Elementary Math Intervention Program and Online Math Games

by Jim Wheelin

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In addition to helping students achieve great success, elementary schools have to help keep them from getting lost in the shuffle. Out of all of the subjects that are taught in modern classrooms, math tends to be the one that causes the most problems. It's not unusual at all for several students in one classroom to experience trouble with mathematics. That is why nearly every school has an elementary math intervention program in place. There are many instructional ways to address a student's difficulties with math, and Response to Intervention efforts are excellent options. However, many educators are turning to well-designed online math games to make the process more streamlined, effective and efficient. Read below to find out how these special math games are bolstering educators' efforts to help struggling math students.

Differentiated Instruction

It's been a known fact for some time that certain teaching methods just don't click with certain students. How is a teacher supposed to meet the specialized needs of twenty or thirty different students, though? Furthermore, how can an elementary math intervention program be effective if it doesn't address a student's unique problems and needs? One way to get around the problem is by turning to specialized online math games. The best games offer differentiated instruction that assesses a student's weaknesses and strengths and adapts game play accordingly. These games have been shown to make a profound difference for students who are having a hard time with mathematics.

The Benefits of Adaptive Learning

In addition to assessing a student's strengths and weaknesses, a high-quality online math game will adapt according to those things. If a student is experiencing problems with a specific mathematical concept, for example, this type of game will present problems and scenarios that improve confidence and provide alternative ways for a student to arrive at the right answer. If one method doesn't work, this type of game can present different options for the student to consider. For a teacher to provide that kind of instruction, it would require a lot more time and would take away from the rest of the class.

Virtual Manipulatives

At the elementary-school level, students often struggle with understanding basic math concepts. Well-designed online math games incorporate virtual manipulatives that can make a major different. In this situation, a student is able to virtually manipulate objects to form a clearer understanding of a basic math concept. This approach is recommended for a successful elementary math intervention program, but it isn't always easy to achieve in a classroom setting. The right game can provide a unique opportunity to teach a student in a whole new way.

The goal of a well-executed elementary math intervention program is to prevent students from failing or from falling too far behind in their mathematical studies. If students are allowed to move up to higher grades without gaining a clear understanding of math fundamentals, they could be in for trouble throughout the rest of their school careers. There are many advantages to including online math games in the classroom. They don't have to be strictly used for struggling students, but they definitely provide unique benefits in that regard. Schools should open up to the possibility of including these games because they can increase the odds of success among students who would normally struggle or fail.

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Jim Wheelin - About Author:
Jim Wheelin writes about many different educational topics for parents, kids and teachers. He has helped many struggling students to find the best a elementary math intervention program to meet their needs. Jim also encourages other to test educational games such as the ones offered at http://www.dreambox.com/math-intervention.

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