

Implementation Strategies

Knob Noster High School, Knob Noster R–VIII School District
Knob Noster, MO

Grade(s): 9 – 12

Scenario: Computers in Classroom

Purpose: Supplement

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 20%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 1 hour per week, 12 hours per term

Neva Allen, Teacher

I used ALEKS with Algebra A students. In eight weeks, my students experienced significant growth. The greatest value was the ability for students to work at their level. No one was bored and everyone grew in their mathematical abilities.

Scenario

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

We struggled with remediating basic skills and teaching to a population with diverse mathematical abilities.

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

2–3 days per week.

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

20 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We are currently using ALEKS with all students taking Algebra A as opposed to Algebra I. This year ALEKS will also be available in the special needs resource rooms.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

We spend approximately 20 minutes a day in ALEKS as part of an 80–minute period.

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

I spend more time on applications and performance activities.

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

20 minutes per week.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

ALEKS is introduced during open house and on the class web page.

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 comprises approximately 40 percent of a student's homework responsibility.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

ALEKS makes up approximately 10 percent of a student's grade.

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

I do not require students to make specific progress in ALEKS, but I look at their percent increase in topics learned and compare it to other students.