

Robyn Silbey Professional Development Raising Teacher Quality and Student Achievement in Mathematics



For some of us, summertime provides the opportunity to catch up on our reading, or think about how to maximize our success next year. **Robyn** has a few ideas to get you started...



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Students "Keep it Real" in the Summer



Summer is the time for children to apply what they have learned to real life at home. Rather than a packet of "torture at the dining room table," challenge your students and families to:

1. Grocery shop together. Parents can think aloud about how they estimate the total spent. Students can compare prices of similar products, or estimate the weight of produce.
2. Estimate time or distance for a road trip. Students may (a) divide the average miles per hour by the distance to find the estimated time, or (b) multiply the estimated time by the average miles per hour to estimate the distance.
3. Fill 'er up. Students can assist their parents in estimating the total cost of filling the gas tank.
4. **Practice math facts** every day. Suggest flash cards for visual learners, tapes or songs for auditory learners. Whatever they do, practice, practice, practice!

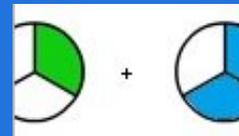
Book Review: Accessible Mathematics

Shout Out! View Ridge ES



View Ridge Elementary School's 30 minute supplemental math block for K-5 includes multi-step, context-based mental math and two real world problems. This complements their 60-minute math block with the [Macmillan McGraw-Hill Math Connects](#) program. Ask any student in the hallway-View Ridge students make sense of math!

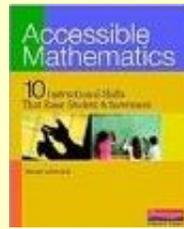
Fraction Addition with Conceptua Math



If you challenge children to predict the sum of $\frac{2}{6} + \frac{3}{6}$, they will likely predict $\frac{5}{12}$, adding the numerators and the denominators. Using the [Conceptua Math](#) fraction tool for Adding Fractions with Like Denominators, it becomes immediately apparent that $\frac{5}{12}$ is an unreasonable sum. The

I recently read Accessible Mathematics by Steve Leinwand. What a powerful and concise book! It supports my belief that instructional strategies must shift in order for our students to succeed in the 21st century.

Leinwand's ten instructional shifts align perfectly with the Standards for Mathematical Practice outlined in the Common Core State Standards. This book is a must read for every classroom teacher, supervisor, and administrator.



students and the teacher in the class I visited were blown away by the visual proof that Conceptua Math fractions provided them.

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New Leaders for New Schools, Boston, Massachusetts July 13 & 14

Council for the Advancement of Math Teachers Dallas, Texas July 18 & 19

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