

Implementation Strategies

Westmont Elementary School and Springfield Elementary School, South Sarpy County School District 46
Omaha and Springfield, NE

Grade(s): K – 6

Scenario: Computer Lab, One-to-One Laptop Program

Purpose: Enrichment/Gifted and Talented

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 90%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 4–5 hours per week, 32 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables)

Patricia A. Lusero, Teacher

I have used ALEKS for about 2.5 years now and I think it is great! I use it with my gifted students so they can work at their own pace.

Scenario

What challenges did the class or school face in math prior to using ALEKS?

The gifted students were not being challenged, and were being forced to stay with the pacing of the regular classroom. They were forced to do lots of drilling and practice on concepts that they already knew.

How many days per week is class time dedicated to ALEKS?

5 days per week.

What is the average length of a class period when ALEKS is used?

45–60 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

I am using it to replace the regular classroom textbook.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

I work one-on-one with the second grade student that I have. We sit together and work on it. The sixth grade student works independently, asking for help as needed.

How did you modify your regular teaching approach as a result of ALEKS?

I did not modify my approach.

How often are students required or encouraged to work on ALEKS at home?

I always encourage my students to work with ALEKS at home.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I send home reports and worksheets regularly, and speak with the parents at conferences.

Grading

Is ALEKS assigned to your students as all or part of their homework responsibilities? If so, what part of the total homework load is it?

Not for the second grade students. Yes, for the sixth grade student. He has been told to spend 30 minutes, three times a week.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

The classroom teacher does this.

Do you require students to make regular amounts of progress in ALEKS?

No.

Learning Outcomes

Since using ALEKS, please describe the learning outcomes or progress you have seen.

I have seen much more progress. The students are moving rapidly through the curriculum, and they love working with ALEKS.