

Implementation Strategies

Skyline Ranch Elementary School, Florence Unified School District
Queen Creek, AZ

Grade(s): K – 8

Scenario: Computer Lab, Computers in Classroom

Purpose: Improve State Test Scores, Supplement

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 30%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 3 hours per week, 120 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 3 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables)

Jason Harris, Teacher

ALEKS has met or surpassed all of my hopes and expectations after my first full year of implementing it in my classroom. My fourth grade classroom was the first to fully implement the program and was also the highest scoring fourth grade class on the state exam in mathematics. Most of my students are excited to see the daily progress they have made on their pie chart. My students also use ALEKS for review and often offer to share how ALEKS has taught them a certain concept as we approach it in our class lessons.

Scenario

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

Due to the amount of curriculum content and the number of students in each classroom, we lacked the time and resources necessary to truly differentiate our lessons in mathematics. ALEKS solved this problem easily.

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?

40 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

ALEKS is used in a lab setting during the school day, and the worksheets are utilized weekly to add to classwork and/or homework packets.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No, we follow our district's curriculum calendar and allow ALEKS to support the students' learning based on their individual needs and readiness.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

The last 30–40 minutes of a 90-minute block is devoted to ALEKS.

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

Daily. They are offered extra credit to work on ALEKS at home.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

We require parents' initials on a checklist to confirm students are on a home computer working on ALEKS.

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?

It is added to their homework packets. It is approximately one third of their homework.

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

We require time on task, not amount. We do not believe it would be healthy to set a required number of concepts completed.

Learning Outcomes

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

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