

Implementation Strategies

Cisco Junior High School, Cisco Independent School District
Cisco, TX

Grade(s): 6 – 8

Scenario: Computer Lab

Purpose: Improve State Test Scores, At-Risk Students, Core Curriculum, Supplement

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 40%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 1.5 hours per week

ALEKS Course: Middle School Math Course 3

Jody Seay, Teacher

ALEKS is downright, one of the best programs I have ever used. I have learned that if a student finishes at least 80 percent of their grade level course in ALEKS, they will pass the state exams.

Scenario

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

My biggest challenge was knowing what each student needed.

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?

45 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

If a student is having problems with a math topic, I have them work on that topic in ALEKS.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

There is no particular order.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

We go to the computer labs two days a week and work in ALEKS.

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

No, I do not modify my regular teaching approach.

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

They are not required to work on ALEKS at home.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I have several students who use the Spanish feature.

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 homework.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

I do not incorporate ALEKS into my grading system.

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

There is no set amount, but I do check their progress through the Teacher Module.

Learning Outcomes

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

I have learned that if a student finishes at least 80 percent of their grade level course in ALEKS, they will pass the state exams. Additionally, my students love that ALEKS is self-paced and like to see their pie charts fill up.

Best Practices

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

The big seller about ALEKS is that it allows students to start at their own grade level and work up. My gifted students have no limits.