



Common Core Terms and Methodologies Addressed in Excel Math

Active Student Involvement: Teach the *concept* which is the foundation of the procedure. Don't teach to a test.

Coherence – Building a Solid Foundation

Differentiated Instruction: This is also referred to as "individualized" or "customized" instruction. The curriculum offers several different learning experiences within one lesson to meet students' varied needs or learning styles.

Flipped Classrooms: Teachers are using podcasts for lectures and letting students work in groups on homework in class. Many teachers will be taking advantage of technology in and outside of the classroom, and in some cases educators will use this resource as a way to teach more efficiently.

Focus on practical skills: The Common Core Standards were designed with the workplace in mind. They will ask students to assume the roles of scientists, historians, researchers, and even teachers, just to name a few. So strive to connect the homework your child is working on to the "real world" by asking how people might use what he or she is learning in their occupations or day-to-day lives.

Gamification: teachers are trying to relate to children using hands-on learning techniques such as games and activities for lessons. Gamification means using game-like methods, mechanics and dynamics to improve motivation and learning in a formal setting

Instructional Scaffolding: Refers to the idea that specialized instructional supports need to be in place in order to best facilitate learning when students are first introduced to a new subject.

Integrated Curriculum: Refers to the practice of using a single theme to teach a variety of subjects. It also refers to an interdisciplinary curriculum, which combines several subject or content areas into one project.

Rigor: the concept of "increasing rigor" means increasing the complexity of thinking in course content, instruction, and assessment.

Summative Assessment: An assessment of learning in which the focus is on determining what the student has learned at the end of a unit of instruction or at the end of a grade level (e.g., through grade level, standardized assessments)

Talk about math: The Common Core emphasizes the development of students' reasoning and problem-solving skills. You can help your child develop these skills by asking them to show you a different way to solve a math problem he or she has already answered, or even by talking to him or her about the many ways you use math every day, such as estimating times and distances, comparing the values of different products, and even calculating a tip at a restaurant.

Thinking required: The new Common Core Standards will focus on fewer standards so that students can achieve the kind of fluency and depth of understanding they'll need to effectively build upon what they have learned. This will require:

- Increased text complexity
- Engagement in high-level, text-based discussions
- Focus on process, not just content
- Creation of assignments for real audiences and with real purpose
- Teaching of argument, not persuasion. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others

Vertical Alignment: Planning curriculum across the grade levels, from Kindergarten through high school, building upon instruction based upon standards.

Contact us to learn how Excel Math is your bridge to Common Core.