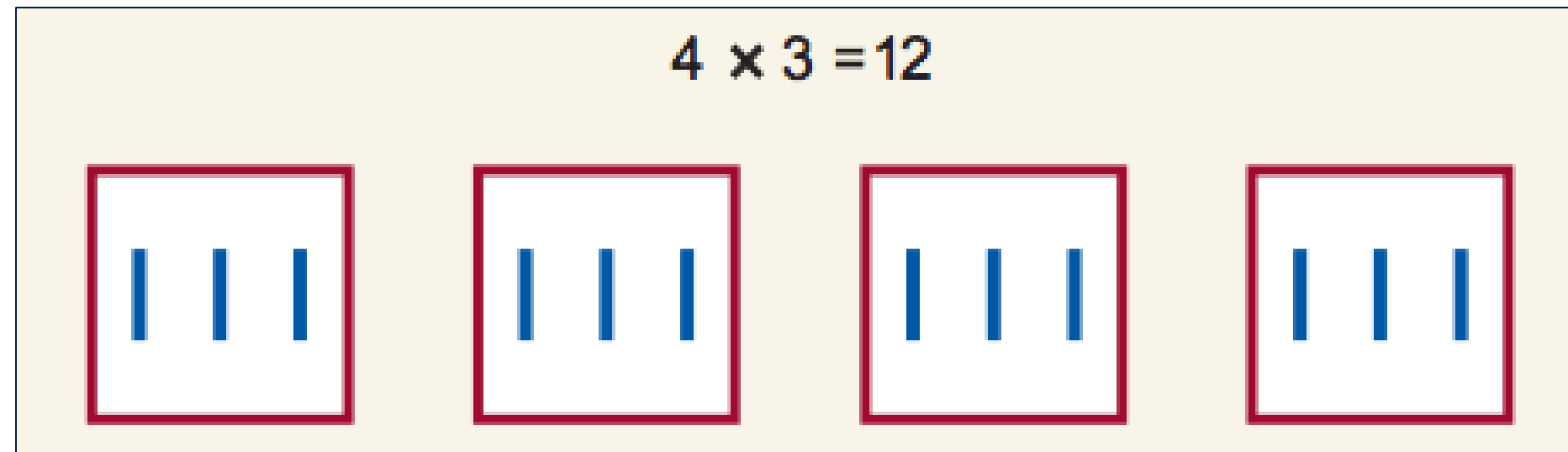
- “Takes too much time”
- “What if students start throwing the manipulatives...”
- “Middle grades students may think the manipulatives are for younger kids”



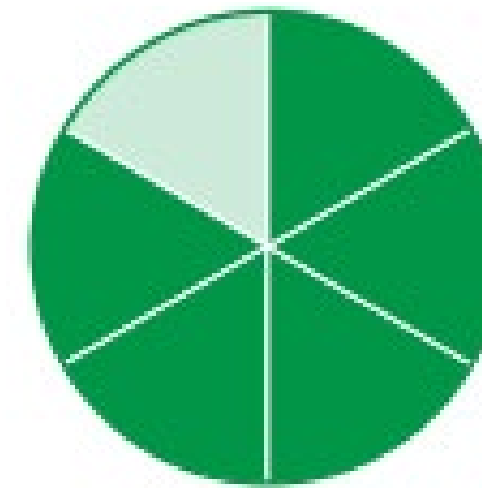
Let's discuss ways to address these concerns. What would you suggest to teachers?

(Brodesky et al., 2019)

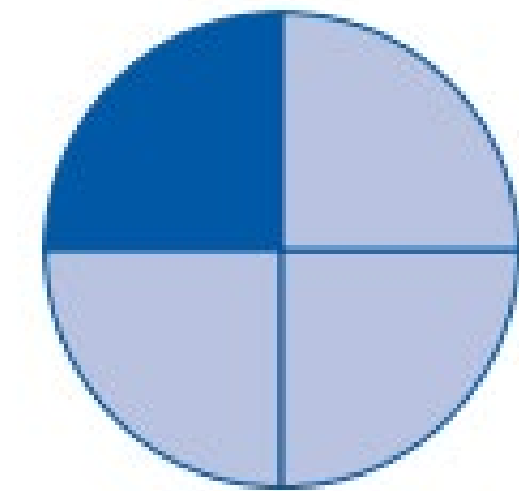
Recommendation 3, cont.: Use semi-concrete representations



$$\frac{5}{6}$$



$$\frac{1}{4}$$



Concrete	Semi-concrete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • base 10 blocks • connecting cubes • Cuisenaire rods® • beads • two-colored counters • beans and cup • 1-inch tiles • balances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hundreds chart • 5 frames, 10 frames, double 10 frames • strip diagrams • arrays

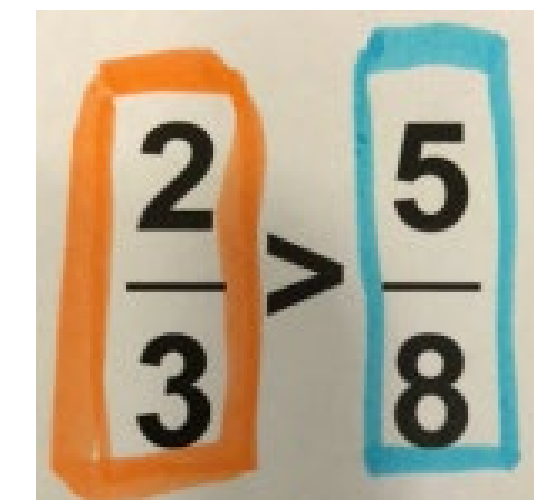
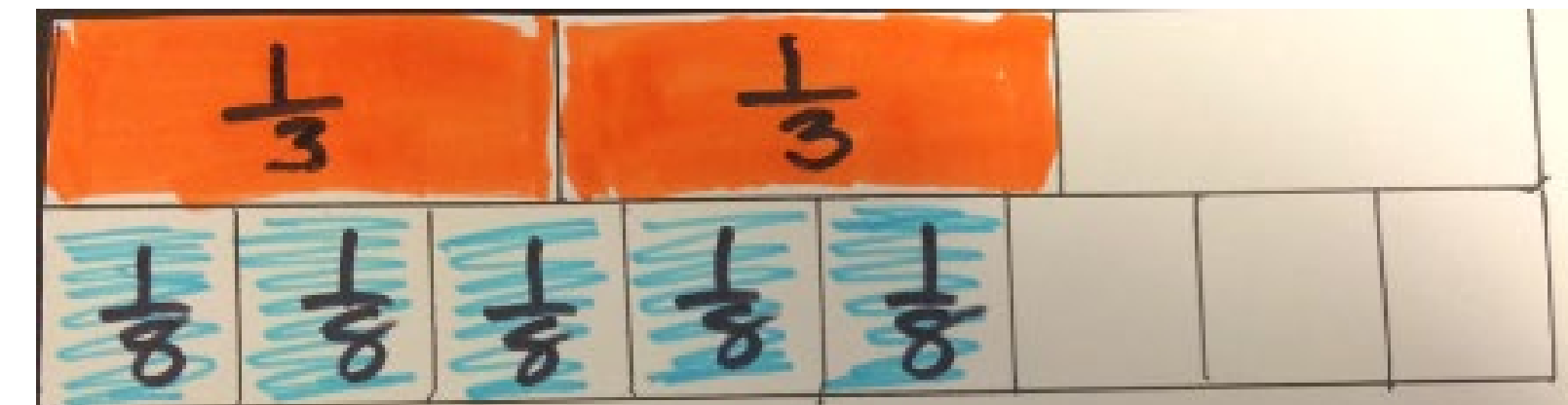
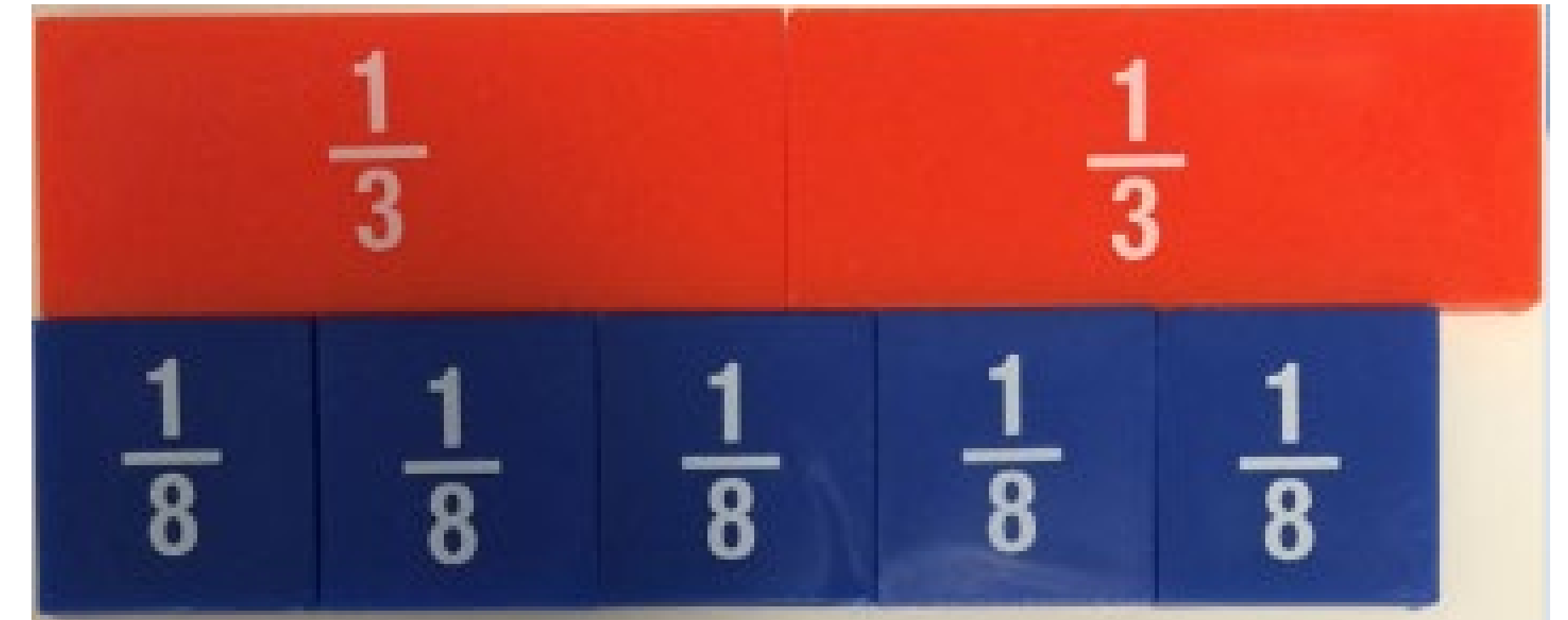
(Fuchs et al., 2021)

(Fuchs et al., 2021)

Concrete—Semi-Concrete—Abstract (CSA) approach

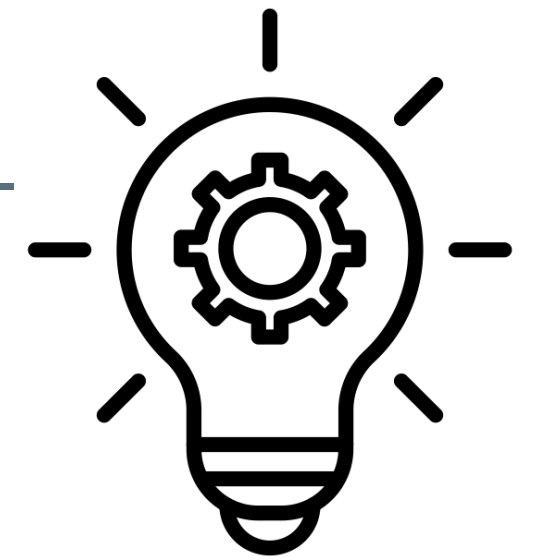
*Example for comparing fractions:
Which is greater $\frac{2}{3}$ or $\frac{5}{8}$?*

- Concrete: fraction bar manipulatives
- Semi-Concrete: drawing of fractions
- Abstract: numeric



(Brodesky et al. 2016)

PL #8. Build teachers' practices for using the concrete— semi-concrete—abstract (CSA) approach



Suggestions for teachers:

- Help students build meaningful understanding of each level.
- Have students work with and connect the representations: Use of CSA does *not* need to be sequential.
- Make strategic use of color to connect representations, as shown in the prior example with the consistent use of **orange** for thirds and **blue** for eighths.
- Use consistent language across the representations.
- Incorporate concrete and semi-concrete tasks in assessments (not just abstract). For example, students use manipulatives to solve a problem and take a photo to document their work or make a drawing of this solution.

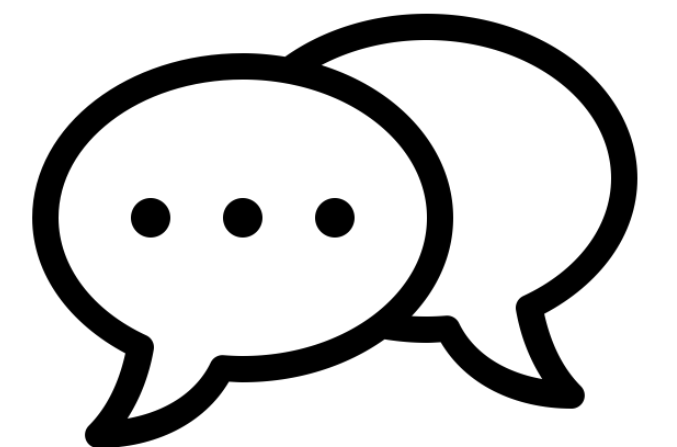
(Brodesky et al., 2016; Allsopp et al.)

Recommendation 4: Number lines

Example professional learning introductory activity

Let's start by connecting to our experiences with number lines:

1. *Think about:* What are ways that you use number lines in mathematics?
What are number lines particularly helpful for?
2. List ideas on a sheet of paper.
3. Share what you wrote.



Number lines are an important tool for...

- Magnitude and operations for both whole numbers and fractions
- Elapsed time problems
- Displaying and analyzing data
- Temperature and how to read thermometers, linear spring scales, or depth charts [vertical]
- Graphing coordinates on coordinate grids

Research highlights

- Consistent use of number lines can help students build understanding of the number system and improve their overall mathematics performance across a variety of mathematics content.
- An intervention program that strongly emphasized the number line representation for fractions found larger gains for at-risk learners than did a program that focused primarily on the part-whole approach.

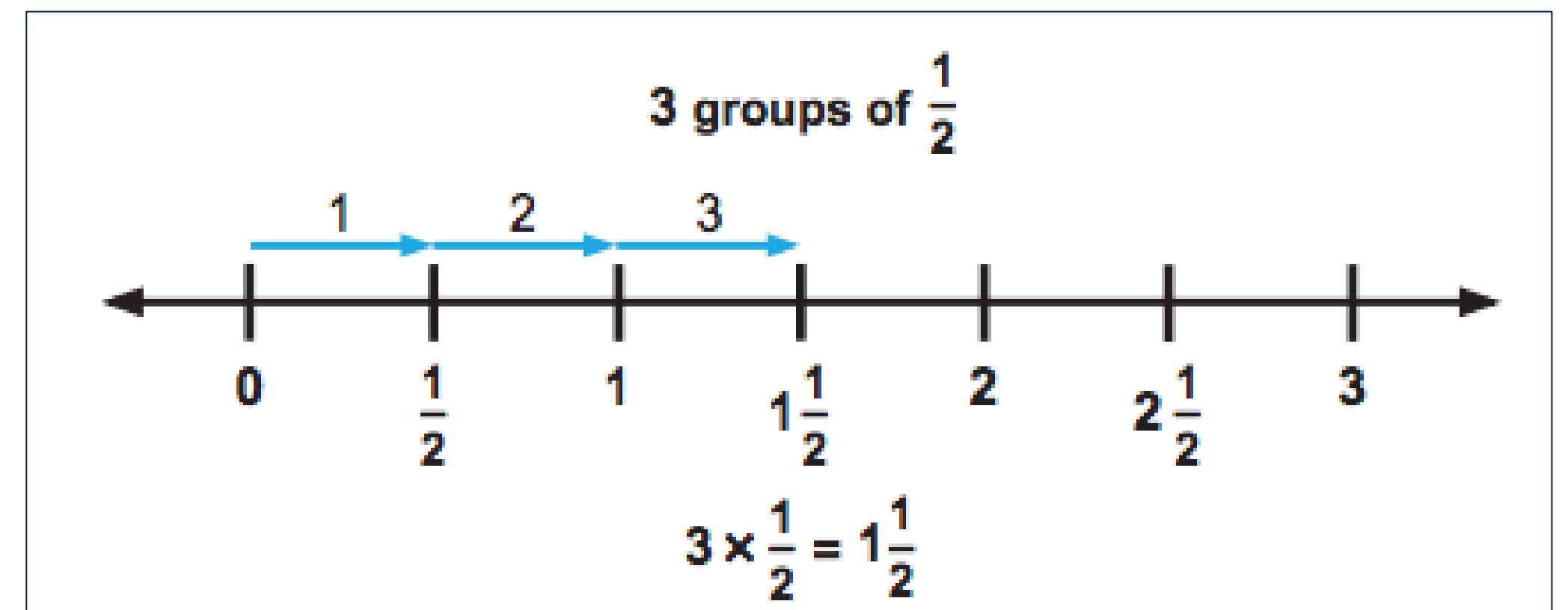
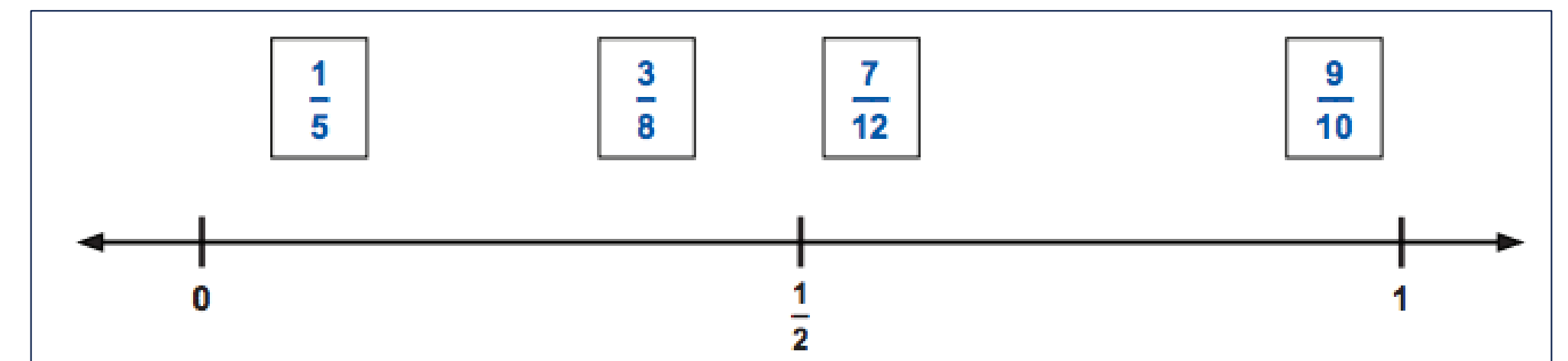
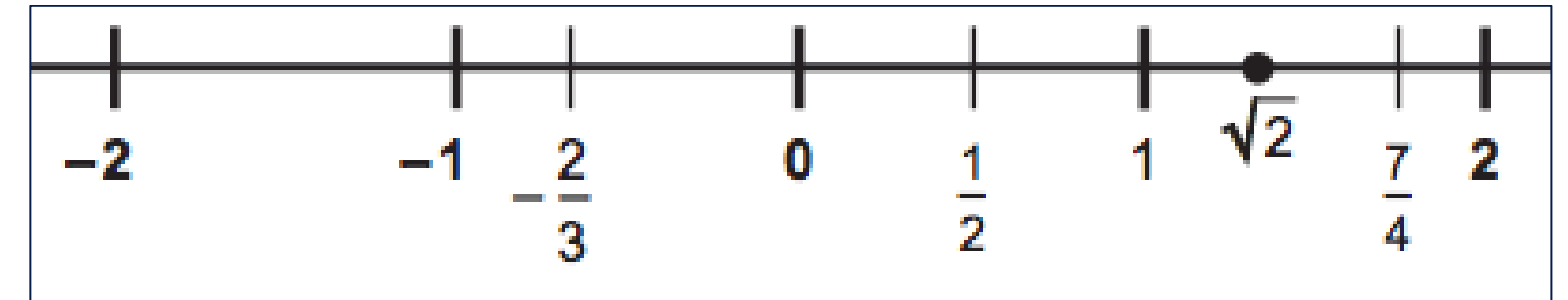
(Fuchs et al., 2021; Fuchs et al., 2013; Siegler et al., 2010)

Recommendation 4: Number lines

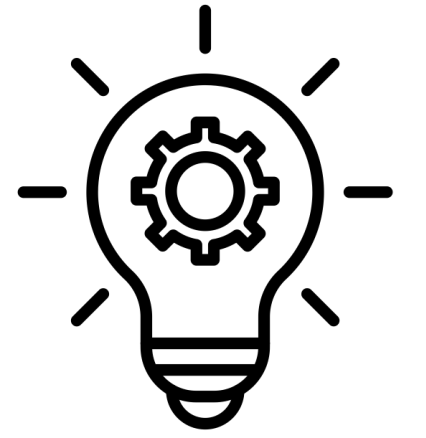
How to implement the recommendation:

1. Represent whole numbers, fractions, and decimals on a number line to build students' understanding of numerical magnitude.
2. Compare numbers and determine their relative magnitude using a number line to help students understand quantity.
3. Use the number line to build students' understanding of the concepts underlying operations.

(Fuchs et al., 2021)



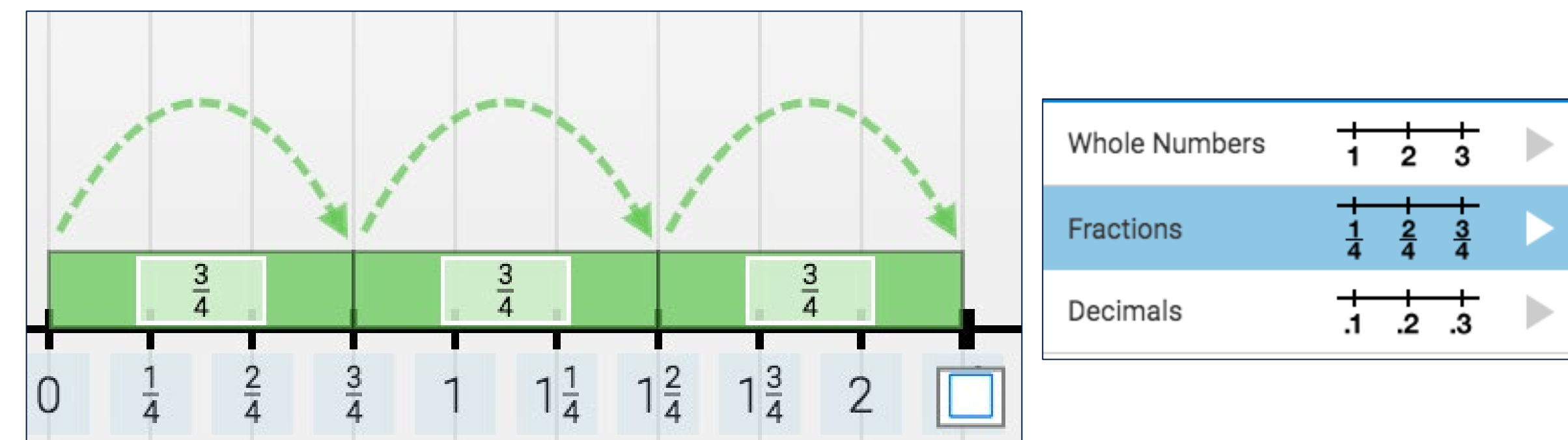
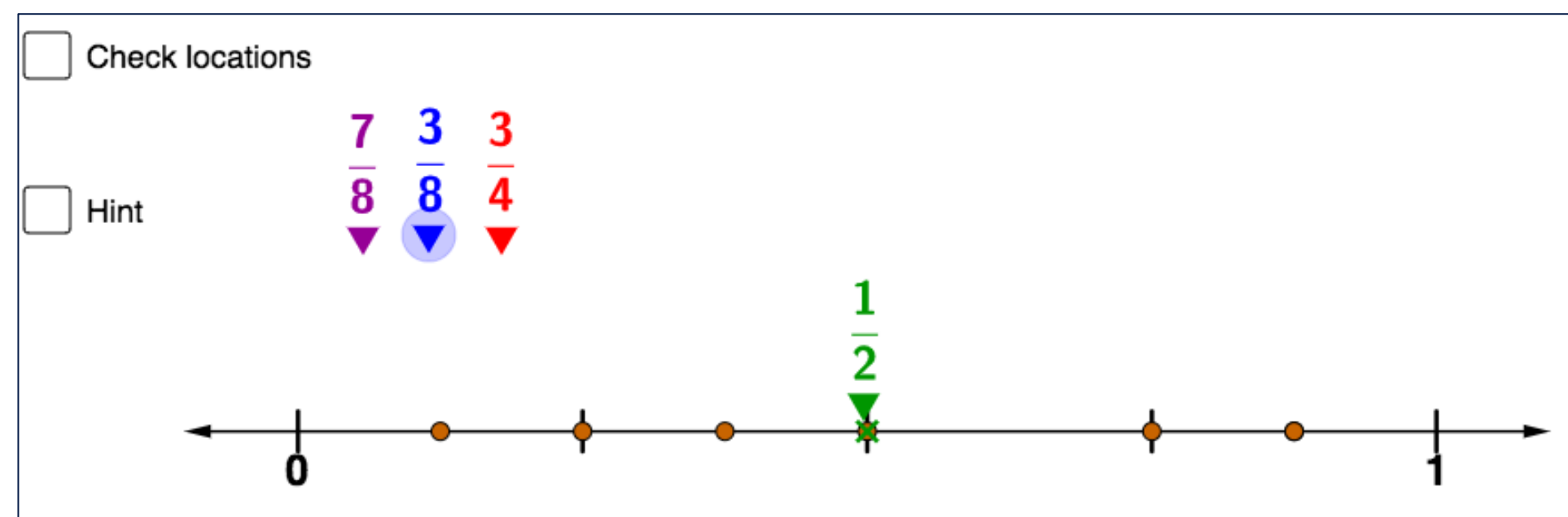
PL #9. Engage teachers in number line activities



- Provide opportunities for teachers to use number lines to represent and solve problems for specific math topics (to build their knowledge & teaching practices)
- Model and discuss ways to build students' understanding of number lines and to provide support to address potential challenges
- Share resources for virtual number lines that can be used by teachers and students

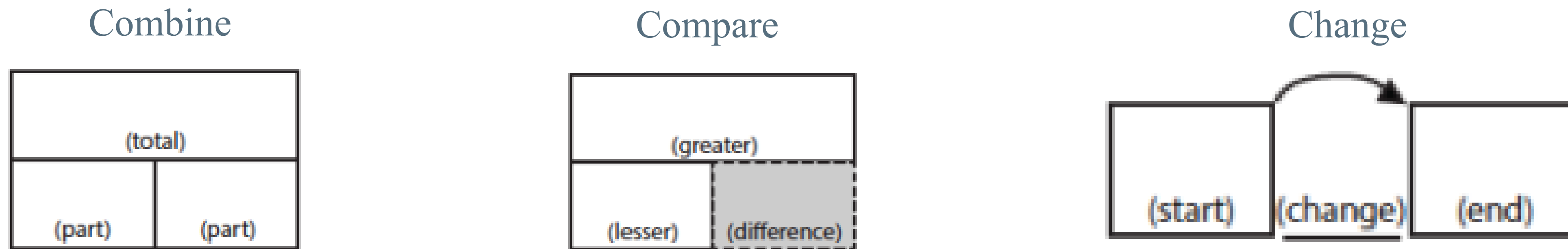
EDC: [Locating Fractions on Number Line](#)

Math Learning Center: [Number Line App](#)



Recommendation 5: Word problems

- Teach students to identify and solve word problem types.



- Expand students' ability to identify relevant information in word problems by presenting problem information differently.
- Teach vocabulary or language often used in word problems to help students understand the problem.

(Fuchs et al., 2021)

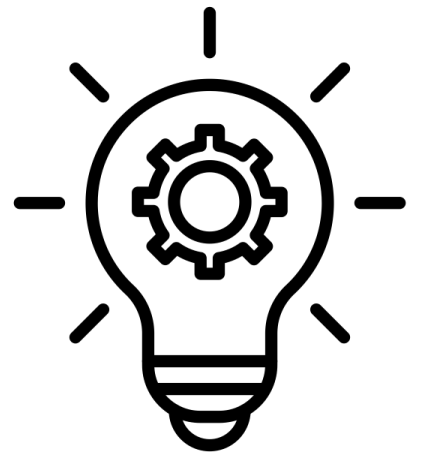
What words might be unfamiliar to students in these problems?

- **Unknown words or familiar words that may be confusing in context**
 - A) There is a 2-mile relay race at Brown Elementary School. Each leg of the race is 12 miles. How many children are needed to run the race?
- **Categories and the things that comprise them**
 - B) Sasha has 6 pets. Four of the pets are turtles, and the others are puppies. How many puppies does Sasha have?
- **Words that compare two quantities: more, less, fewer, older, younger, taller, shorter, bigger, smaller, hotter, and colder**
 - C) Willa is 42 inches tall. Renaldo is 8 inches shorter than Willa. How tall is Renaldo?

***How to implement the recommendation:* Teach vocabulary or language that is often used in word problems to help students understand the problem.**

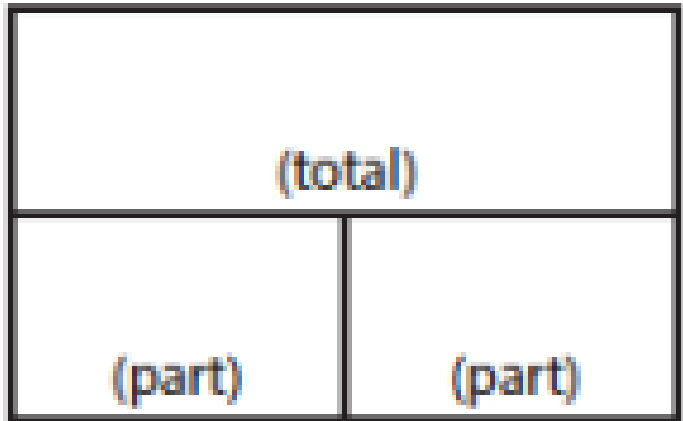
(Fuchs et al., 2021)

PL #10. Strengthen understanding of word problem types



Example professional learning activities

- Sort word problems by type or other categories; do not solve them
- Write their own word problems
- Explore resources: [VDOE \(2020a\) Guide, Appendix G & H](#)

SCHEMA AND DEFINITION	GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS	EXAMPLES	VARIATIONS
Total (Combine; Part-part-whole) <i>Parts combined for a sum</i>		<i>Sum unknown:</i> Sally has 12 red markers and 13 purple markers. How many markers does Sally have altogether? <i>Part unknown:</i> Sally has 25 red and purple markers. If 12 of the markers are red, how many markers are purple?	<i>More than two parts:</i> Sally has 34 markers. Of the markers, 12 are red, 13 are purple, and the rest are green. How many green markers does Sally have?

PL #10A. Explain why key word approach should be avoided

IES Panel's Advice: Avoid using the key word approach

Key word approach: Linking a word with a single operation, such as:

- In All: +
- Left: –
- Each: \times
- Share: \div

If students use the key word approach, what operation might they use for these problems?

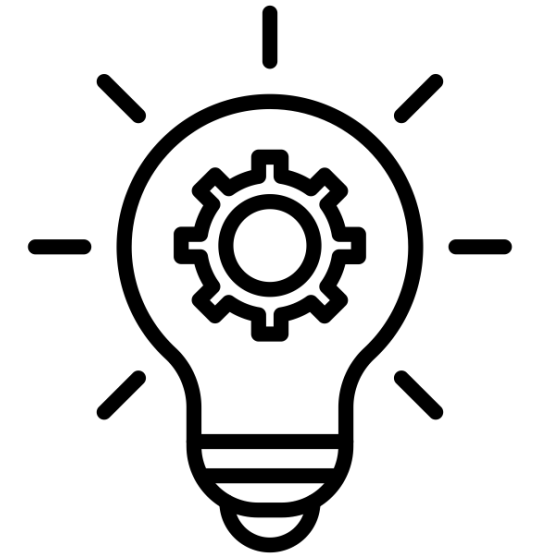
Example Problems:

Amy bought 5 bags of apples. Each bag has 8 apples in it. How many apples does she have *in all*?

Pam got a bag of candy to *share* with friends. After she gave away 16 candies, she had 4 candies *left over*. How many candies were in the bag?

(Fuchs et al., 2021)

PL #10B. Explore different ways to help students with word problems



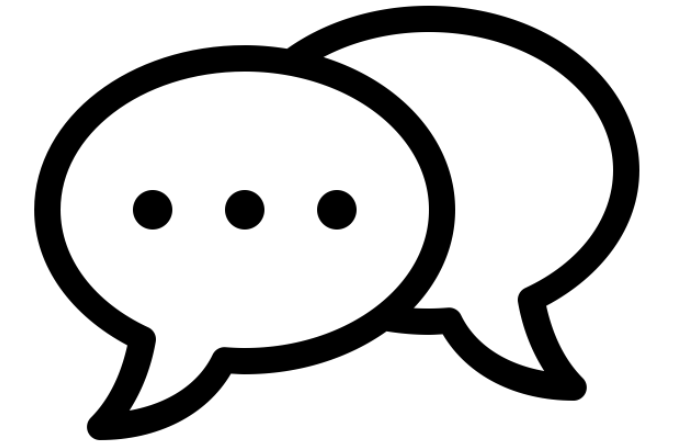
Suggestions for teachers:

- Word problem contexts that are familiar, appealing, and personalized
- Improved readability of problems
- Problem-solving processes and graphic organizers
- Concrete and visual representations
- Acting out the situations
- Use schema-based instruction
- 3-Reads strategy
- Sorting activities
- Numberless word problems



(Karp et al., 2020; Powell & Fuchs, 2018)

Discuss: Which practices might you focus on in professional learning with teachers?



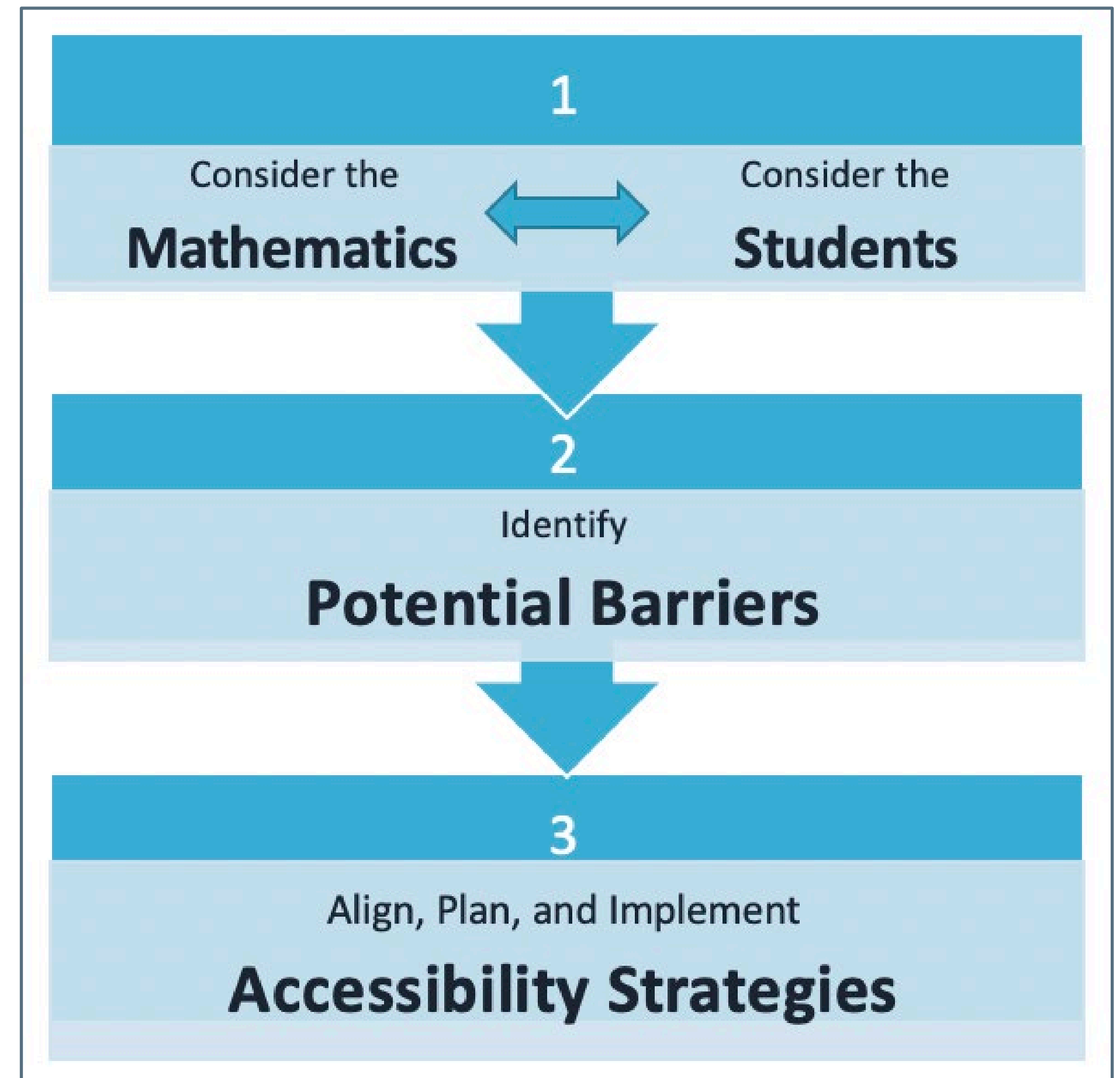
Recommended practices

Mathematical Language Representations Number Line Word Problems

Questions for planning professional learning:

1. What are teachers' current strengths and challenges related to these practices?
 - Which practices are you more likely to observe teachers implementing? Less likely?
 - What's the quality of the implementation for the different practices?
 - What information would you like to find out about teachers' use of these practices?
2. Which one(s) do you want to focus on in your professional learning with teachers? Why?
3. What types of professional learning activities might you use with teachers?

Section 4: Mathematics Accessibility Planning Process



Handout, Page 1

Professional learning (PL) suggestions for this section

PL #11. Engage teachers in a Mathematics Accessibility Planning activity

11A. Show example strategies

11B. Suggestions for using the planning process activity

PL #12. Use a focus student approach

Mathematics Accessibility Planning Goals

Goals

- Build on students' strengths.
- Provide access to learning key mathematics content.
- Be proactive: plan strategies to have in your back pocket.
- Support students in being independent mathematics learners.

What Not To Do

- Making too many adaptations to the lesson so the mathematics content is lost.
- Taking away opportunities for students to do the mathematics themselves and struggle productively
- Setting expectations too low.

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

PL #11. Engage Teachers in an Accessibility Planning Activity

Example: Patterns Task

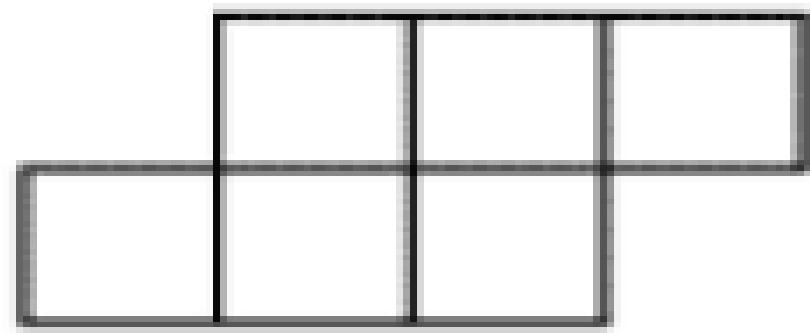


Figure 1

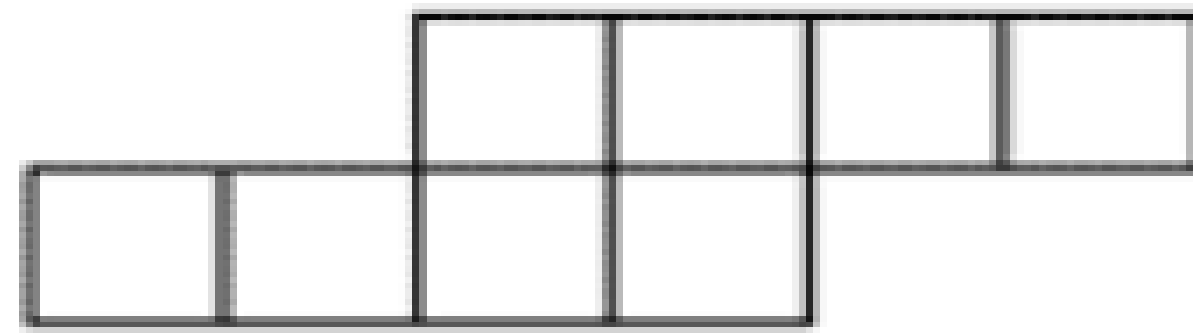


Figure 2

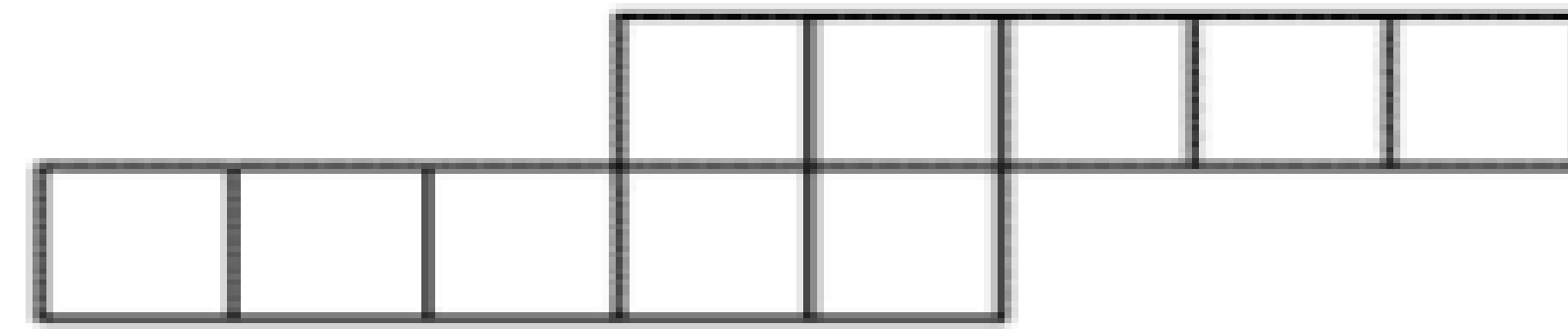


Figure 3

Based on this pattern, how could you figure out the number of small squares in any figure? Write an expression to find the number of squares in Figure n .

Directions

1. Get to know the problem by doing it yourself.
2. Talk with a partner: How did you see the pattern?
How did you move from the pattern to the expression?

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Handout, Page 2

How did you see the pattern?

Different ways of seeing the pattern connect to different expressions

Figure 1

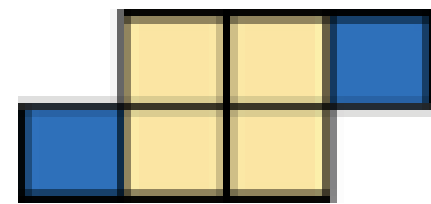


Figure 2

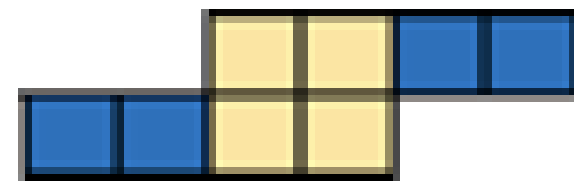
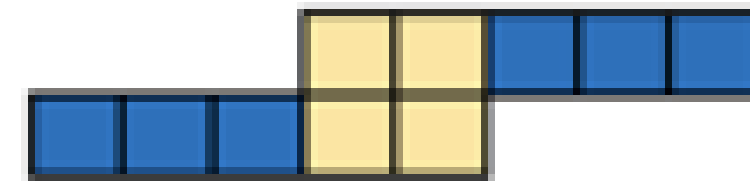


Figure 3



$$2n + 4$$

Figure 1

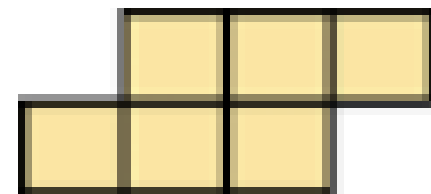


Figure 2

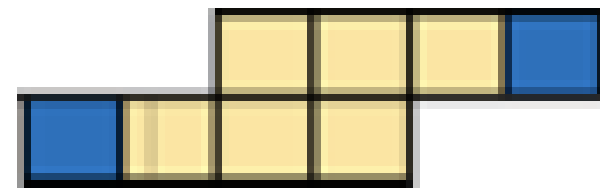
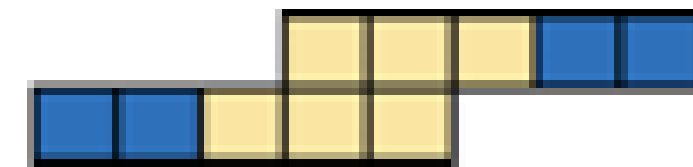


Figure 3



$$2(n - 1) + 6$$

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Part 1. Consider the mathematics goals

Mathematical Goals of Task:

- Analyze and extend a visual pattern.
- Represent a visual pattern by using an algebraic expression

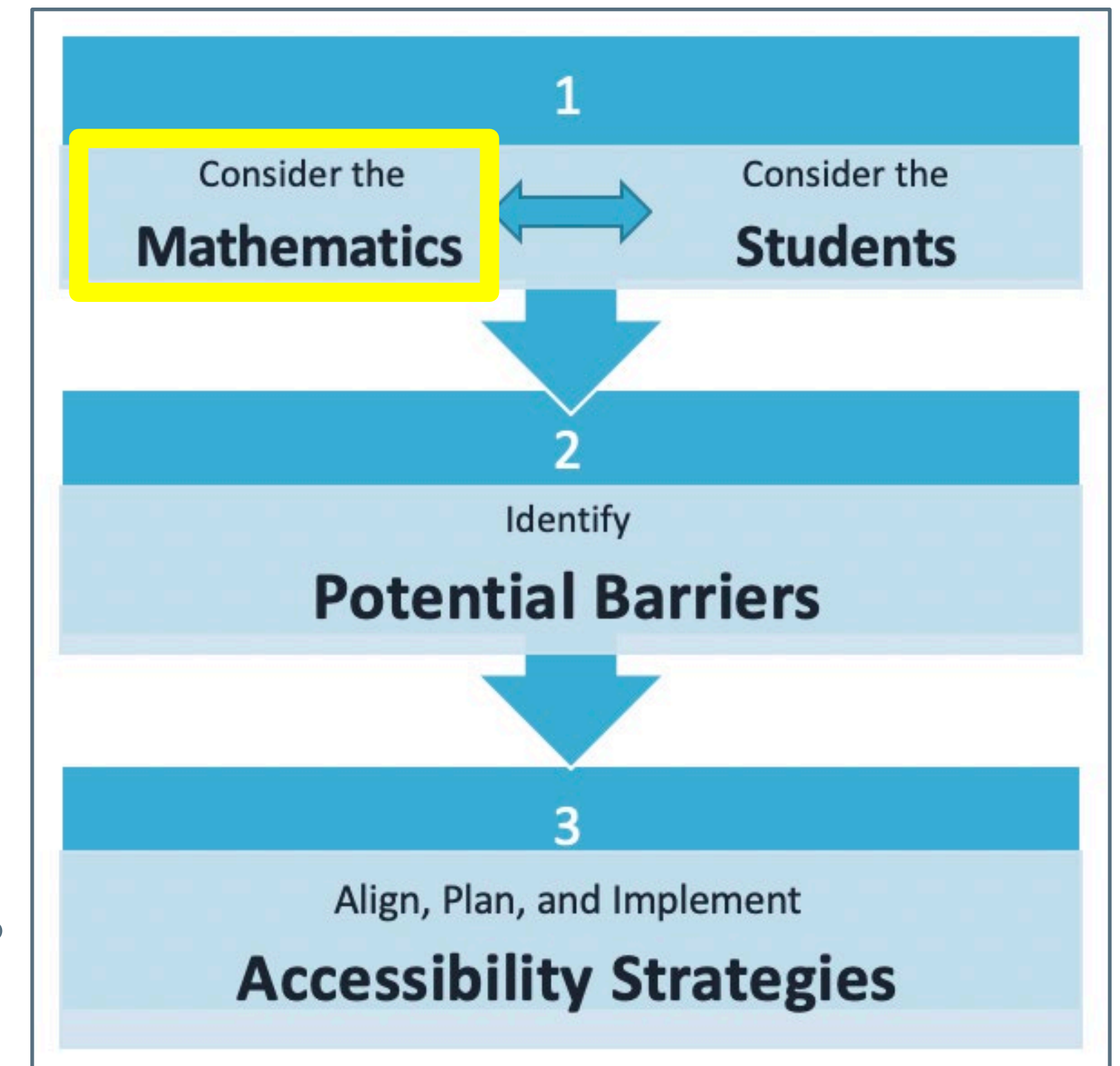
Relevant Standards

6.EE.B.6 Use variables to represent numbers and write expressions when solving a real-world or mathematical problems.

MP1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

MP7. Look for and make use of structure.

(Common Core State Standards, 2010)



Handout, Page 1

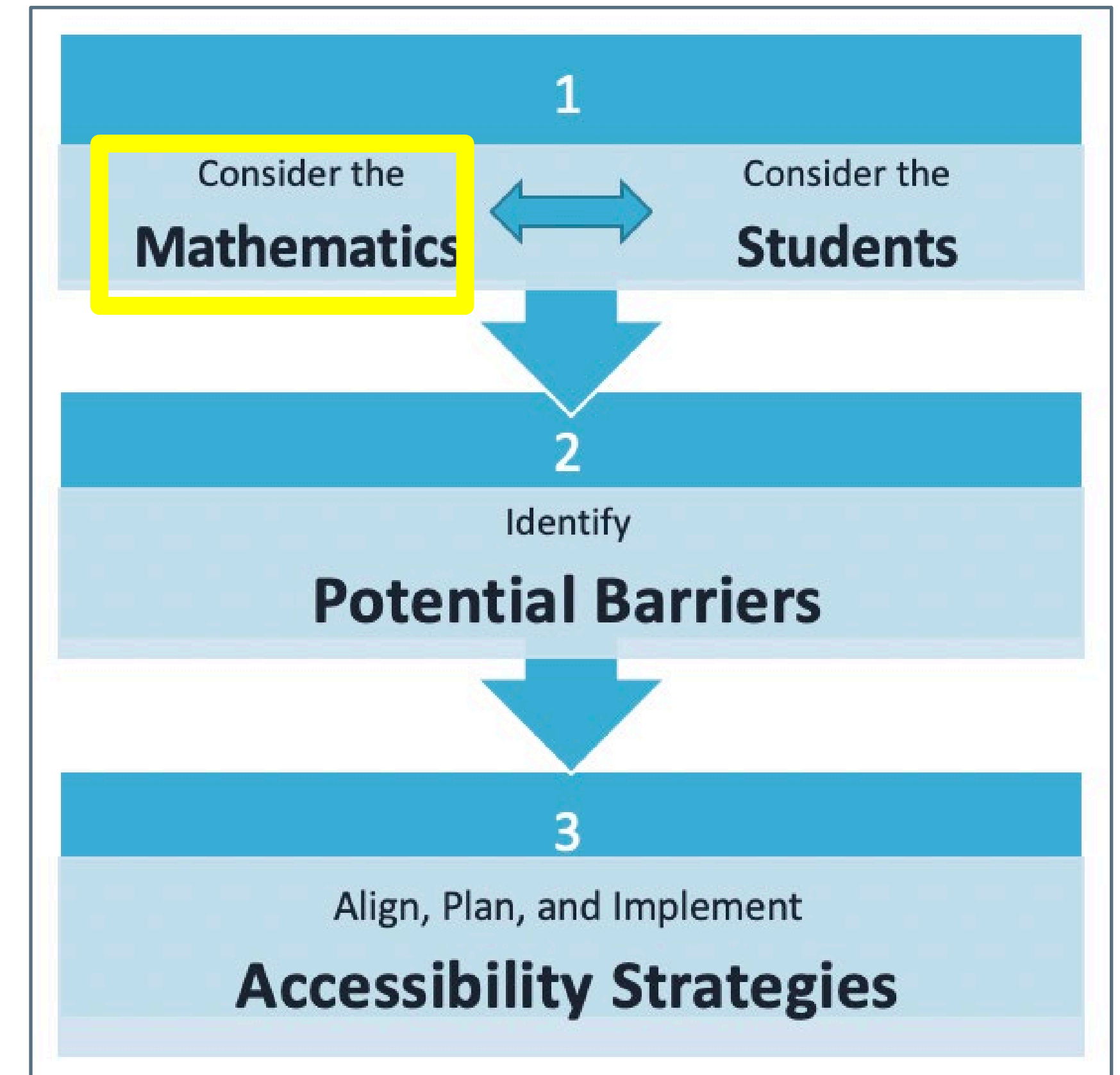
(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Part 1. Consider the mathematics task

A. What kinds of **task demands** does the problem place on students?

- Conceptual?
- Language?
- Visual-spatial?
- Other?

B. **Consider:** Which task demands are essential to the goals?



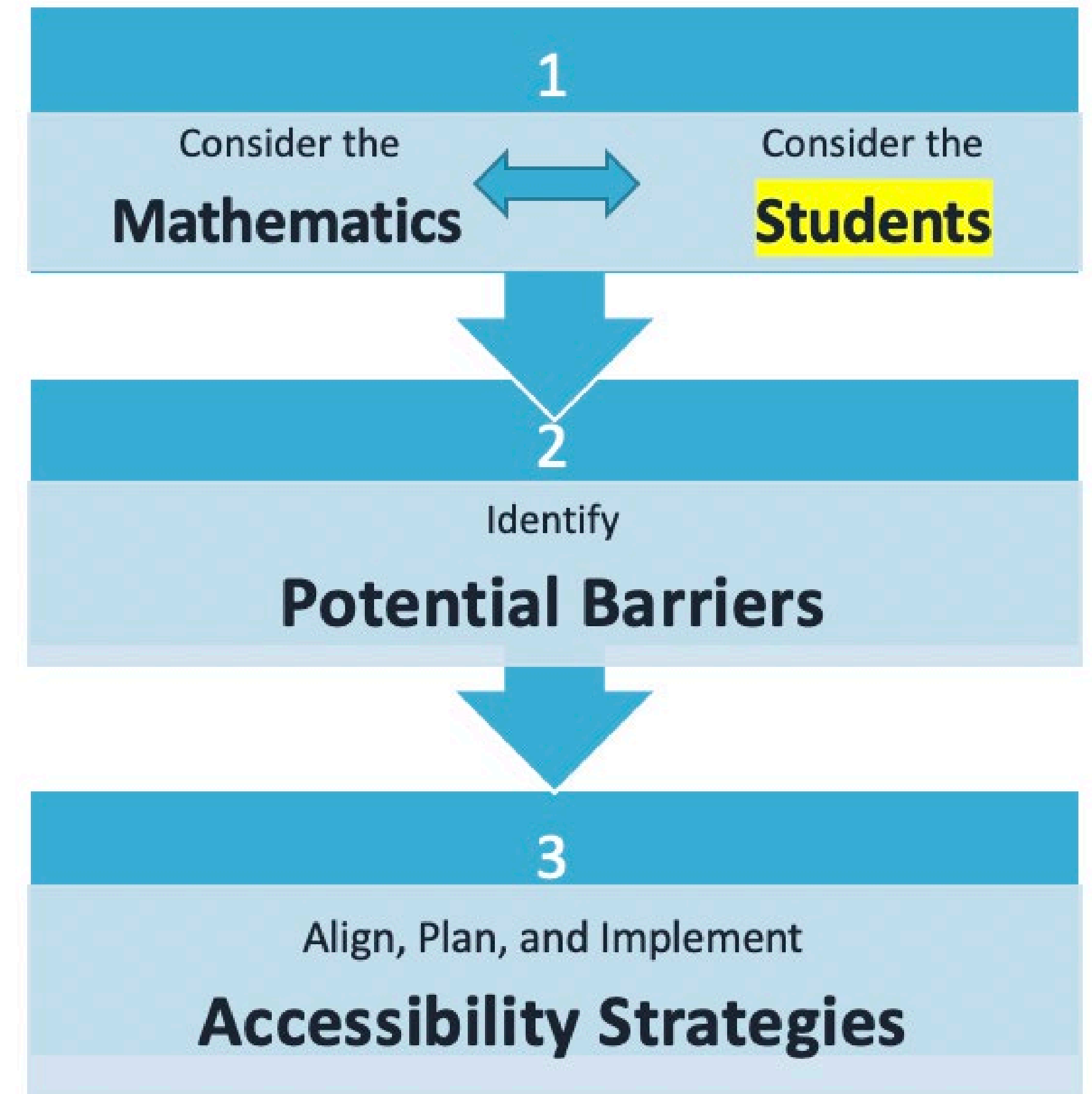
Handout, Page 1

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Part 1. Consider the students

Directions

- A. Read about the sample students on **page 3**.
- B. Each person picks a student.
- C. List your student's **strengths** and **difficulties** on the Planner, page 1.



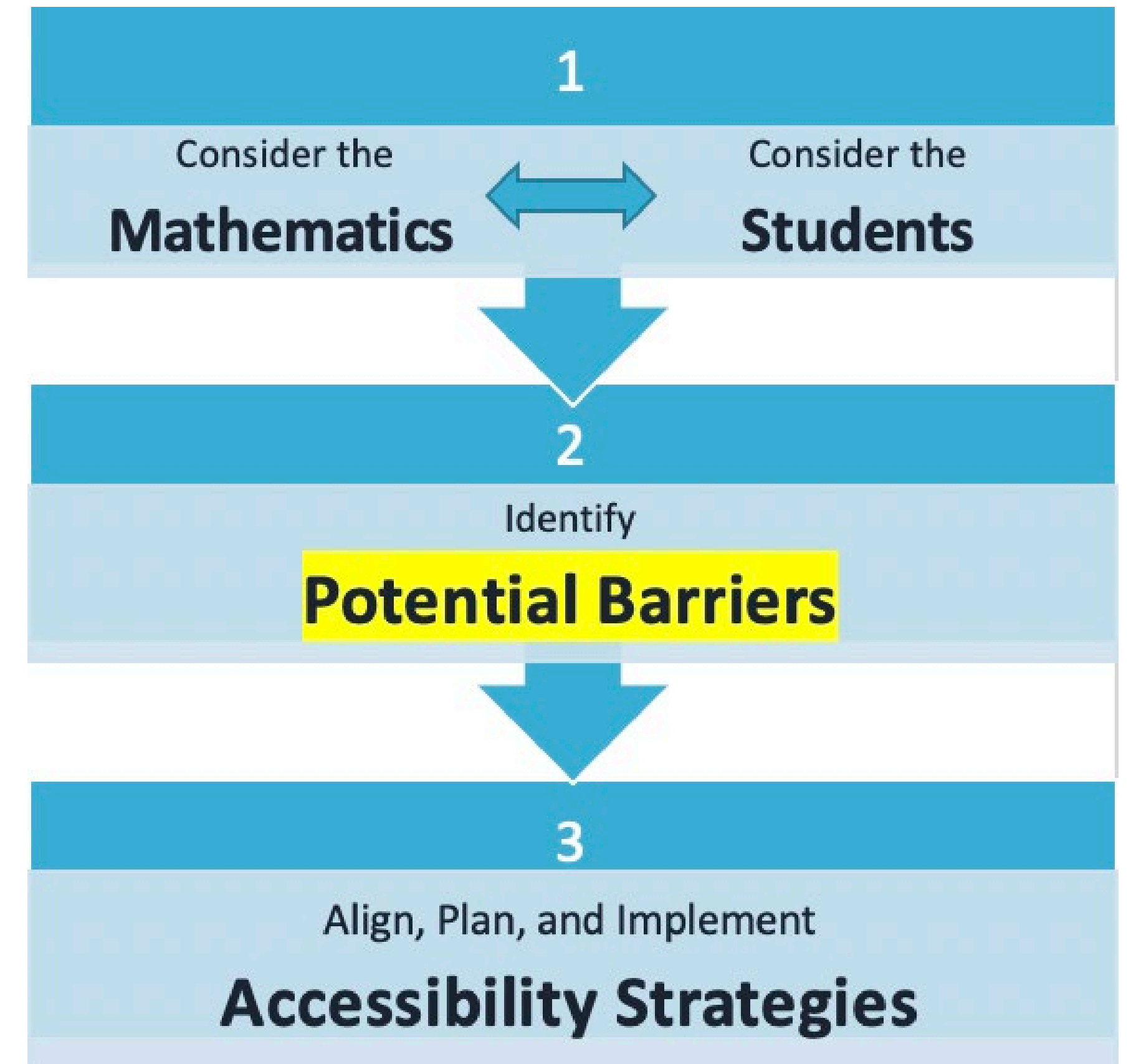
Handout, Page 3

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Part 2. Identify potential barriers

What is the match or mismatch of the Patterns task with your focus student's strengths and difficulties?

1. What **strengths** does your focus student bring to this task?
2. What **potential barriers** might the **Patterns task** pose for your focus student?



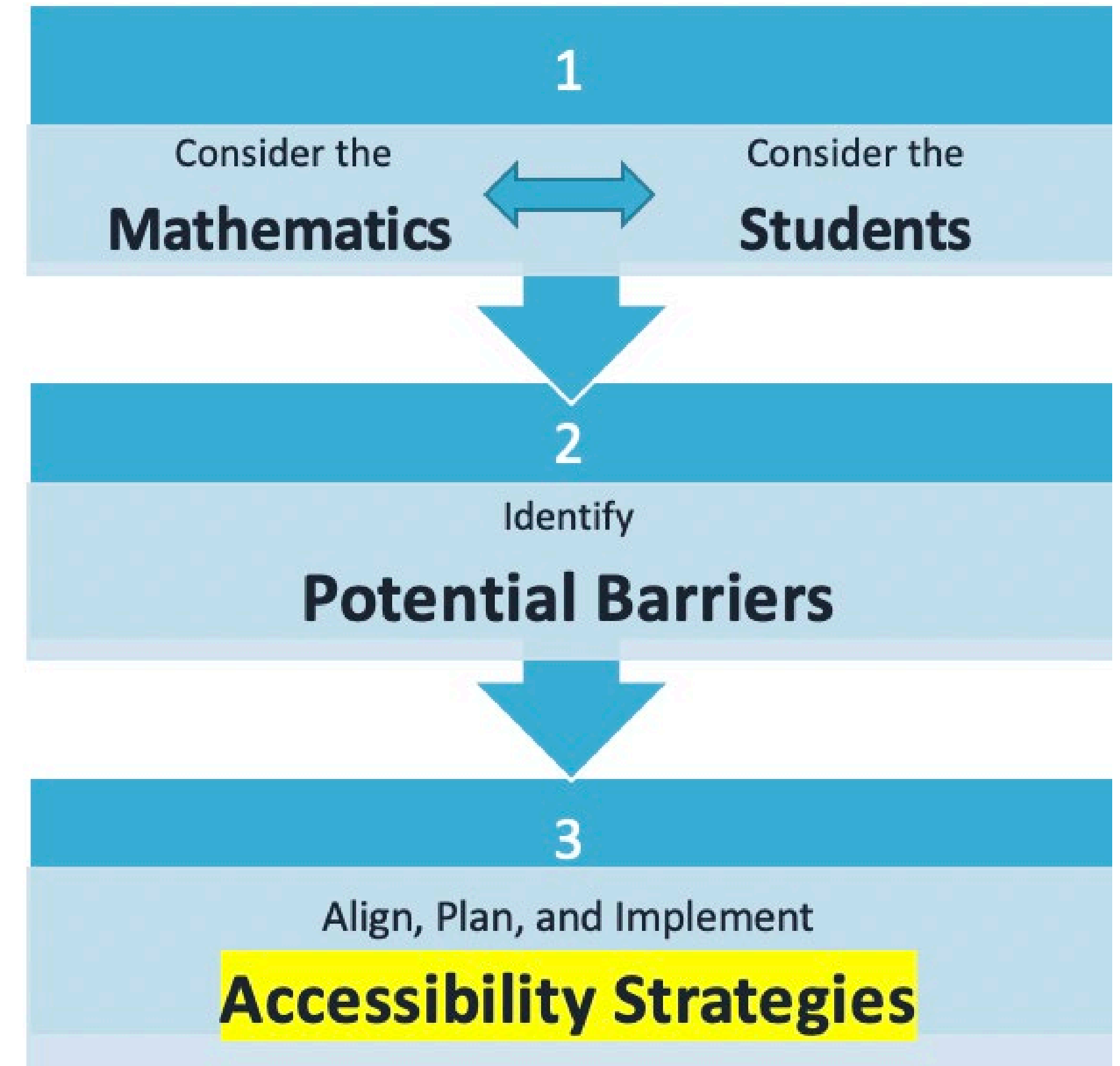
Handout, Page 1

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Part 3. Align accessibility strategies

What will you do to choose strategies:

- Consider a wide variety of strategies by using Accessibility Strategy Cards.
- *Align* strategies with students' strengths and difficulties and the math goals.
- Use strategies to build on students' strengths.



(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Strategy card activity

Directions

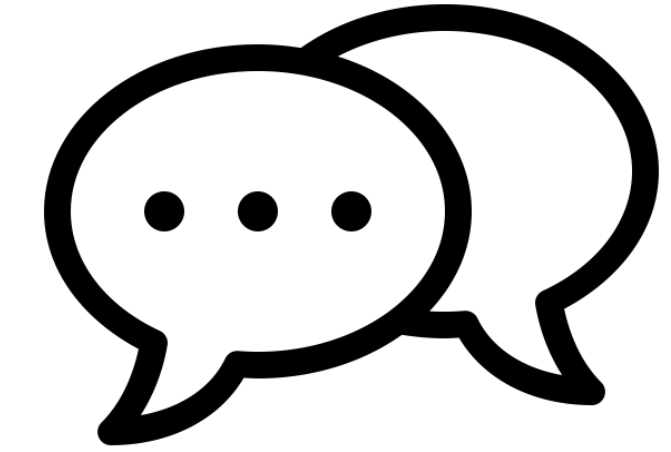
1. Each person gets four strategy cards to start.
2. Find **two strategies** that are a *particularly good match* to your student.
 - You can trade for new cards.
 - Place rejected cards face up in the middle so others can use them.
 - Work together to find good strategies for each student.
3. After everyone has identified two strategies, add them to your Planner, page 1.
Share with the group:
 - Which strategies did you select for your student? Why?
 - How would you use this strategy for the Patterns task?



Handout, Page 1

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Share strategies



- Which strategies did you select for your student? Why?
- How does your strategy align with the math goals and the student's strengths and needs?

Suggestion for organizing discussions with teachers:

- Group teachers based on the student they were focused on, so each group can discuss strategies for the same student.
- Ask a reporter from each group to share a few strategies with the whole group.

Handout, Page 4

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

PL #11A. Show example strategies for each student

Common Difficulty: Moving to the Abstract

It's a big leap from building and drawing the pattern to writing an algebraic expression!
This is a difficulty for Celia and many students.

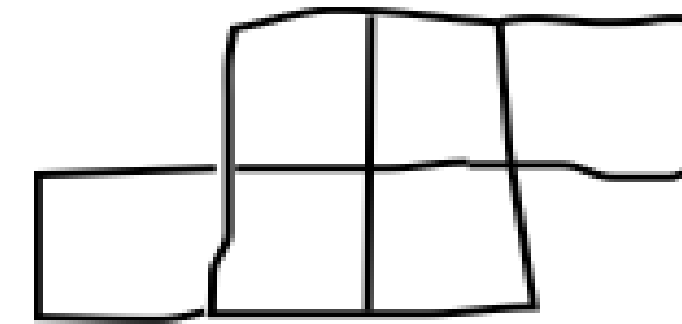
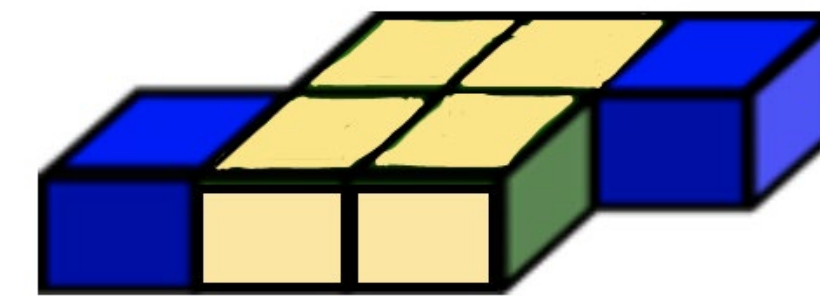


(Brodesky & Fagan. 2012)

Example Strategy #1

Concrete, semi-concrete, abstract (CSA)

- ▶ **Concrete:** manipulatives
- ▶ **Semi-concrete:** drawings
- ▶ **Abstract:** numerical, symbolic, table, graph, expression, and equation



$$2n + 4$$

(Gersten et al., 2009)

Example Strategy #2

Use color-coding to connect representations

Figure 0

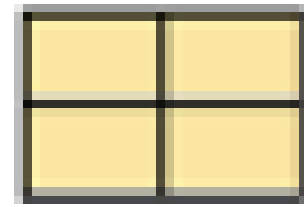


Figure 1

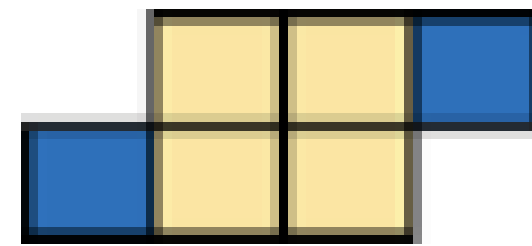


Figure 2

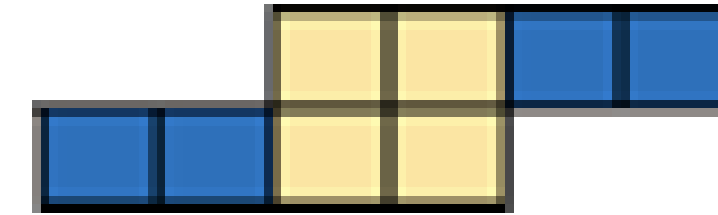


Figure #	Number of blue squares	Number of yellow squares	Total squares
0	0	4	4
1	2	4	6
2	4	4	8
3	6	4	10
4	8	4	12
n	2n	4	2n + 4

$$4 + 2n \text{ or } 2n + 4$$

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Example Strategy #3

Graphic organizers: Link sheet or rule of 4

Graphic Organizer

Orange	Blue
1	8
2	10
3	12
4	14
5	16

Graph

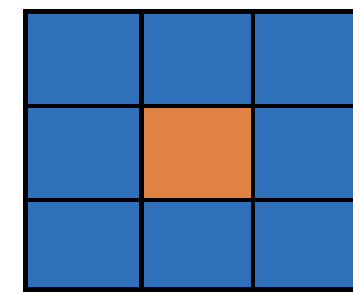
Equation

Let $n = \text{orange tiles}$
 Let $b = \text{blue tiles}$
 $b = 2n + 6$

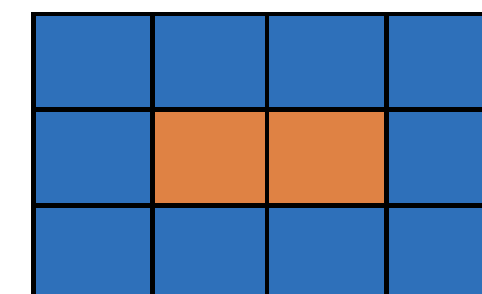
Words/Explanation

For every 1 orange tile there are 2 blue ones on top and one on the bottom and add 6 blue tiles three on each side

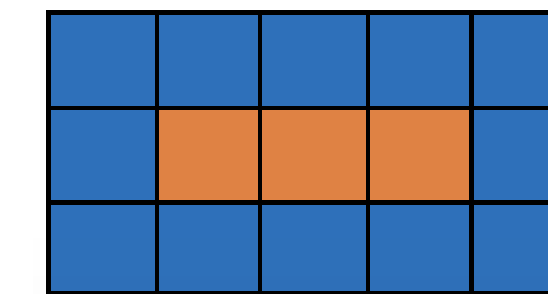
Tiling Garden Beds Task



Garden 1



Garden 2



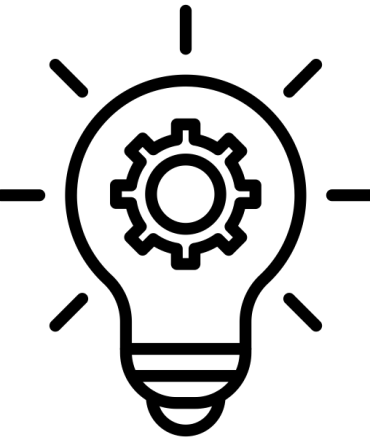
Garden 3

Garden 4

Garden 5

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

PL #11B. Suggestions for using the planning process activity



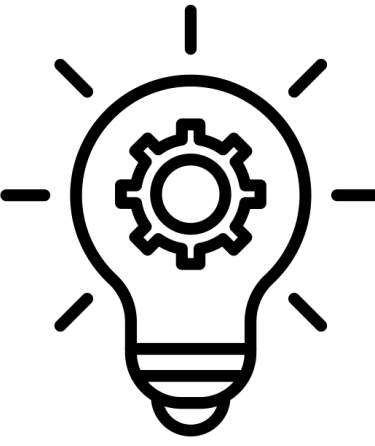
1. Select a mathematics task:

- From a high-quality lesson in your math program for the grade(s) of your target audience.
- With a low floor, high ceiling that will be accessible to teachers with different math backgrounds.
- That allows for multiple approaches so that teachers will be motivated to share different approaches.
- That focuses on high-priority math goals/standards that pose challenges for students.

2. Emphasize the importance of:

- Aligning strategies with the student's strengths/needs and the mathematics goals.
- Building on student's strengths.
- Working collaboratively so that everyone in your small group finds good strategies

(Brodesky et al. 2012)



PL #12. Focus student approach

For focusing professional learning on actual students:

- Teachers each select a focus student with mathematics difficulties.
- They collect and examine the student's work to identify strengths and difficulties. They align strategies with the student's needs.
- Focusing on individual students helps to reduce “overgeneralizations” about students in professional learning discussions.

For accessibility planning:

- Teachers choose three students to serve as proxies for the range of learners in their class. Consider the strengths and challenges of each focus student.
- Planning with those students in mind will help teachers address the range of learning needs.
- This process can serve as a first step in accessibility planning. Some students will also need individual accommodations.

(Brodesky et al. 2012)

Wrap-up: Summary of topics

1. Students with mathematics disabilities and difficulties
2. High-quality, accessible mathematics instruction
3. Research-recommended instructional practices
4. Mathematics accessibility lesson planning process

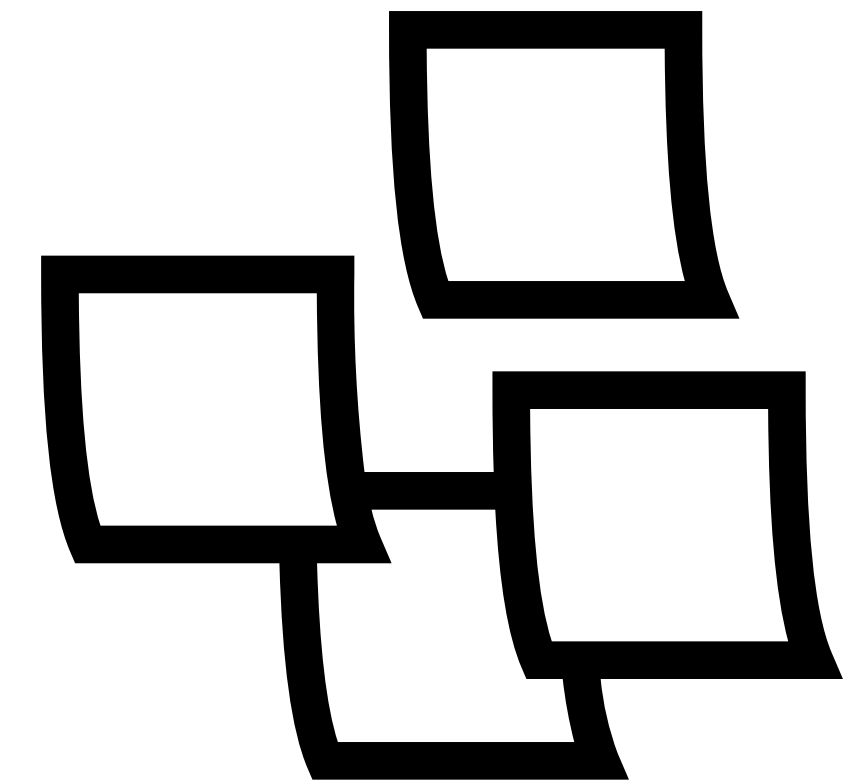
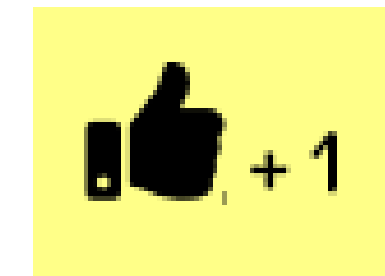
Wrap-up: Summary of professional learning suggestions

1. Bring in the voices of students with disabilities: use video, quotes, and examples.
2. Provide background information about mathematics disabilities and difficulties.
3. Convey positive messages and promote strengths-based approaches.
4. Build a shared vision of high-quality, accessible, and inclusive mathematics instruction.
5. Build a common language and clarify terms (modifications, accommodations, and scaffolding).
6. Strengthen teachers' mathematical language practices
7. Strengthen teachers' use of manipulatives
8. Build teachers' practices for using representations (concrete, semi-concrete, abstract)
9. Engage teachers in number line activities
10. Strengthen understanding of word problems types
11. Engage teachers in a Mathematics Accessibility Planning activity
12. Use a focus student approach

Wrap-up: Post takeaways and discuss

1. Post your ideas by going to the Ideaboardz: <https://go.edc.org/WrapUpOct5>

- Add sticky notes and type responses to one or more prompts.
 - *What ideas stood out for you?*
 - *What ideas do you want to apply in your professional learning with teachers?*
 - *What are you wondering about?*
- Read other participants' responses.
- Select the + to show your agreement with a response.



2. Discuss the Posts

Support and scaling resources

Professional learning model compendium



Pam Buffington
Partnership Lead

Why is this compendium important?

- Research suggests that educators find their district-based professional learning fragmented and disconnected from their needs.
- The compendium provides resources to support the design and implementation of a cohesive model of teacher PD to address identified problems of practice.



(Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2014; Jensen et al., 2016)

Who is the audience for the PLM compendium?

- Mathematics teacher leaders and coaches, curriculum leaders.
- School administrators who create and provide mathematics professional development for elementary and secondary teachers of mathematics.



What is in the PLM compendium?

- Slide decks
- Talking points
- Facilitator notes
- Handouts/tools
- References
- Background research
- Reflection/discussion questions
- Insights from practice



How can the PLM compendium be used?



- For individual learning and reflection.
- For action planning.
- To extend practitioners' understanding of evidence-based strategies.

Review the PLM compendium

- Document can be found at: [link]



Resources for support and scaling

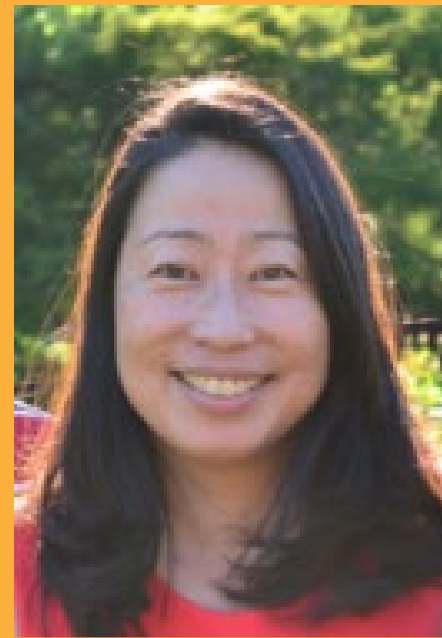
Reflect and Share:



- What aspect of the compendium do you think is the most useful? Why?
- How will you use the compendium?
- Whom will you share it with?

Support and scaling resources

Partnership collection



Ryoko Yamaguchi
Research Lead



Jill Neumayer DePiper
Partnership Staff

What is a resource collection?

A set of products and practices that supported your work throughout this partnership and could inform others as they set division-wide goals for mathematics achievement.



What is included in the SSM resource collection?

- Resources for planning and sustaining school division initiatives
- Implementing a Professional Learning Model (PLM)
- Resources to build content knowledge, practices and processes to embed in your PLM
 - Materials on research-based algebra readiness instructional strategies
 - Instructional resources to support mathematics coaches
 - Materials to support monitoring profess
 - Research studies related to mathematics teaching and learning
 - Research literatures summaries
 - Brief readings and infographics



Example format for resources for planning and sustaining school division initiatives

Table 1. Resources for planning and sustaining school division initiatives

Resource	Description	How to use this resource
<u>Why Build a Logic Model?</u>	This REL Appalachia blog post introduces what a logic model is and provides an overview of its elements. It details the benefits of a logic model and provides examples of logic models.	District administrators and curriculum leaders can review this short article to learn more about logic models and their importance. They can use this additional information on logic models as they study progress from the SSM partnership, revise the SSM partnership logic model, or embark on new initiatives.

Example format for resources to build content knowledge, practices, and process to embed in your PLM

Table 5. Resources to support monitoring progress of professional development and student and teacher learning

Activity/ resource	Description	How to use this resource
<p>“How-to” analysis memo: A review of high school mathematics coursetaking pathways among students who completed Algebra I in grade 7</p>	<p>This analysis memo provides step-by-step instructions for analyzing local data, specifically outlining the steps to answer the following questions among students who completed Algebra I in grade 7: 1) <i>When did they complete their highest-level mathematics course,</i> and 2) <i>How did they perform on the geometry and Algebra II assessments?</i></p>	<p>The analysis memo provides a guide to using school-level data related to coursetaking pathways. Database managers and analysts in SSM divisions can use the accompanying Excel template to enter data related to student outcomes. The template automatically creates bar graphs from the data. With information produced from the “how-to” memo, database managers and analysts can support school division leaders and mathematics content experts in using data to inform and improve decisions about policy and practice related to mathematics coursetaking pathways.</p>

Final input for the SSM resource collection

- Reflect and share:
 - Are additional resources from our partnership work, beyond those discussed in the meeting in July, that they think would be useful to include?
 - Are there any questions or input you would like to provide specific to the planned format for the resources to be included in the collection?



Closing



Pam Buffington
Partnership Lead

Next steps

- Questions, concerns, things you are still wondering about
- Follow-up coaching support



Thank you!



<https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/appalachia>



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