

Overview of the LECS Math Program

In third grade, the students use a series called "Investigations." This program uses mostly hands-on activities in order for students to be able to make connections to the math concepts. Students might play a game, cut out arrays, make an elevator, or use manipulatives to work on activities. The teacher supplements this series with other math textbooks every once and a while. This is so students can apply what they learned in concept to the paper and pencil math problems that they will encounter later in their school careers. Students have a variety of math homework, either a more abstract activity from the "Investigations" book or drill pages to reinforce the ideas.

In fourth grade, the teacher uses a similar approach as those students also work from both "Investigations" and text books for supplemental material.

In fifth grade, the teacher uses a series called "Connected Math," and this book bridges the more conceptual "Investigations" with the more concrete text books. The "Connected Math" series has word problems as well as more traditional math problems (straight multiplication or subtraction). Most of the work in this math book is problem-solving based.

In the middle school classes, the teacher also uses "Connected Math". Again, there are many problem-based word problems in this book, and the students use logic, critical thinking, and reasoning to figure out the problems. There are also students who use a pre-Algebra text book and an Algebra text book in some classes. Several LECS students take an online Geometry class. The Algebra and Geometry classes offer high school credit.