

Implementation Strategies

Seaside Middle School, Monterey Peninsula Unified School District
Seaside, CA

Grade(s): 6 – 9

Scenario: Computer Lab, Computers in Classroom, Home Access

Purpose: Rtl, At-Risk Students, Supplement

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 25%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 2.5 hours per week, 12 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Rtl 8

Lori Obrien, Teacher

My favorite component of ALEKS has been that students get immediate feedback and are able to work on skills aligned to their needs. Their frustration level goes down and their motivation goes up. Teaching a wide range of grade-level abilities is now possible. I also have documentation for Response to Intervention (Rtl), and students can continue to work when they are serving in school suspension. I have seen a 3–5 grade levels of progress, on average, when ALEKS is used daily. Students feel empowered and relieved to be more proficient in the skills that have eluded them for two, maybe three years, which have made regular math class unbearable.

Scenario

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

4–5 days per week.

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

30 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

For lab use; each student has their own laptop.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

We are on a block schedule. ALEKS is part of the block I use for skill review.

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

I devote chunks of time to ALEKS.

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

Daily.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

With parent/teacher meetings and Back-to-School Night demos using students.

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?

Sometimes.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

Participation is based upon a rubric and progress is worth 15 percent.

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

Yes, measured by time and becoming proficient on a strand or concept.

Learning Outcomes

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

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