

Math Problem Solving: Mindsets Matter Webinar Pack

- Mp4 HD Video Recording
- Mp3 Audio Recording
- Editable PD certificate (90 min)
- Easy access to webinar freebies
- PDF handouts of webinar slides



Why Are You Here?



- You LOVE teaching math, and you're looking for research—based strategies to increase your effectiveness.
- You DON'T love math, but you wish you did, especially since you have to teach it!
- You worry that you might be spoon feeding your students in math, but you aren't sure how else to help them.

Or Maybe Because...

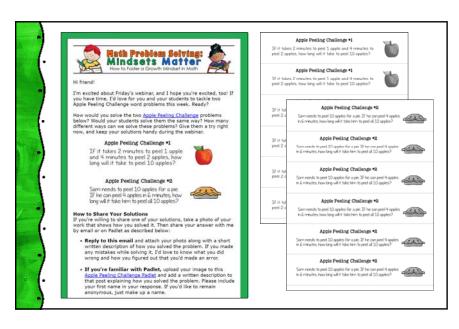


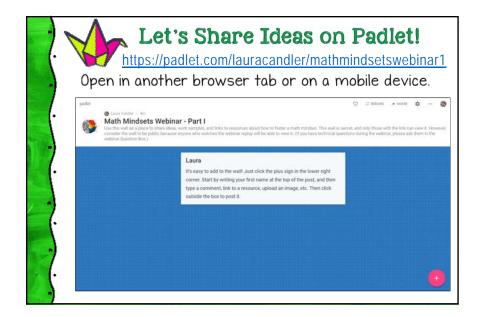
- You're fascinated by growth mindset research and you want to know how it applies to math instruction.
- You teach in a Common Core school, and you feel overwhelmed by the changes in the math curriculum.

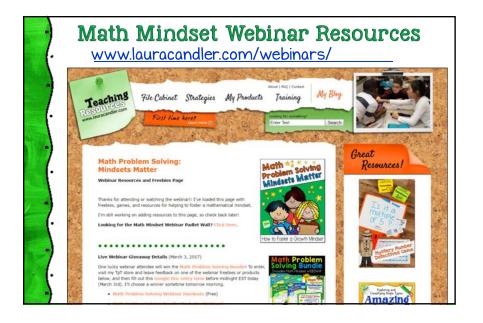
What You'll Learn Today...

- How most people define math and how that view differs from what mathematicians think
- The research about commonly held beliefs regarding math instruction
- How to turn a simple math word problem into an rich math task
- Strategies for facilitating math talk
- Where to find resources for fostering a math mindset









Agree or Disagree? (Rate 1 to 5)

1=Strongly Agree to 5=Strongly Disagree

1. Problem solving strategies should be taught before giving students problems to solve.



- 2. Drawing and counting on fingers in math should only be encouraged for young children and struggling students.
- 3. Students should only use calculators in math after they can perform the computations by hand.

Agree or Disagree? (Rate 1 to 5)

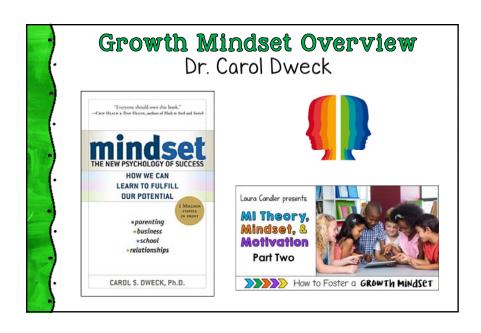
1=Strongly Agree to 5=Strongly Disagree

- 4. Mistakes are only beneficial when we learn from them.
- 5. Some people were born with a gift for math, and others weren't.
- 6. The best way to meet the needs of all students is through ability grouping and differentiation.

My Goals ...

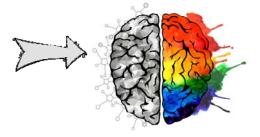
I want you to be so excited and inspired that you can't wait to take action!

- Try at least one new strategy next week
- Begin your math mindset journey by investigating at least one new resource



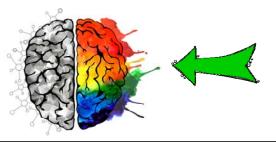
People with a Fixed Mindset...

- Aren't willing to take risks, and they avoid tasks that appear to be challenging
- Fear failure because they worry that others will think they aren't smart.



People with a Growth Mindset...

- Enjoy taking risks and trying new things; they love to tackle challenges
- Understand that failure is a sign that they learning and growing; feel confident that the can improve their performance



What's wrong with praise?



Why isn't it SMART to praise kids for being smart?

Praising students for being smart contributes to a fixed mindset and discourages kids from taking risks.

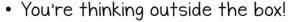
They worry that others won't think they're smart if they appear to be struggling or have to ask for help.

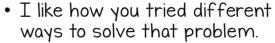
Harmful or Helpful Praise?

- Wow! You're so smart!
- · You will rock at this!
- What are you worried about! This will be so easy for you!
- Fantastic! You made a perfect score and you weren't even trying!

What do kids hear as the "hidden" message in this type of praise?

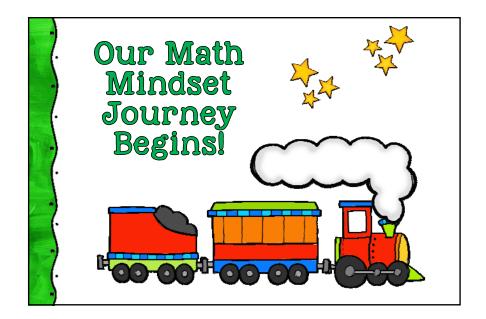


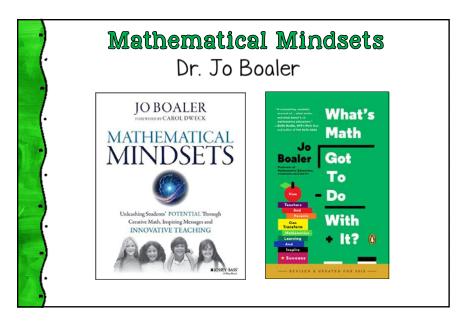




- I can tell you worked hard on this!
- I'm proud of how you persevered and didn't give up.

What messages are we conveying with this type of praise?





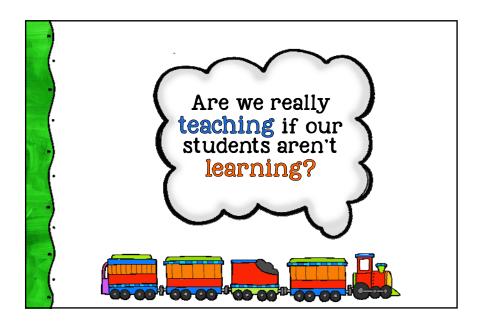
My Math Mindset Journey While teaching.... • Gifted education program • Kagan cooperative learning author & consultant • NCPIMS* Lead Teacher In recent years...

- Carol Dweck's work with growth mindset
- Jo Boaler's work with mathematical mindsets
- * NC Partnership for Improving Mathematics and Science











1. Strategy Instruction

Problem solving strategies should be tax in the fore giving students problems to solve.

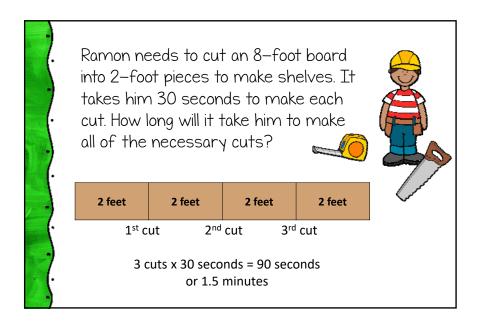
FACT:

Students should solve problems first, and discussions about strategies should take place later.

2. Visual Math

Drawing and counting on fingers in math should only be encouraged with young children and struggling students.







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FACT:



Brain research supports the importance of visual math and finger computation at all levels.

2. Visual Math

"When students learn through visual approaches, mathematics changes for them, and they are given access to deep and new understandings."

~ Jo Boaler



3. Calculator Use

Students should only use calculators after they can perform the computations by hand.



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Students should only use calculators in math after the perform the computations by hand.

FACT:

When used effectively to support problem solving, calculators enable students to engage with cognitively rich problems that address exploration of patterns and relationships. (NCTM)

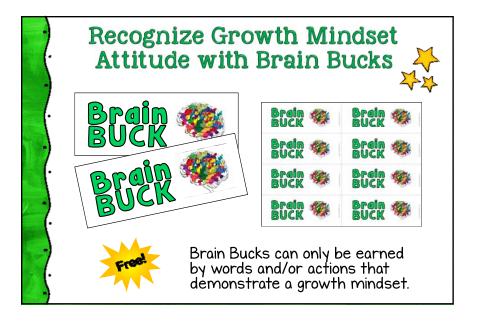
4. Importance of Mistakes

Mistakes are any deneficial when we want from them.

FACT:

Each time we make a mistake, a synapsis fires and our brains grow, even when we aren't aware that we made a mistake!





5. Math Giftedness



Some people were born with a gift for math, and others weren't.





5. Math Giftedness



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FACT:

Performance in math has more to do with one's prior experiences than with the presence or absence of an innate math gift.

6. Ability Grouping and Differentiating Instruction

The best way to meet the needs of all students is through ability grouping and differentiating instruction.



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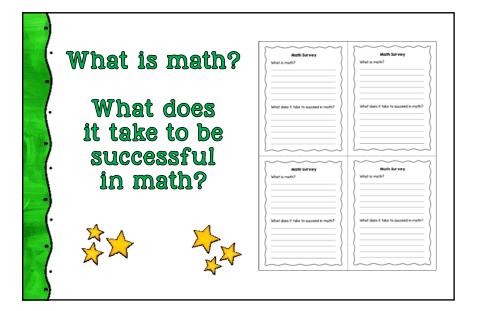
FACT:

Ability grouping sends the message that some students aren't capable of achieving math at high levels, which promotes a fixed mindset.



We ALL need a math mindset adjustment!

Students, Teachers, Parents Administrators, ... Everyone!



What is math?

Numbers, rules, formulas, computation, etc.



What does it take to be successful in math?

Performing well on speed drills, answering questions correctly, following the rules, not making mistakes, memorizing formulas, doing all your homework, etc.

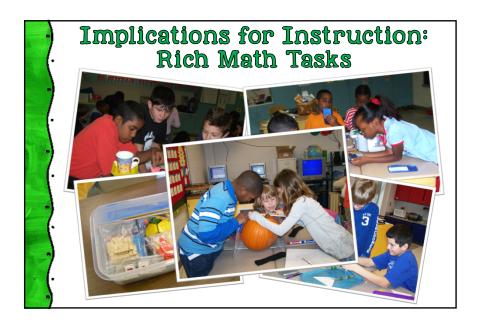
What is math?

Using numbers and symbols, Finding patterns, connecting ideas, analyzing data...

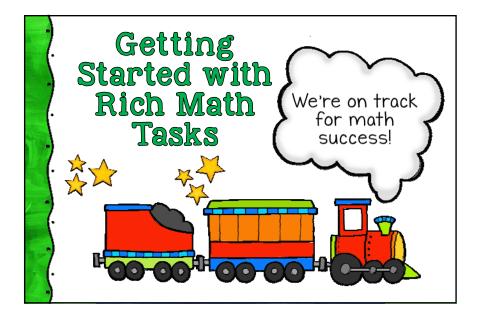


What does it take to be successful in math?

Being skilled in ... asking questions, working collaboratively, analyzing data, identifying trends, solving complex problems, seeing connections, finding patterns, etc.

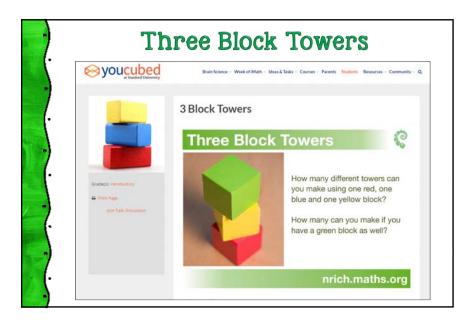


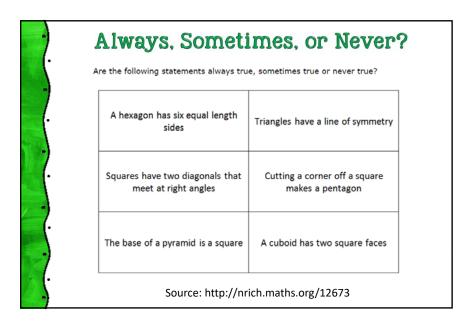




What are Rich Math Tasks?

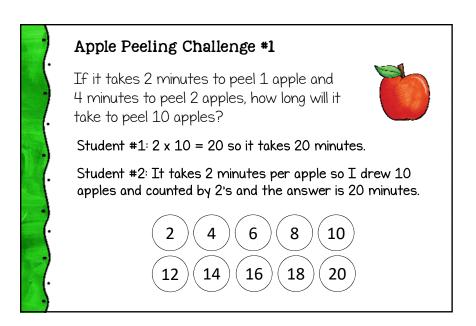
- Open—ended with multiple methods and pathways to the solution
- Actively engages students in critical thinking, analysis, and questioning
- Talking and sharing ideas is encouraged; students explain and justify solutions.
- Problems can be represented visually or with concrete objects
- Strategies are discussed AFTER the problem is solved.





Where Can You Find Rich Math Tasks?

- Websites like Youcubed.org, Nrich.org, NC Math Wiki, etc.
- Print or digital books
- Discussion forums & Facebook groups
- Create your own! (You can transform math word problems into math tasks.)



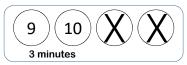
Apple Peeling Challenge #2



Sam needs to peel 10 apples for a pie. If he can peel 4 apples in 6 minutes, how long will it take him to peel all 10 apples?





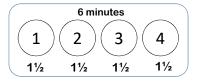


$$6 + 6 + 3 = 15$$

Apple Peeling Challenge #2



Sam needs to peel 10 apples for a pie. If he can peel 4 apples in 6 minutes, how long will it take him to peel all 10 apples?



1½ minutes x 10 apples = 15 minutes

1 min x 10 apples = 10 minutes ½ of 10 = 5 minutes

 $10 + 5 = 15 \min$

More Apple Peeling Problems

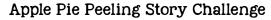


- Crystal peeled one apple in 2 minutes, the second apple took her 2½ minutes and the third took her 3 minutes. If she continues at this rate, how long will it take her to peel the fifth apple?
- Xavier can peel a small apple in 2 minutes, but it takes him 3 minutes to peel a large apple. How long will it take him to peel 4 small apples and 2 large ones?

Apple Pie Peeling Story Challenge



Google slide presentation and story by Rebecca Pilver. Shared in Math Mindset Connections Facebook group.



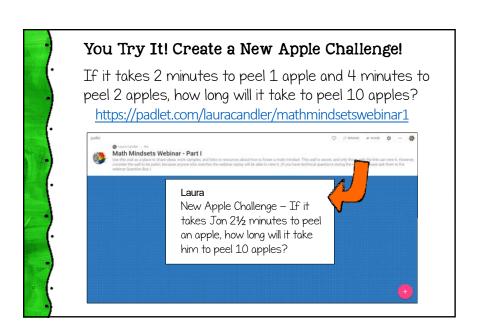


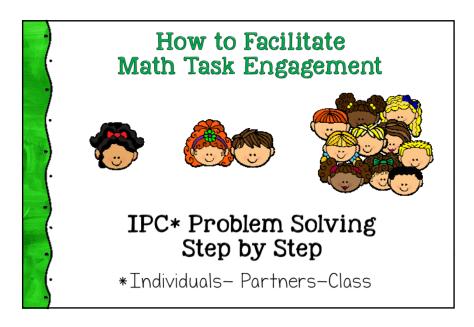
If it takes me 2 minutes to peel 1 apple and 4 minutes to peel 2 apples, how long will it take me to peel 10 apples?

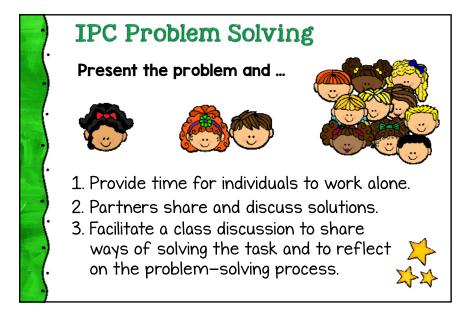


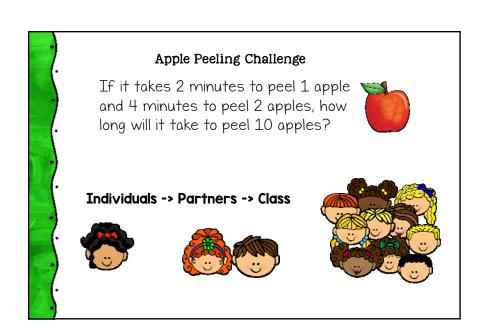
Challenge Yourself! (Extension Activities)

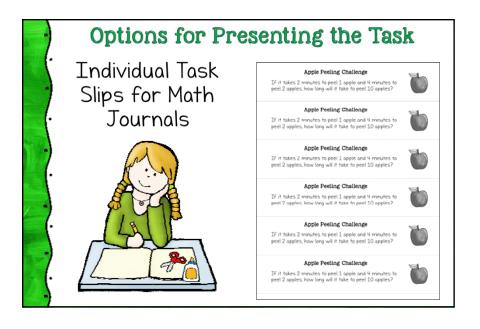
- Write several sentences to explain how you solved the problem.
- 公公
- Explain how you could solve the problem using a different strategy.
- If you made a mistake, explain what you did wrong and how you corrected it.
- Change the numbers in the problem to create a new problem and solve it.
- Create a similar, but more challenging, problem and solve it.

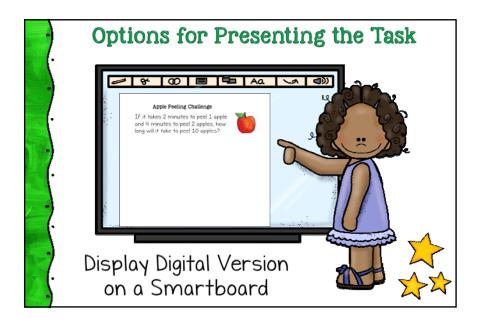


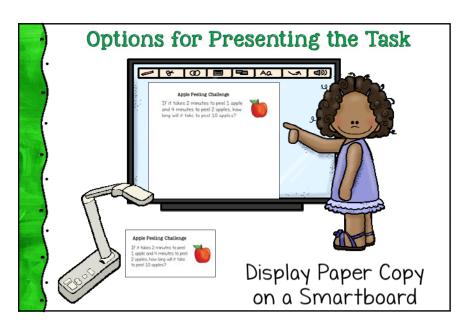


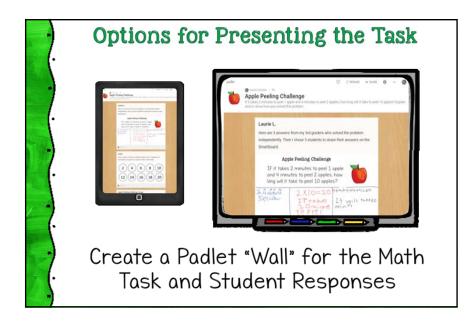














IPC - Independent Phase Benefits



- Provides time for all students to read and think about the problem carefully before choosing a strategy
- Prevents the problem of students relying on others to do their thinking for them
- Allows teachers to informally assess each student's performance

IPC - Independent Phase

Management Tips

 Provide access to math tools (measuring devices, base 10 blocks, calculators, pattern blocks, etc.)



- · Require students to show solutions visually
- Resist the urge to rescue students who are having trouble getting started
- Begin partner work stage when MOST students are finished

IPC - Partner PhaseBenefits





- Students have to explain their strategies and defend their solutions
- Helps students feel more confident about their solutions prior to the class discussion
- Fosters social skill development





${\mathbb I} P{\mathbb C}$ - Partner Phase

Management Tips

- Assign partners instead of letting students choose; change partners frequently
- Give specific directions about how students should share their work
- If students realize they made an error, encourage them to correct it on the spot







Share-Share-Compare

Partner Math Talk Strategy

- 1. Partners sit side—by—side and place their work face down in front of them.
- 2. Partner A shows/explains his or her solution; Partner B listens and asks questions.







A — Shows work; explains strategy

B — Listens; asks questions





Share-Share-Compare

Partner Math Talk Strategy

- 3. Partner B shows/explains his or her solution; Partner A listens and asks questions.
- 4. Both partners compare their work, discuss strategies, talk over any mistakes, and prepare to share during the class meeting.







A - Listens; asks questions

B - Shares work; explains strategy

IPC - Class Phase Benefits



- Students are exposed to a wide variety of strategies.
- Teacher can use this time to correct any misunderstandings or misconceptions.
- Students learn to appreciate creative thinking in their classmates.
- Fosters risk—taking in a safe environment; chance to reaffirm that mistakes make our brains grow.

IPC - Class Phase Management Tips



- Invite volunteers to display their work and explain how they solved the problem.
- Don't reveal the answer until the end.
- Ask, "How many different ways can we solve this problem?" (Tally them.)
- Teach students how to be polite "skeptics," asking for clarification, questioning faulty reasoning or errors in computation.

IPC - Class Phase

More Tips

 Recognize creative thinking, persistence, and unusual approaches to the task.



- Invite students to share their mistakes, and celebrate those mistakes as opportunities for our brains to grow.
- Encourage "what if" questions and other extensions of the original task.



