TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

Basic Math Practice is a series of reproducible activities designed to help students master basic math concepts. Many students struggle with math because their levels of reading ability impair their understanding of the material. *Basic Math Practice* helps these students develop a strong foundation in math without requiring on-level reading skills.

Many basic math programs simply provide general overviews of each skill covered. However, *Basic Math Practice* addresses skills in a variety of formats with multiple activities, making the program appropriate for students who have different learning styles. This series consists of five books, each with over 100 activities that teach and reinforce basic math skills. The series is organized based on developmental progression. Therefore, the activities in each unit become progressively more advanced.

While *Basic Math Practice* is designed as a supplemental program for reinforcing previously learned skills, it also can be used as additional practice for students who struggle with mastering specific skills. The activities included in *Basic Math Practice* are age-appropriate and are written at a low reading level to ensure success for students who struggle with reading. Additionally, the worksheets contain numerous illustrations to further promote success and understanding of math concepts with little reading. The *Rounding, Reasonableness, and Estimation* book contains activities that require students to have a general understanding of place value; addition; subtraction; units of measurement, including length, weight, time, and temperature; and money.

Features

This series is designed to motivate and engage students who may have difficulty reading, helping them acquire basic math skills. Each unit in the book contains the following:

Teacher Instructions – These pages provide objectives for the unit, definitions of important terms used in the unit, and suggested student-centered activities that will aid the teacher in introducing, reinforcing, and reviewing each math skill.

Unit Worksheets – These pages provide simple instructions, examples, and activities that address the skills of rounding, reasonableness, and estimation. The worksheets include pictorial representations, journal-writing prompts, real-world problems, and word problems that require students to use problem-solving skills. A group activity and a take-home activity are included.

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Unit Assessments – These activities allow the teacher to gauge students' comprehension and mastery of the skills covered in each unit. Additionally, these assessments help students become familiar with standardized test formats. Two assessments are included at the end of each unit.

Three Units

Teacher instructions, unit worksheets, and assessments are presented in three units:

- 1. Rounding
- **2.** Reasonableness **3.** Estimation

This order is the suggested sequence for approaching the math skills covered in this book. However, the units can be presented in any order based on students' needs or curriculum requirements.

Parent/Guardian Letter

This letter provides students' parents/guardians with explanations of the three skills that will be taught. The parent/guardian letter can be found on page XIII.



Research and Standards

This book has been designed using recent research regarding math education as a guide. Relevant quotes from this research as well as a list of state and national standards met by this program can be found on page XIV.

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Progress Chart

A progress chart is provided on page XV so that teachers can track students' mastery of skills. The progress chart also can be used as a visual aid for communicating students' progress to their parents.



Teacher Instructions

At the beginning of each unit, teacher instructions are provided, including a list of unit objectives, definitions of important terms that will be used throughout the unit, suggested activities, and directions for group and take-home activities. Most of the activities presented in the teacher instructions are interactive and will pique students' interest in the skills being taught. The terminology used in the objectives, definitions, and suggested activities has been simplified to make it easier for teachers to explain the skills in a way that ensures students' comprehension.



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Unit Worksheets

Each unit includes worksheets that address every skill covered in the unit. Unlike most supplemental resources, *Basic Math Practice* provides ample opportunity for practicing and applying each skill. The goal of this program is to provide a variety of approaches to teaching each skill so that every student's learning style is covered and all students master the skill. The teacher has the option of choosing specific worksheets to use as means of review and reinforcement or working through all the worksheets to reinforce students' comprehension.

The worksheets within each unit are arranged so that skills continue to build upon one another. However, each



worksheet is a complete assignment that is meant to stand alone. Additionally, each worksheet is designed so that the teacher has the option of using it as an independent or a group activity. If the worksheet is completed by groups of students, the teacher should make sure each student understands the skill and is able to explain the skill in his or her own words. After a skill has been taught, worksheets can be sent home for review or reinforcement.

Some of the worksheets require students to interpret information presented in pictures, tables, graphs, or charts or to use the provided information to answer questions. Some worksheets also have a journal-response question. This question asks students to explain in their own words how they used the skill, how they applied the skill to a real-world situation, or what steps they used to solve the problem. To simplify the steps needed to solve the word problems using monetary values, sales tax will not be included in the process. Teachers can discuss how the sales tax works and the purpose of the sales tax. However, the word problems included in this book do not require students to figure the sales tax.

Word problems based on realistic situations conclude each unit. Real-world problems provide students with the opportunity to apply the skills of rounding, reasonableness, and estimation to situations that students might encounter in everyday life.

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Unit Activities

A group activity is included in each unit. Group activities are designed to teach students to work cooperatively to complete a task. Students will work with their peers to complete each activity while applying the skills covered in the corresponding unit. Each group activity concludes with a discussion that requires students to support their findings and compare their results.

| lame: | Date: |
|--|--|
| Estimation | GROUP ACTIVITY |
| Your group will need: several pizza menus or sales | flyers |
| Activity: Plan a pizza party for the class. Estimate the what size the pizzas should be so that each Estimate the total amount owed for the pizz | e number of pizzas needed and person can have three slices. .as. Then, answer the questions. |
| How many people will you need to order pizzas for | ? |
| people | |
| What size of pizza will you order, and how much do | bes this size cost? |
| size \$ | |
| How many pizzas will you order? | |
| pizzas | |
| What is your estimated total cost of the pizzas? | |
| \$ | |

A take-home activity is provided in each unit. The teacher should thoroughly explain each take-home activity to students before sending it home. Although the take-home activities are designated for at-home completion, nearly any worksheet in this book can be sent home with students for review or reinforcement.

| Name: | Date: |
|--|--|
| Estimation | TAKE-HOME ACTIVITY |
| Directions: Before doing each activity, e will be. Then, have a friend o After you finish the activity, f record it. Compare your esti activity. Then, answer the qu | stimate what your pulse rate per minute r family member time you doing the activity, ind your actual pulse rate per minute and mated and actual pulse rates for each testions. |
| ACTIV | VITY 1 |
| Sit still for I minute. | |
| Estimated pulse rate: | Actual pulse rate: |
| Was your estimated pulse rate close t | to your actual pulse rate? |
| ACTIV | VITY 2 |
| Run in place for I minute. | |
| Estimated pulse rate: | Actual pulse rate: |
| Was your estimated pulse rate close t | to your actual pulse rate? |
| ACTIV | VITY 3 |
| Stand still, and wave your arms up and | down for I minute. |
| Estimated pulse rate: | Actual pulse rate: |
| Was your estimated pulse rate close t | o your actual pulse rate? |
| | |
| Why does your pulse get faster when y | ou are more active? |
| | |
| Why does your pulse get slower when y | you sit still? |
| | |
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Unit Assessments

Each unit contains two assessments that cover the skills addressed in the unit. The assessments are designed like standardized tests to give students practice with this format. While reviewing the skills covered in the unit, teachers also can address the skills needed for taking standardized tests.

Basic Math Practice features a variety of test formats, so students will encounter several different types of questions. Most assessments in Basic Math Practice require students to eliminate incorrect options and choose the correct answer, while some assessments ask students to identify the correct application of the skill. While these assessments are designed to measure students' knowledge following



completion of the units, these assessments also can be used as pretests to measure students' prior knowledge of the skills before beginning the corresponding units.

Answer Key

Answer keys for unit worksheets and assessments are included at the end of the book. Answer keys are not provided for group and take-home activities since they are meant to be open-ended and the answers will vary.

