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Helping Students Read Mathematics

Math In Action Session B-3
26 February 2022

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"

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

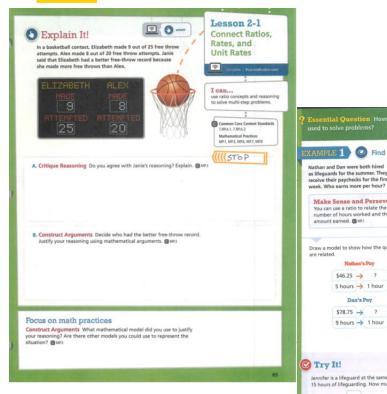
Twenty-two 1-on-1 interviews with 7th graders

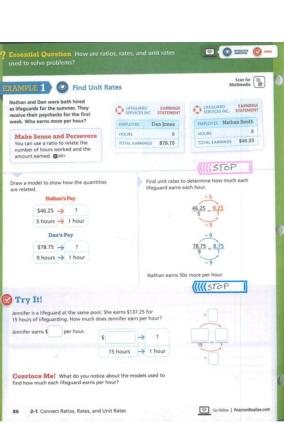
Read aloud a 3-page passage from Pearson's envisionMath 2.0

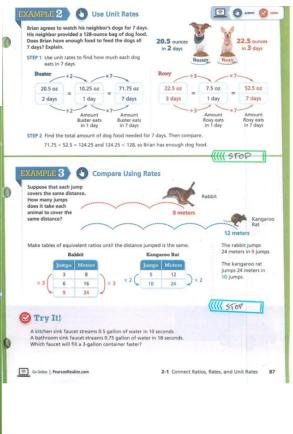
A focus on how students read through the text



Passage Excerpt







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

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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