

Implementation Strategies

Alwood Elementary School, Alwood Community Unit School District 225
Alpha, IL

Grade(s): K – 5

Scenario: Computer Lab

Purpose: Enrichment/Gifted and Talented

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 15%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 1–2 hours per week, 20 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables)

Jenna Thompson, Teacher

This is our first year using ALEKS. The kids and I LOVE it. In fact, I enjoy the program so much that I decided to do further research on it as part of a graduate school class. I have created a Power Point to support ALEKS, using a variety of resources.

Scenario

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

Knowledge of basic facts and challenging those who are gifted and talented.

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

3–4 days per week.

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

25 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

It has taken the place of Accelerated Reader (AR) time and comes right before our math period.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

My Gifted and Talented students use ALEKS with the Gifted Coordinator in a computer lab located next to our classroom.

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

I preview material with the other students prior to the return of my ALEKS students, and when they return, they can typically help those that are struggling and finish their work.

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

They only participate in ALEKS at school.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

They are encouraged to ask questions, receive information, etc.

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?

ALEKS makes up about half of the homework I assign.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

We do not.

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.

My kids have shown huge improvements in math. They are typically teaching the other kids new things that have never been touched on in the classroom. They love making progress with ALEKS.