

Implementation Strategies

Chamberlain Elementary School, Goshen Community Schools
Goshen, IN

Grade(s): K – 5

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

Purpose: Improve State Test Scores, Supplement

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 25%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 2 hours per week, 36 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables)

Donald Bokhart, Teacher

ALEKS has been very helpful for our students. I believe it will help with the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP) exam as they are getting extra math reinforcement and exposure to concepts that I have not yet covered in the classroom. They are also much more familiar with doing math on a computer which helps, as our fifth grade takes the state exam on the computer. ALEKS also allows students who are motivated to work on the program at home as well as at school.

Scenario

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

Keeping kids motivated who are grasping the classroom concepts faster than the slower learners. Now, ALEKS allows those kids to progress at their own pace and also to connect the material in ALEKS to what they are doing in the classroom. Topics are reinforced for students as they see those skills and concepts covered in ALEKS as well as the classroom.

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

4 days per week.

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

30 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We used data from another program and classroom math data to establish which kids would go to ALEKS. Those children go during a 30 minute time slot that is not part of the regular math class; they get regular math and also get ALEKS.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

ALEKS is used during a separate part of my day. I have my regular math class and then 15 students of my class have ALEKS for 30 minutes in addition during another part of the day.

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

I do not.

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

It is optional.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I notify them that it is available at home.

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?

No.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

I don't because not all of my students use ALEKS.

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

Not yet.

Learning Outcomes

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

One student has progressed through the fifth grade curriculum and is now nearly finished with the sixth grade curriculum after only four months of using ALEKS. Other students are getting close to finishing, and are very excited as they complete pieces of their pie and get reports on the percent they have completed. The competition of seeing others complete their pies is motivating everyone to progress.