



Teaching Numeracy: 9 Critical Habits to Ignite Mathematical Thinking

By Margie Pearse, K. M. Walton

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Transform mathematics learning from “doing” to “thinking”

American students are losing ground in the global mathematical environment. What many of them lack is numeracy—the ability to think through the math and apply it outside of the classroom. Referencing the new common core and NCTM standards, the authors outline nine critical thinking habits that foster numeracy and show you how to:

- Monitor and repair students’ understanding
- Guide students to recognize patterns
- Encourage questioning for understanding
- Develop students’ mathematics vocabulary

Included are several numeracy-rich lesson plans, complete with clear directions and student handouts.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is a well-thought out book pulling in a wealth of materials on research and practical application in the math classroom at all levels. It is a must for every classroom teacher." (JoAnn Hiatt, High School Mathematics teacher 2010-11-19)

"This book removes any excuses for not making the changes we need to make in our approach to teaching math. It provides a rich and thorough meta-analysis of respected mathematical research to back up its case for a much-needed new focus in math instruction. And it provides the necessary tools to make it happen in real classrooms now." (Judith A. Filkins, K-8 Math Curriculum Coordinator 2010-11-19)

"This book gets to the heart of how students really learn, then connects that to mathematics. It provides teachers with practical strategies that will empower students and allow for long-term retention and application in mathematics classrooms." (Noël Klimenko, Middle School Mathematics Specialist 2010-11-19)

“Higher math courses are considered gateway classes for students to achieve to higher levels. This excellent resource makes math accessible for all students and ties it all to best practices!”

(Rina F. Vassallo, Director of Teaching and Learning 2010-11-22)

"Margie Pearse and Katie Walton have given us a rich treasury of research-based best math practices. This resource is filled with new tools to enhance the skills of teachers at all grade levels. This book offers practical, engaging, numeracy strategies to support our struggling students, and sets the bar high for our advanced young mathematicians." (Mary Dunwoody, Director of Secondary Curriculum and Professional Development 2010-11-29)

"Teaching Numeracy is the book that all math teachers should get their hands on! The authors share their own classroom experiences in an easy-to-read, heartfelt way, and they give readers the opportunity to move from theory to practice the very next day. After reading this book, teachers will understand how to help students actually think through the math instead of just doing the math." (Elizabeth Ann Moorcones, Educational Consultant 2010-11-29)

"This book is for every math teacher who has ever been frustrated and confused about why many math students 'just don't get it'. Pearse and Walton have compiled clear, concise techniques in a straightforward approach to teaching math in the 21st century. Teaching Numeracy is a must-read, must-implement guide that teachers can utilize for every math lesson." (Nancy Paterni, ESE Teacher 2010-12-01)

“Much like the efforts undertaken in literacy, we must take students on a journey through the process of mathematics. Pearse and Walton have presented a book to help us develop depth of knowledge and

understanding through the practical application of research-based best practices.” (Jeffrey Ryan, Assistant Superintendent 2010-12-13)

“Teaching Numeracy is refreshing and unique. Written in a conversational tone, every teacher will at some point see themselves or their classroom situation discussed in this book. It is a well-organized “filing cabinet” of research, methods, activities, suggestions, and lesson plans that align well with every elementary math curriculum.” (Kathleen Eross, Teacher 2011-01-13)

About the Author

Margie Pearse has over 30 years of teaching experience with certifications in mathematics, elementary education, English as a Second Language (ESL), and Pennsylvania Quality Assurance Systems (Certified Instructor – PQAS 2014). She is presently at Chester Community Charter School as a Math Coach and in graduate education, training pre-service teachers how to create deeper, more numeracy based lessons.

Margie’s passion is to share a love of math with teachers and students! Her goal is to empower every student with the tools and strategies needed to be fluent and flexible with numbers. Margie’s educational philosophy can be summed up as such, “Why NOT reinvent the wheel! Yesterday’s lessons will not suffice for students to succeed in tomorrow’s world. We need to meet students, not just where they are, but where they need to be. There is great potential in every child. It is our job to empower students to discover that potential and possess the tenacity and self-efficacy to reach it.”

Published Books: *Teaching Numeracy: 9 Critical Habits to Ignite Mathematical Thinking*, released by Corwin in 2011; *Learning That Never Ends*, released by Rowman & Littlefield in 2013; and *Passing the Mathematics Test for Elementary Teachers*, by Rowman & Littlefield, February 2015.

Kate Walton has taught at both the elementary and middle school levels for twelve years. Although Kate’s primary passion and expertise is with language arts, she feels Numeracy transcends and is, at its very core, deep, logical thinking, which she has always encouraged in her classroom. She believes that a well crafted lesson and a healthy obsession with creativity are the keys to inspiring students to think deeply. Currently, she coaches teachers and conducts original professional development days on best practices.

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