

Implementation Strategies

Hillel Academy, Private
Milwaukee, WI

Grade(s): K – 8
Scenario: Computer Lab, Computers in Classroom
Purpose: Supplement
ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 50–70%
Time Spent in ALEKS: 2.5 hours per week
ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 3 (with QuickTables)

Sheina Myer-Smith, Learning Specialist
My experience with ALEKS has been fabulous!

Scenario

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

Prior to implementing ALEKS, individualization was much more difficult for students that were performing significantly below or above their grade levels.

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?

I have used ALEKS as a supplementary tool to meet the needs of those students that require significant modification to our curriculum to excel.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

Yes, we integrate our textbook into ALEKS.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

I prefer to begin with QuickTables for 15 minutes, and then move on to the mathematics section for the remainder of the class.

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

ALEKS has allowed me to provide much more individualized aid to each of my students.

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

I encourage my class to work on ALEKS at home at least four nights per week.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I try to incorporate parent involvement by encouraging them to work with their child while the students are practicing with 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?

Yes, 100 percent.

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

I do not require the students to reach specific progress goals, but do monitor their individual progress.

Learning Outcomes

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

ALEKS has allowed me to provide more individualized support to my students. The students are much more motivated than ever before.

Best Practices

Are there any best practices you would like to share with other teachers implementing ALEKS?

We have found it to be very rewarding for the students to record their total time in ALEKS and their current percentages so that they can track their own progress.