

Implementation Strategies

John Wilson Intermediate School 211, New York City Geographic District 18
Brooklyn, NY

Grade(s): 6 – 8

Scenario: Computers in Classroom

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

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 10%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 4 hours per week, 32 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Essential Mathematics (with QuickTables), Middle School Math Course 2, Middle School Math Course 3, Algebra Readiness, Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1

Haashim Jamyl Job, Instructor

I believe ALEKS is a great tool to assist in filling in the gaps where the classroom could not. The kids seem to enjoy the independent work, and ALEKS actually worked for most of the students. I've seen students' scores and classroom participation improve. I know ALEKS is a very useful tool for all teachers and students.

Scenario

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

The challenges the school faced were fundamental and remedial things. ALEKS allows me to help remediate some of the issues the students have, which then allows the students to catch up and better understand the current topics.

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

2 days per week.

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

Varies.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

I use it as a tutorial tool and a remedial assistant.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

ALEKS is not used during class because I select certain students to use the program after school.

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

It allows me to use less time in the classroom to assist students that are behind. I can just have those students stay after school to work on ALEKS and give them some one-on-one tutoring.

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

I ask them to go on ALEKS at least twice per week.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I didn't really cultivate parental involvement.

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?

ALEKS is used as extra credit.

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

No.

Learning Outcomes

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

I've seen students' scores and classroom participation improve. They were shocked at the small percentage of the pie they received initially but it just motivated them to fill in their pies.

Best Practices

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

I would just say to use it because it is definitely useful.