

Implementation Strategies

Wateree Elementary School, Kershaw County School District
Lugoff, SC

Grade(s): K – 5

Scenario: Computers in Classroom, Laptop Carts, Home Access

Purpose: Intervention, Improve State Test Scores, At-Risk Students

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 20%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 2.5 hours per week, 22.5 hours per term

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

Michele Wells, Teacher

Our school purchased around 75 ALEKS subscriptions to use with our students who were struggling in math. ALEKS is used as a tutorial in our classrooms. My students work daily in ALEKS on the pieces of the pie that they are weak in according to their ALEKS Initial Assessment. I also use the worksheets and send them home weekly as an extra tutorial. I have seen great growth with my students who have been working in ALEKS on a daily basis.

Scenario

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

We had low MAP and Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) scores and less gains in math.

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?

30 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We use ALEKS school-wide. Based on the scores from MAP testing, each teacher chooses the bottom 6–7 students who will benefit from extra help with ALEKS.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

My students work individually depending on their area of need.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Students work on ALEKS during our morning work/warm-up time. Students working on ALEKS complete the warm-ups with me if they are not completed by the time we review/check.

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

I schedule groups in the morning, since I don't use ALEKS with the whole class.

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

Daily.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I send reports home regularly and keep parents up-to-date on their student's progress.

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?

Yes. Students work on printable worksheets over the weekend and are encouraged to work online daily.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

I don't use ALEKS for grades, as it is used for remediation at my school.

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

They are responsible for filling up their pie depending on their needs.

Learning Outcomes

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

We have had higher scores on our Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing, as well as increased levels on Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Math assessments. Classroom grades have also improved.