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Helping Students Read Mathematics

Math In Action Session B-3

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Plan for this session – Session B-3

- Background
 - Components of Literacy
 - Studies
- Preparation
- Action
 - Read-aloud
 - Assessment
- Bottom Line

Background

Literacy and Prior Studies

When considering "literacy" ... you'd think ...

Reading is (according to Perfetti, 1984)

- (1) "thinking guided by print"
 - (2) "translation of written elements into language"
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Writing

Generating print guided by thinking

A way to express thinking

Speaking

Thoughts to words

Communicating to other

When considering "literacy" ... researchers say ...

Hildreth (1947)

The three R's – Reading, wRiting, and aRithmetic ... "tools that equip people for intelligent participation in daily life" (p. 1)

Gibbons (2009)

"Literacy involves the integration of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and critical thinking and includes the cultural knowledge that enables a speaker, writer, or reader to recognize and use language appropriate to different social situations" (p. 7)

OECD (2013)

The parent organization of the PISA exam suggest that mathematically literate students to formulate, employ, explain, describe, and interpret a variety of mathematical texts

Preparation

Strategy outline and instructions

This Study

Twenty-two 1-on-1 interviews with 7th graders

Read aloud a 3-page passage from Pearson's envisionMath 2.0

A focus on how students read through the text

Passage Excerpt

Lesson 2-1
Connect Ratios, Rates, and Unit Rates

Explain It!
In a basketball contest, Elizabeth made 9 out of 25 free throw attempts. Alex made 8 out of 20 free throw attempts. Janie said that Elizabeth had a better free-throw record because she made more free throws than Alex.

ELIZABETH
MADE 9
ATTEMPTED 25

ALEX
MADE 8
ATTEMPTED 20

I CAN...
use ratio concepts and reasoning to solve multi-step problems.

Common Core Content Standards
7.RP.A.1, 7.RP.A.3
Mathematical Practices
MP1, MP2, MP6, MP7, MP8

STOP

A. Critique Reasoning Do you agree with Janie's reasoning? Explain. **MP3**

B. Construct Arguments Decide who had the better free-throw record. Justify your reasoning using mathematical arguments. **MP3**

Focus on math practices
Construct Arguments What mathematical model did you use to justify your reasoning? Are there other models you could use to represent the situation? **MP3**

Essential Question How are ratios, rates, and unit rates used to solve problems?

EXAMPLE 1 Find Unit Rates

Nathan and Dan were both hired as lifeguards for the summer. They receive their paychecks for the first week. Who earns more per hour?

Make Sense and Persevere
You can use a ratio to relate the number of hours worked and the amount earned. **MP1**

LIFEGUARD SERVICES INC. EARNINGS STATEMENT

EMPLOYEE	HOURS	TOTAL EARNINGS
Dan Jones	9	\$78.75
Nathan Smith	8	\$46.25

Draw a model to show how the quantities are related.

Nathan's Pay
\$46.25 → ?
5 hours → 1 hour

Dan's Pay
\$78.75 → ?
9 hours → 1 hour

Find unit rates to determine how much each lifeguard earns each hour.

$$\frac{46.25}{5} = 9.25$$

$$\frac{78.75}{9} = 8.75$$

Nathan earns 50¢ more per hour.

Try It!
Jennifer is a lifeguard at the same pool. She earns \$137.25 for 15 hours of lifeguarding. How much does Jennifer earn per hour?

Jennifer earns \$ per hour.

$$\frac{137.25}{15} = 9.15$$

Convince Me! What do you notice about the models used to find how much each lifeguard earns per hour?

EXAMPLE 2 Use Unit Rates

Brian agrees to watch his neighbor's dogs for 7 days. His neighbor provided a 128-ounce bag of dog food. Does Brian have enough food to feed the dogs all 7 days? Explain.

STEP 1 Use unit rates to find how much each dog eats in 7 days.

Buster
20.5 oz in 2 days
 $\frac{20.5}{2} = 10.25$ oz in 1 day
 $10.25 \times 7 = 71.75$ oz in 7 days

Roxy
22.5 oz in 3 days
 $\frac{22.5}{3} = 7.5$ oz in 1 day
 $7.5 \times 7 = 52.5$ oz in 7 days

STEP 2 Find the total amount of dog food needed for 7 days. Then compare.
 $71.75 + 52.5 = 124.25$ and $124.25 < 128$, so Brian has enough dog food.

EXAMPLE 3 Compare Using Rates

Suppose that each jump covers the same distance. How many jumps does it take each animal to cover the same distance?

Rabbit
8 meters

Kangaroo Rat
12 meters

Make tables of equivalent ratios until the distance jumped is the same.

Rabbit		Kangaroo Rat	
Jumps	Meters	Jumps	Meters
3	8	5	12
6	16	10	24

The rabbit jumps 24 meters in 9 jumps.
The kangaroo rat jumps 24 meters in 10 jumps.

Try It!
A kitchen sink faucet streams 0.5 gallon of water in 10 seconds. A bathroom sink faucet streams 0.75 gallon of water in 18 seconds. Which faucet will fill a 3-gallon container faster?

Observed Reading Strategies

Most observed strategies

Strategy (students)	Strategy (separate implementations)
Paraphrase text (22)	Read aloud (104)
Plan a solution or predict result (22)	Plan a solution or predict result (97)
Self-Check (21)	Pause to reflect (89)
Question or critique the text (21)	Paraphrase text (86)
Pause to reflect (21)	Self-Check (77)

Least observed strategies

Strategy (students)	Strategy (separate implementations)
Creates a Mental Image (2)	Decoding (2)
Decoding (2)	Creates a Mental Image (4)
Make Notes While Reading (6)	Make Notes While Reading (7)
Skim the Text (7)	Skim the Text (7)

Surprises

Making Notes

Skimming

Question or Critique text

Action

Partnered read-aloud and assessment

Our Activity

Preparation

- (1) Partner up (2) Decide who is reading first
 - (3) Get ready to take notes (4) Alternate reader with each exercise
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Reading

When playing the "reader" - (1) Read and work out loud (2) Share any/all thoughts

When playing the "noter" - (1) Document things of interest (2) Remind your partner to work out loud (3) Try to identify strategies used to understand the text

Reflection

We'll do this as a group ... Focusing on

- (1) What did you observe? (2) What did that allow your partner to accomplish?

Bottom Line

Final thoughts, questions

Final Thoughts

Your students are reading their mathematical text

They're employing strategies from ELA (and elsewhere)

We should identify then model strategies that help understanding

Questions?

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