

Implementation Strategies

Vic Pitre Elementary School, Jefferson Parish Public School System
Westwego, LA

Grade(s): K – 5

Scenario: Computer Lab

Purpose: Supplement

Time Spent in ALEKS: 2.5 hours per week; 18 hours per term

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

Debbie Dantin, Assistant Principal

Although we only piloted ALEKS with a limited number of students, the feedback was positive. The teachers found it very easy to use and the students were engaged in the activities. Students made significant progress in a short period.

Scenario

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

Finding a way to meet the needs of the various ability levels in each class.

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?

The program was used as a supplement to the regular curriculum.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

The selected students worked on ALEKS during the first 30 minutes of their physical education class.

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

Most of our students do not have Internet access at home. Students were encouraged to work at home on a daily basis if they had a computer and Internet access available.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

Parents were given a brief explanation about ALEKS and a copy of user names and passwords in an introductory letter.

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?

No grades were derived from the ALEKS program.

Learning Outcomes

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

Students have increased problem solving skills and have learned to work on a more independent level when faced with challenging problems.

Best Practices

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

We found it beneficial to allow the students to work in the lab during the first 30 minutes of their PE class because it did not take away from the regular math program and all students were able to participate on a daily basis.