

**Title of Session:** Math Resources K-20

**Moderator:** Jeff Cooper

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Room: Math Resources Group

**BJB2:** Welcome to today's Math Resources discussion

**BJB2:** we usually start all discussions with introductions

**LeticiaB:** I just finished student teaching. I am interviewing for Math 4-8 positions

**BJB2:** please tell us where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach

**MaureenB:** Hi Maureen Beyrer 4th grade teacher in Putnam County, NY

**LeticiaB:** University of Houston

**DavidWe:** I'm David Weksler. I lead a math education and technology discussion (later this month). I'm in New Jersey, near New York City

**AshleyE:** Just finished student teaching in Sugar Land. I will be a special ed teacher in the fall

**DavidWe:** Congratulations, Ashley

**AshleyE:** My specialty is Autistic students

**DavidWe:** . o O ( that's challenging )

**AshleyE:** I have 3 years of experience and love it

**AshleyE:** It's very rewarding

**BJB2** wonders if David is going to get us started today?

**DavidWe:** Okay

**DavidWe:** Welcome folks

**DavidWe:** Jeff Cooper should join us soon

**DavidWe:** I was just at a fascinating conference over the weekend on math education and social justice

**DavidWe:** The keynote speaker was the former civil rights leader, Bob Moses

**AshleyE:** sounds interesting

**DavidWe:** Some of you may have heard of him, but in the past 20 years he has become a proponent of teaching algebra to middle school kids in inner cities, especially

**DavidWe:** The Algebra Project has as its main tenet that math is a civil right

**DavidWe:** Since it allows you to go on in science, technology, other fields, especially

**DavidWe:** Not sure if that is of interest to any of you, but here's the web site for the Algebra Project:

**DavidWe:** <http://www.algebra.org/index.html>

**DavidWe** gives the microphone to Jeff

**JeffC:** I would like to know what the needs of this group are in terms of math support... but we can also discuss the Algebra Project and spend some time on that site as well.

**AshleyE:** Well I will be teaching autistic students in the fall. What ideas do you have?

**AshleyE:** They are non-verbal

**AshleyE:** Pretty low functioning

**JeffC** nods to Ashley... so we're looking at a combination of SPED and Math here.

**AshleyE:** Well they need to be taught everything, so yes

**MaureenB** . o O ( wonders the ages of your students )

**AshleyE:** I know manipulatives and what not, but I want something more

**AshleyE:** kinder through 2nd

**LeticiaB:** During student-teaching I was having a little trouble getting the content across to the esl and inclusion students

**JeffC:** Here's a book you might want to purchase, Ashley:  
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6860157>

**LeticiaB:** enough for understanding of all students... that is sort-of difficult

**JeffC:** And here are a couple of websites to explore as well:

<http://www.specialeducationmath.com/>

**AshleyE:** Oooooohh thanks. That's great

**JeffC:** <http://www.specialeducationmath.com/teaching-autistic-child.htm?tkn=dMHXtJXmAAEKewi13vjIjO6LahUTAoYKHW5v0jMYASANMNfvoAM4DQ>

**JeffC:** And here's a good one from Education World: [http://www.education-world.com/a\\_curr/curr139.shtml](http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr139.shtml)

**JeffC:** and another: [http://www.education-world.com/a\\_curr/curr139.shtml](http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr139.shtml)

**AshleyE:** Thanks a lot

**BJB2:** great resources, Jeff.

**JeffC:** Here's an article on math disabilities: <http://www.ldonline.org/article/5896>

**AshleyE:** I always need things like this

**JeffC:** You've got three things happening... SPED (autism), Math, and K-3.

**BJB2:** I would think music and math would be an especially good match for your group, Ashley

**MaureenB** . o O ( as an experienced teacher there are some great things there )

**AshleyE:** I agree BJ

**JeffC:** I'd recommend joining all three groups here

**AshleyE:** Ok

**JeffC:** And Bj's recommendation is also great... using math and music will definitely reach some students you won't reach otherwise.

**AshleyE:** I agree

**AshleyE:** Thanks

**JeffC:** OK... I can get you more resources Ashley... but let's hear what others are looking for at the moment... and of course we can also discuss the Algebra Project when David gets back.

**BJB2** wonders if Rik or Leticia has questions? concerns?

**LeticiaB:** Does anyone know any GREAT places to get hands on exploratory lessons

**AshleyE:** Well Leticia said something about having problems with her bilingual class earlier right

**JeffC:** hmm... exploratory? in what way?

**LeticiaB:** ESL, yes!

**MaureenB:** here is a site from Apple with music and math

<http://edcommunity.apple.com/ali/story.php?itemID=10668&version=1543&pageID=3833>

**JeffC:** you're talking about using manipulatives Leticia?

**LeticiaB:** most of the kids in my area say that the classes are too boring, and they ARE

**LeticiaB:** if that is what it takes!

**AshleyE:** Most kids like things that are hands on

**DavidWe** agrees

**AshleyE:** what type of lessons are you trying to teach?

**LeticiaB:** I don't want to be a boring teacher

**AshleyE:** you don't have to

**JeffC:** Do you have online access for your students, Leticia? If so... here are quite a few sites that deal with math manipulatives:

<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/hiat/websites/math.shtm>

**LeticiaB:** they may visit a lab once a week

**JeffC:** National Library of Virtual Manipulatives:

<http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vlibrary.html>

**AshleyE:** We did a great lesson using fabric when dealing with shapes and dimensions

**JeffC:** That site is broken down by grade level... and you can even teach the younger kids algebra there.

**AshleyE:** It was hands on

**JeffC:** Take a look at Pre-K through 2nd Algebra online games:  
[http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/category\\_g\\_1\\_t\\_2.html](http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/category_g_1_t_2.html)

**LeticiaB:** I introduced that to my supervising teacher, but much of it was difficult

**AshleyE:** the fabric?

**AshleyE:** or something else

**LeticiaB:** Do any of you know of great lessons on perimeter, area, and scale factor?

**AshleyE:** Do the fabric. That is precisely what I'm talking about...

**JeffC:** for what grade Leticia?

**LeticiaB:** I was told the room/house floor plan was good! 5th through 7th

**AshleyE:** Take pieces of fabric and the students can measure with a ruler and make shapes

**AshleyE:** to get the perimeter and area

**JeffC:** online or off?

**AshleyE:** off

**LeticiaB:** off? technology resources are very low here

**LeticiaB** frowns

**JeffC:** OK... here's a general site that you can create worksheets for math with:  
[http://edhelper.com/math\\_grade6.htm](http://edhelper.com/math_grade6.htm)

**LeticiaB:** thank you!

**JeffC:** unfortunately... edhelper costs \$20 a year.

**LeticiaB:** is the \$20 worth it? do any of you use collaborative groups

**JeffC:** Here's a free site to create worksheets Leticia  
[http://www.atozteacherstuff.com/Printables/Math\\_Worksheets/Area\\_Perimeter/index.shtml](http://www.atozteacherstuff.com/Printables/Math_Worksheets/Area_Perimeter/index.shtml)

**LeticiaB:** if so, what type of individual roles do you have in each group etc.

**JeffC:** Well... "worth it" is a relative term! I'd say... if you have \$20 to spend, then go for it... otherwise... look for the free stuff!

**LeticiaB:** thanks Jeff

**JeffC:** A to Z Teacher Stuff is free.

**SusanR:** [www.mathfactcafe.com](http://www.mathfactcafe.com) is still free I believe

**AshleyE:** What about a perimeter project of the school?

**DavidWe:** Do you know about "Ask Dr. Math" at the Math Forum - [www.mathforum.org](http://www.mathforum.org) - Leticia?

**LeticiaB:** what is on mathfactcafe?

**JeffC:** Just make sure that you have Adobe Reader... A to Z uses .pdf files.

**SusanR:** <http://www.mathfactcafe.com/> ...is a worksheet generator

**LeticiaB:** cool ok

**JeffC:** Here is a Webquest that deals with perimeters of houses, etc.:  
<http://webquest.sdsu.edu/matrix/6-8-Mat.htm>

**JeffC:** Getting kids to do their own home, as well as the school's, etc. might be interesting.

**LeticiaB:** ooh too cool, I will need that one too

**AshleyE:** The house could be homework, and the school could be collaborative work between students

**LeticiaB:** Great activity

**AshleyE:** See that's not boring

**JeffC:** Here's another portal site for finding perimeters, etc. ... although based in North Carolina, I'm sure that you could adapt the lesson regardless of what state you're in:  
<http://www.learnnc.org/search?guided=1.0&phrase=perimeter>

**AshleyE:** These are all great sites you are giving us

**JeffC:** OK... we have 20 minutes left. Rik and Maureen... anything in particular we can help you with today? I'm happy to go along with what we've been doing, but don't want to leave anyone out.

**JeffC:** Thanks Ashley

**LeticiaB:** I know but I am trying to STOCK up on good lessons and activities before I start in the fall. I want to do better since most students think Math is boring at the school I want to teach at.

**JeffC:** Join this group, Leticia! That will make 3 math groups for you here. Then you may post to Discussion, etc.

**LeticiaB:** Ok!

**MaureenB** . o O ( never feel left out always walk away with something )

**KarenPr** joined the room.

**JeffC:** Hi Karen

**LeticiaB:** great!

**JeffC:** We've been finding sites and resources based on individual needs... anything in particular you're looking for today?

**KarenPr:** algebra

**JeffC:** what grade? and... do your students have online access or do you want offline materials?

**KarenPr:** 8

**JeffC:** For starters, take a look at David's resource, the Algebra Project.

**KarenPr:** we could go online, but I have never tried it

**JeffC:** <http://www.algebra.org/>

**JeffC:** I'd recommend it... I'll paste up some sites for online algebra activities for you.

**KarenPr:** ok

**JeffC:** Here are some others... this one is from math.com:

**JeffC:** <http://www.math.com/homeworkhelp/Algebra.html>

**KarenPr:** Thanks

**JeffC:** also check out: <http://www.algebra.com/>

**JeffC:** also: <http://www.algebrahelp.com/>

**JeffC:** each one takes slightly different approaches... hopefully we'll find ones that will work for different students.

**JeffC:** here are some algebra webquests:

<http://www.nku.edu/~education/technology/edu659/algstudentwebquests.html>

**JeffC:** more algebra webquests:

[http://www.brookscole.com/math\\_d/special\\_features/ext/internet\\_activities/wq\\_algebra/index.htm](http://www.brookscole.com/math_d/special_features/ext/internet_activities/wq_algebra/index.htm)

**LeticiaB:** Do any of you teach ESL students? I had difficulty teaching these students problem-solving. They were bright, they just didn't understand some words and phrases?

**AshleyE:** Most of mine are non-verbal, sorry

**JeffC:** here are some pre-algebra games:

[http://www.brookscole.com/math\\_d/special\\_features/ext/internet\\_activities/wq\\_algebra/index.htm](http://www.brookscole.com/math_d/special_features/ext/internet_activities/wq_algebra/index.htm)

**DavidWe:** We know people who teach ESL, Leticia, but usually older students

**DavidWe:** They may have some resources for you

**DavidWe** . o O ( [www.webheads.info](http://www.webheads.info) )

**JeffC:** and algebra manipulatives for grades 6-8:

[http://www.brookscole.com/math\\_d/special\\_features/ext/internet\\_activities/wq\\_algebra/index.htm](http://www.brookscole.com/math_d/special_features/ext/internet_activities/wq_algebra/index.htm)

**LeticiaB:** ok, they would see things like West Mount Houston Highway 249, then assume this number was relevant in solving the problem and perform some operation using "249" .... they did things like that! that was so frustrating... because It isn't their fault they are soo bright

**LeticiaB** frowns

**JeffC:** one more algebra game (and that's enough urls for now!):

**JeffC:** <http://www.active-maths.co.uk/algebra/games/index.html>

**EmilyW:** wow, I never thought about that Leticia with esl students



**JeffC:** manipulatives are particularly useful for esl students.

**AshleyE:** Maybe going over questions first then finding what numbers they should use would be helpful for them

**AshleyE:** if it's communication

**LeticiaB:** ok.. I try not to shelter them a bunch because they have to take the REGULAR TAKS test (state test)

**JeffC:** our time is about up (unfortunately)

**JeffC:** Science Resources starts in 2 minutes.

**AshleyE:** Thanks for all of your help today

**LeticiaB:** Thank you SO SO SO much

**KarenPr:** Thanks Jeff

**JeffC:** Thanks all for coming!