

Teachers  
Empowered to  
Advance  
CHange in  
MATHematics

# Promoting Equity in PreK-8 Mathematics Teacher Preparation

Corey Drake (TEACH MATH PI)

Julia Aguirre, Tonya Gau Bartell, Mary Q. Foote,  
Amy Roth McDuffie, Erin Turner (Co-PIs)



National Science Foundation Award No. (DRL #1228034)

# Overview of Presentation

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- Overview of our Project
- Description of Instructional Modules
- Frameworks Guiding our Work
  
- Sample Analyses
  - *Reorienting Thinking about Black Children*
  - *Critical Analysis of Mathematics Classroom Practice*

*Now speaking, Erin Turner*



# Focus on Equity

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- **Prospective teachers need different (more equity focused) preparation in learning to teach mathematics**
  - “Acknowledge and deal with challenges” presented by the NCTM Equity Principle (Sowder, 2007)
  - What does culturally responsive teaching look like in mathematics? (Grossman, Schoenfeld, & Lee, 2005)

# TEACH MATH Project Goals

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- To design and study instructional modules for preK-8 mathematics methods courses that explicitly develop prospective teachers' competencies related to *children's mathematical thinking* and *children's community/cultural/linguistic funds of knowledge*.
- To support and study early career teachers' practices related to connecting to *children's multiple mathematical knowledge bases* in their mathematics teaching

# TEACH MATH Research Sites

## ■ Urban

- J. Aguirre: University of Washington Tacoma
- M. Foote: Queens College, CUNY



## ■ Mixture of Urban, Suburban, and Rural

- C. Drake and T. Bartell: Michigan State University
- A. Roth McDuffie: Washington State University Tri-Cities



## ■ Borderlands

- E. Turner: University of Arizona



*Note: Primary collaborators are named for each site, but many others contribute from these sites.*

# Instructional Modules for PreK-8 Mathematics Methods Courses



**Mathematics Learning Case Study**

**Critical Analysis of Mathematics Classroom Practice**

**Community Mathematics Exploration**

# Mathematics Learning Case Study



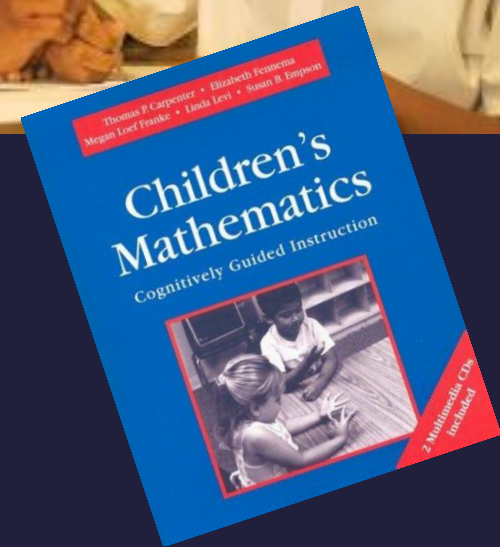
Shadowing



“Getting to Know You” Interview



Problem Solving Interviews



# Critical Analysis of Mathematics Classroom Practice



## Analysis of Mathematics Lesson (observed or taught)

What is/are the central mathematics ideas in this task? (i.e., identify specific concepts, processes, skills, problem solving strategies).

1. **KNOWLEDGE:** What makes this a good or problematic task? How could it be improved?

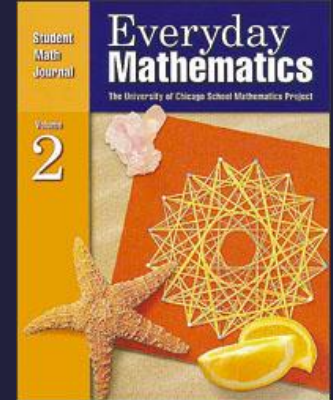
2. **LEARNING:** What specific math understandings and/or confusions are indicated in students' work, talk, and/or behavior?

### RESOURCES & KNOWLEDGE BASES STUDENTS USE

(e.g., mathematical, cultural, community, family, linguistic, students' interests, peers)

3. **TEACHING:** How does the students' thinking (e.g., moves, responses to students' errors/mistakes/decisions).

4. **POWER & PARTICIPATION:** Who participates? Does the classroom culture value and encourage most students to speak, only a few, or only the teacher?



## Curriculum Spaces



## Video Lens





# Community Mathematics Exploration



**Lessons**

Click on the image or title in the menu at the right to link to those lesson types.

**Concept** lessons will use Google Earth to present math topics, such as rates or scientific notation in unique ways.

**Project-Based Learning** activities will include lessons that will require the collaborative efforts of students in pairs or groups. These lessons may be of a longer duration and require additional outside materials.

**Measurement** lessons will make extensive use of the ruler tool in Google Earth to accomplish problem solving activities.

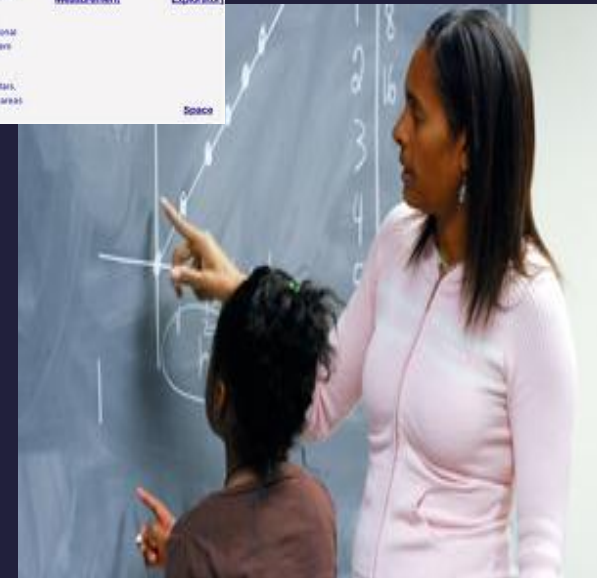
**Exploratory** lessons will follow non-traditional math topics such as fractals, topology, or medians geometry.

**Space** lessons will utilize Google's Moon, Mars, and Sky for activities in Math and other subject areas.

**Lesson Menu**

Concepts	Project-Based Learning
Measurement	Exploratory
	Space

## Lesson Design



## Community Walk

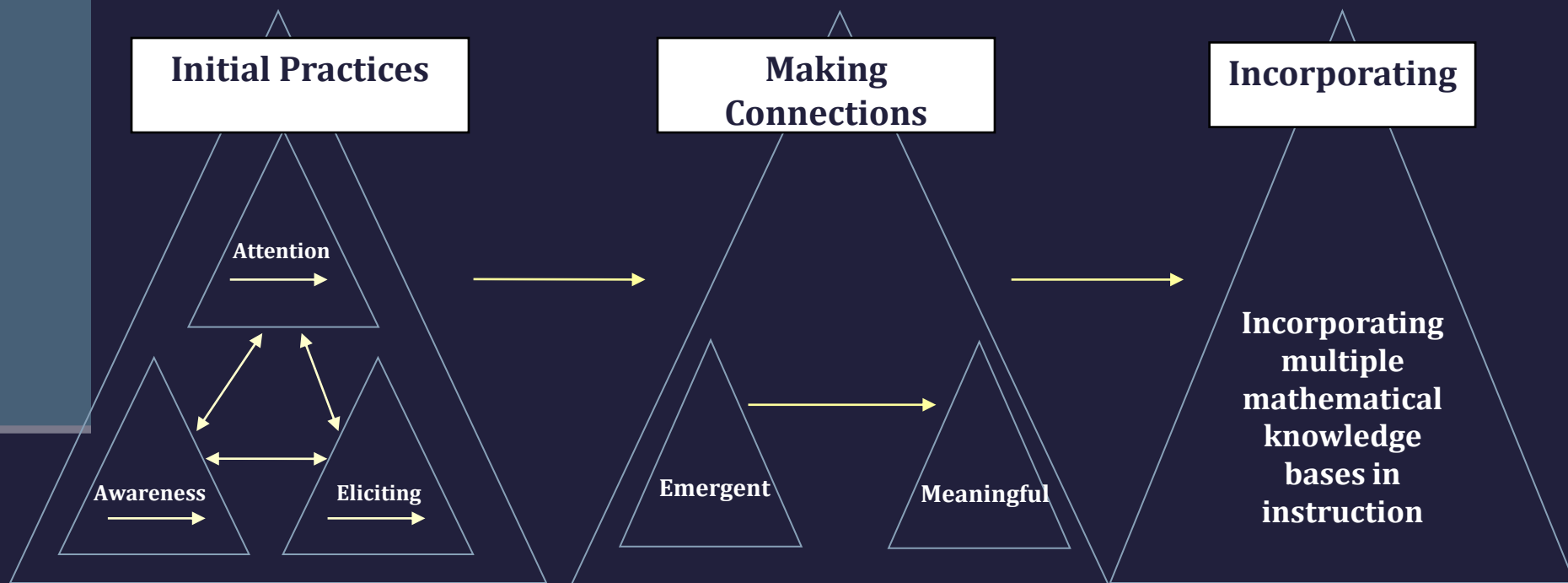


# Theoretical Perspectives

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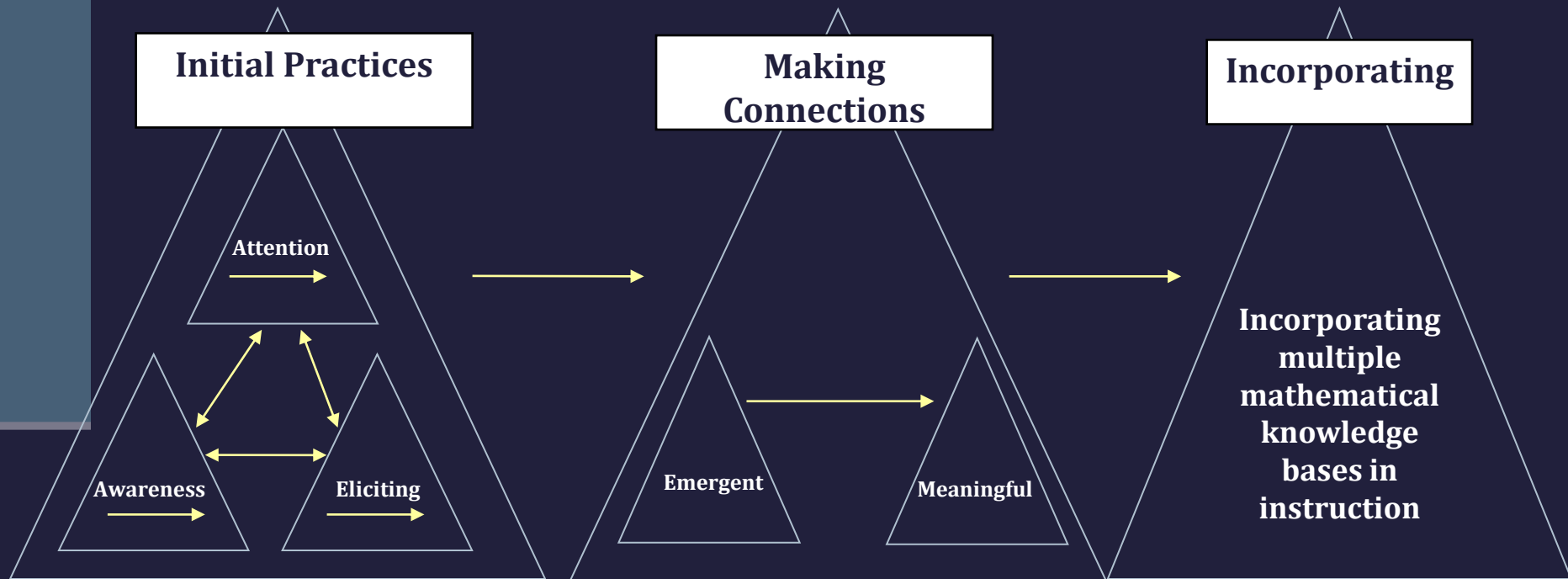
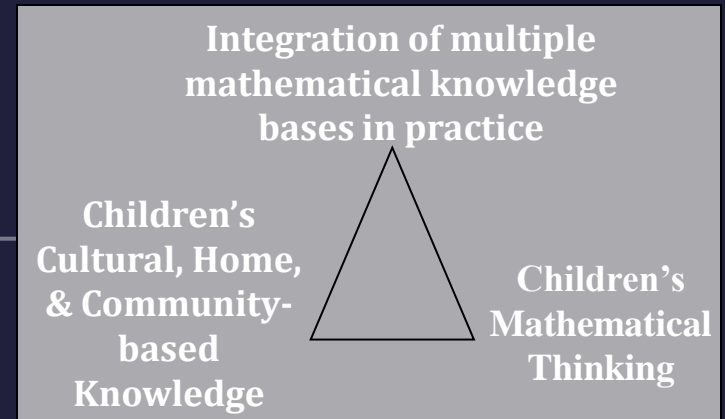
- Teacher learning as situated sociocultural practice, and a process of identity development (Lave & Wenger, 1991; Wenger, 1998)
- We see learning to plan and implement lessons that attend to and build upon children's multiple mathematics knowledge bases as an **ambitious, equity-oriented practice that develops dynamically, over time and across spaces** (Kazemi et al, 2007; Aguirre, 2009; Turner et al., 2012; Gutierrez, 2009)

# PST's **Learning Trajectory** for engaging children's multiple mathematical knowledge bases



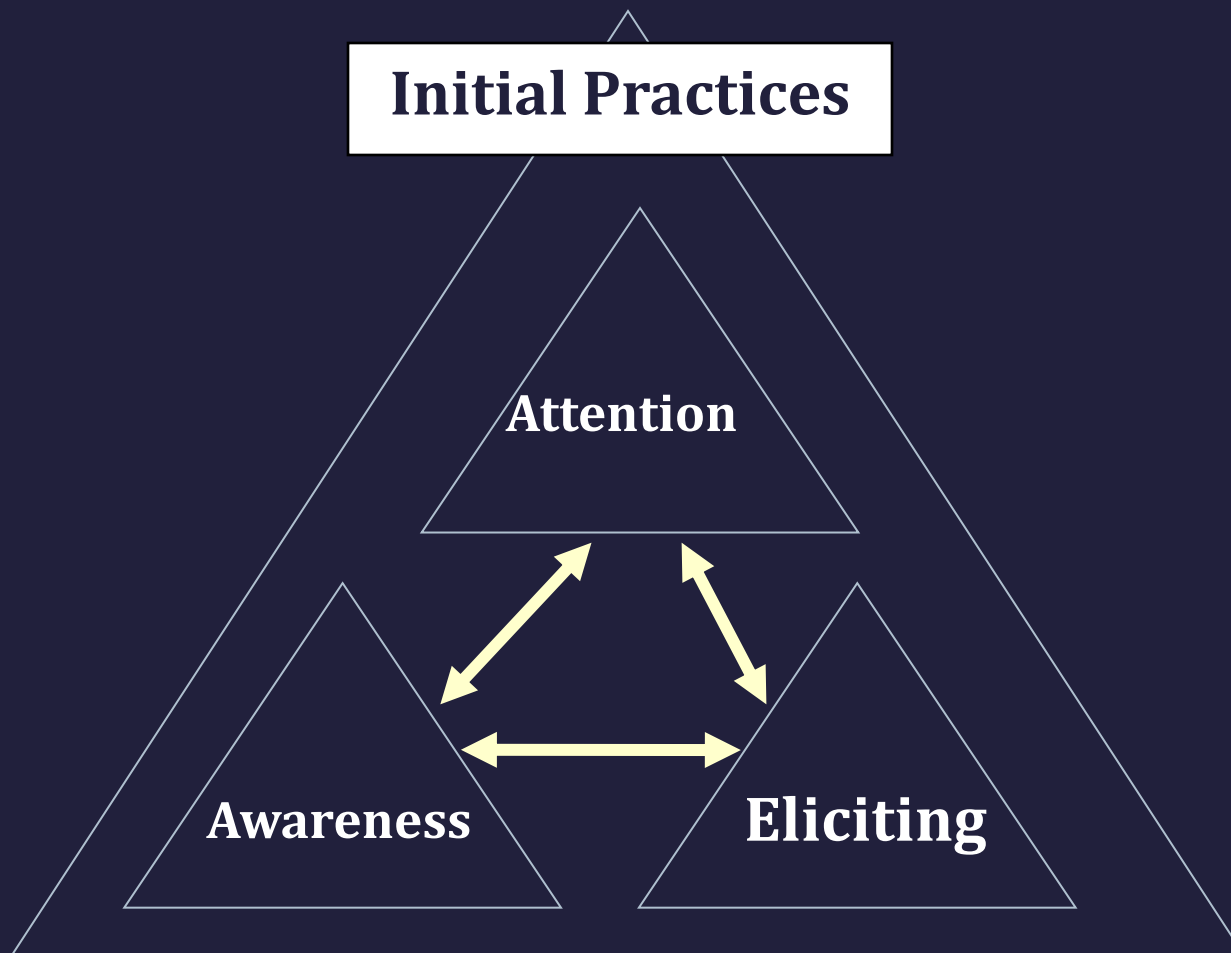
[For more on this trajectory, see Turner, Drake, Roth McDuffie, Aguirre, Bartell, & Foote, 2012 *JMTE*,]

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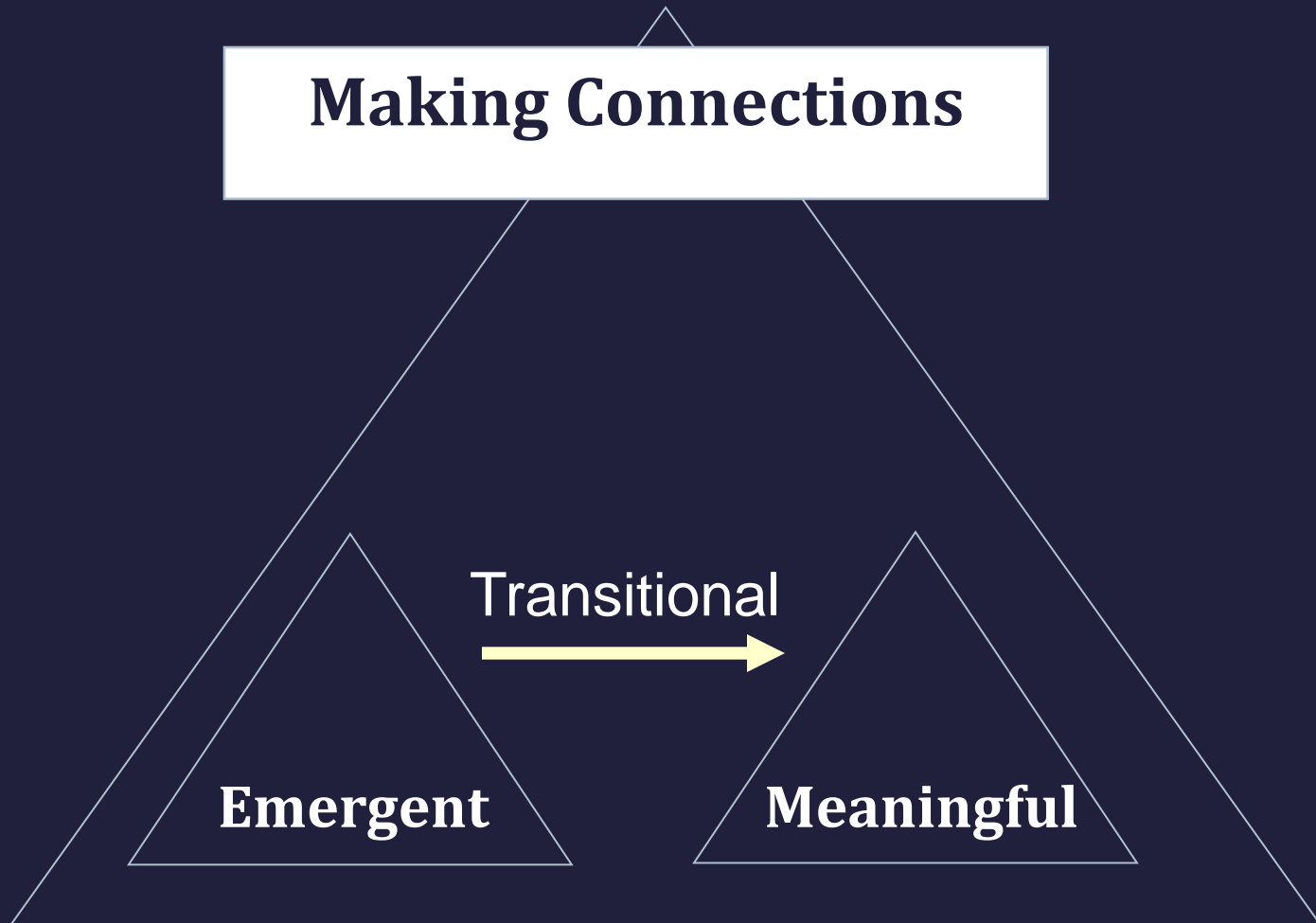


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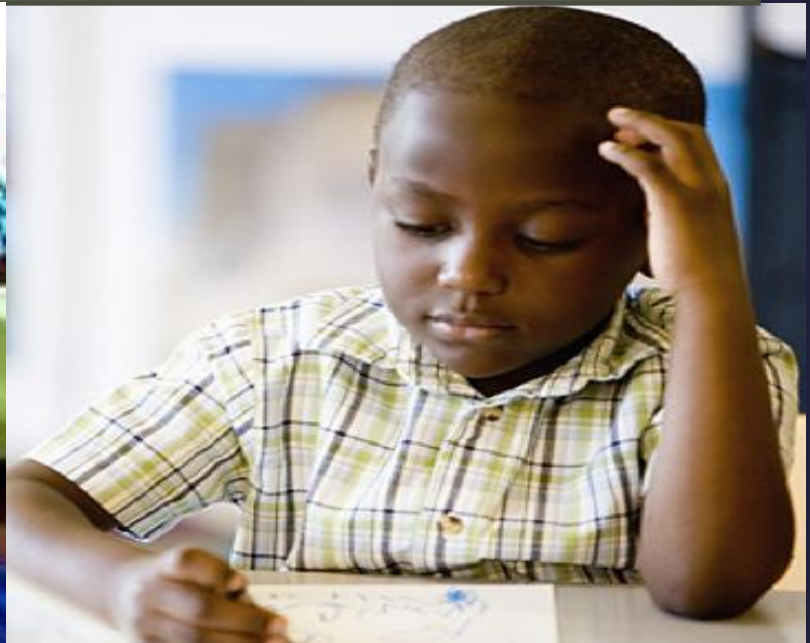
# PST's **Learning Trajectory** for engaging children's multiple mathematical knowledge bases







# (Re)orienting Thinking about Black Children in a Math Methods Course





# The Negro family

*The case for national action*

United States, Dept. of Labor, Office of Policy  
Planning and Research.



*Now speaking, Tonya Bartell*





Orientation



**Martin, 2000**



**Malloy, 2009**



**Milner, 2003**



**Foster, 1990**



**Siddle-Walker, 1996**



**Gay, 2010**



**Ladson-Billings, 1994**



**Leonard, 2008**



**Irvine, 1983**



**Matthews, 2003**

# Mathematics Learning Case Study Module



**REAL WORLD MATH**



Community Mathematics Exploration Module

# Mathematics Learning Case Study



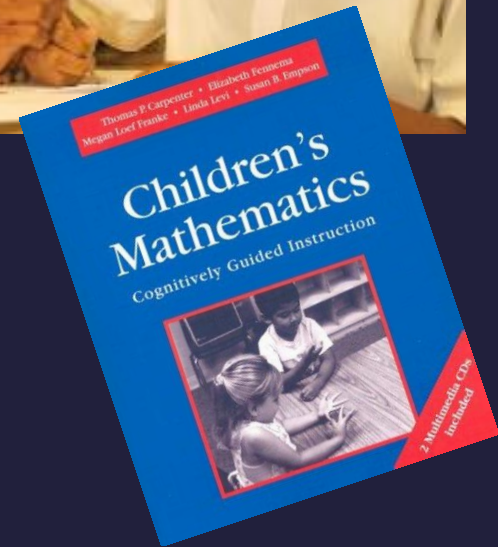
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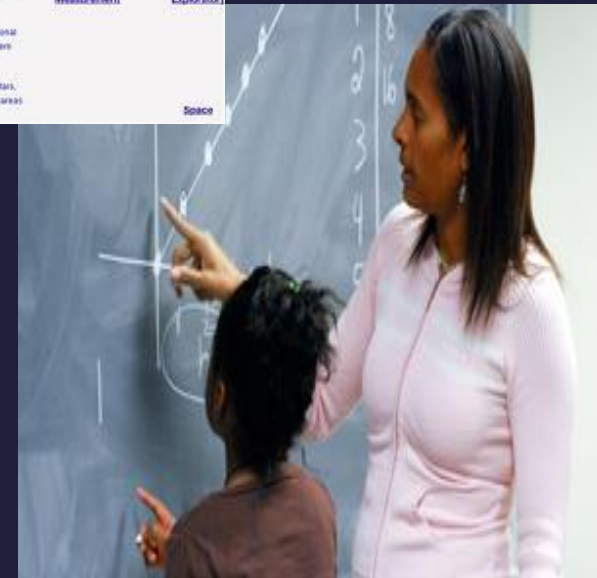
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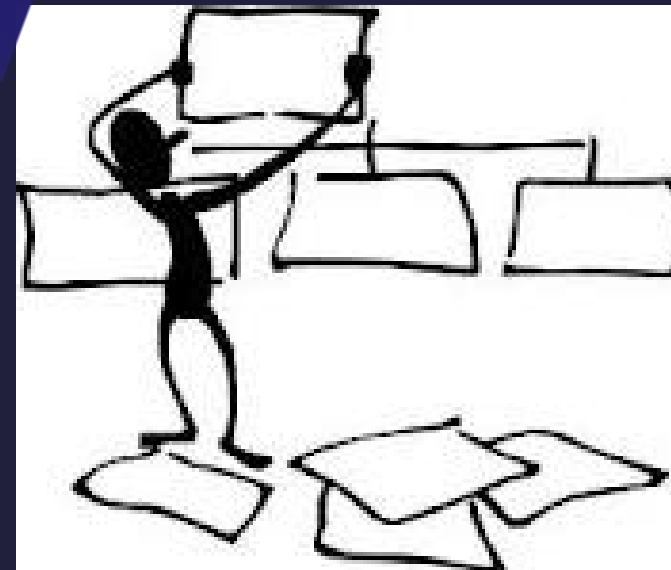
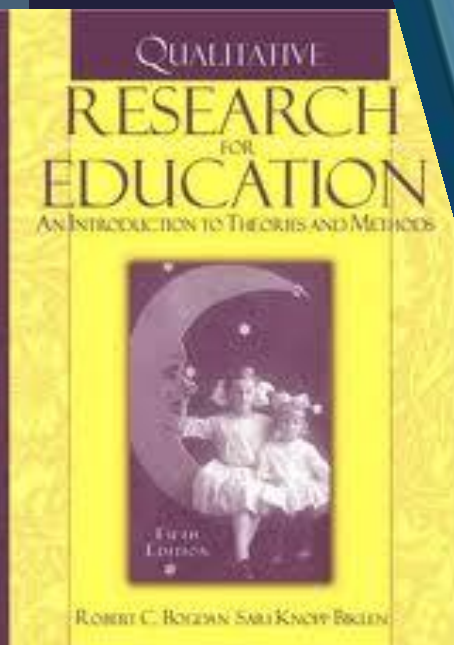
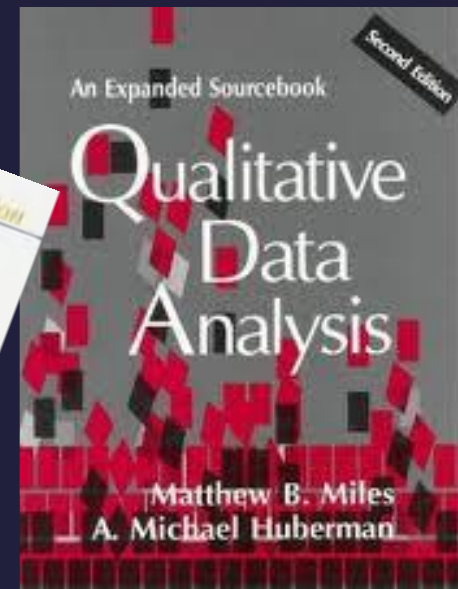
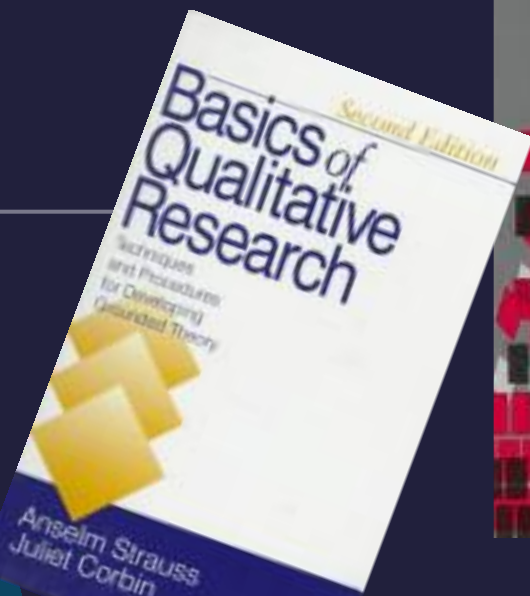
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## Lesson Design

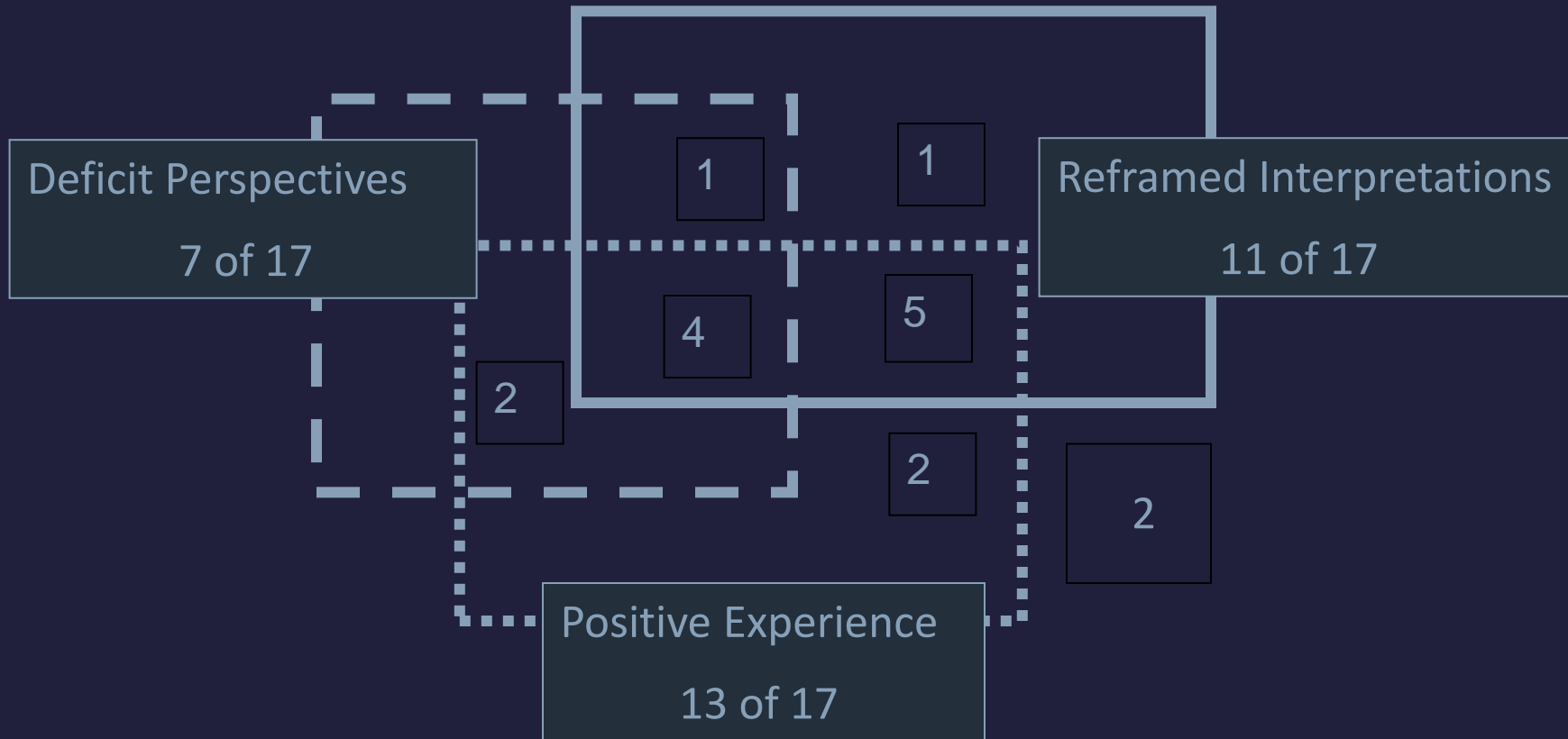


## Community Walk





# Emerging Themes

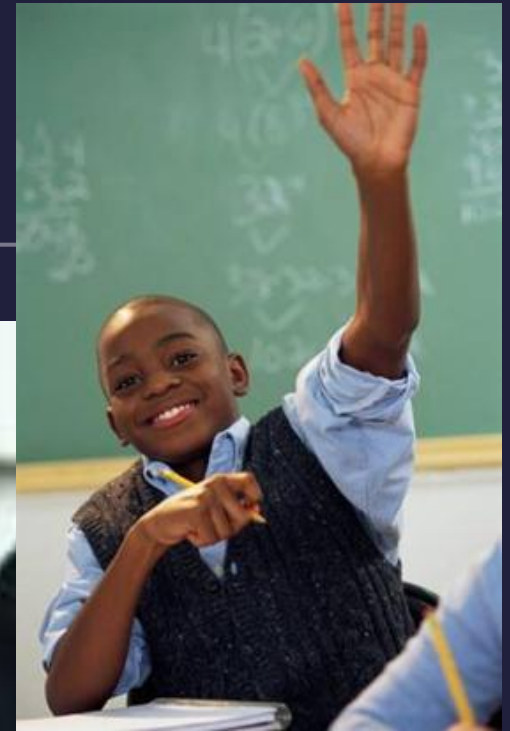




# Tara



# Jay



# Jay

Tara is saving money to buy her brother a present. The present costs 7 dollars. She has 4 dollars so far. How many more dollars does Tara need to buy the present?

$$7 + 4 = 11$$

$$4 + ? = 7$$

# Jay



## Missing-Part Cards

Based on an activity by John Van de Walle, these cards will help students develop fluency with combinations of numbers to 10. In this activity, one of the parts is hidden and children must determine the hidden part using the whole and the visible part. Cards are included for all combinations from 4 to 10.

### TEACHER NOTES

Print the cards on card stock, not because you are going to be reading one section over, do not laminate. Cut each sheet into two cards horizontally.

1. Print the cards on card stock, not because you are going to be reading one section over, do not laminate. Cut each sheet into two cards horizontally.

2. Use pictures below.

3. Fold over the right-most section on each card to create a flap (see second picture).

4. Introduce the activity using counters and a part-part-whole mat. For the card pictured below the student would put 4 counters in the whole section of the mat. They would then move one counter to the part showing on the card to the other part section of the mat and the remaining 3 counters would be in the second part section.

5. Students can write the fact family to go with the card.

6. Once students have had plenty of concrete practice, the cards can be used as flashcards without the counters.

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5	●●	●●	
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4	●	●●●	
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4	●		
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I realize that some of this could be related to a limited budget, however I am a huge proponent of living a healthy lifestyle and would be very interested in teaching students about ways to eat healthy for cheap and take care of their bodies.

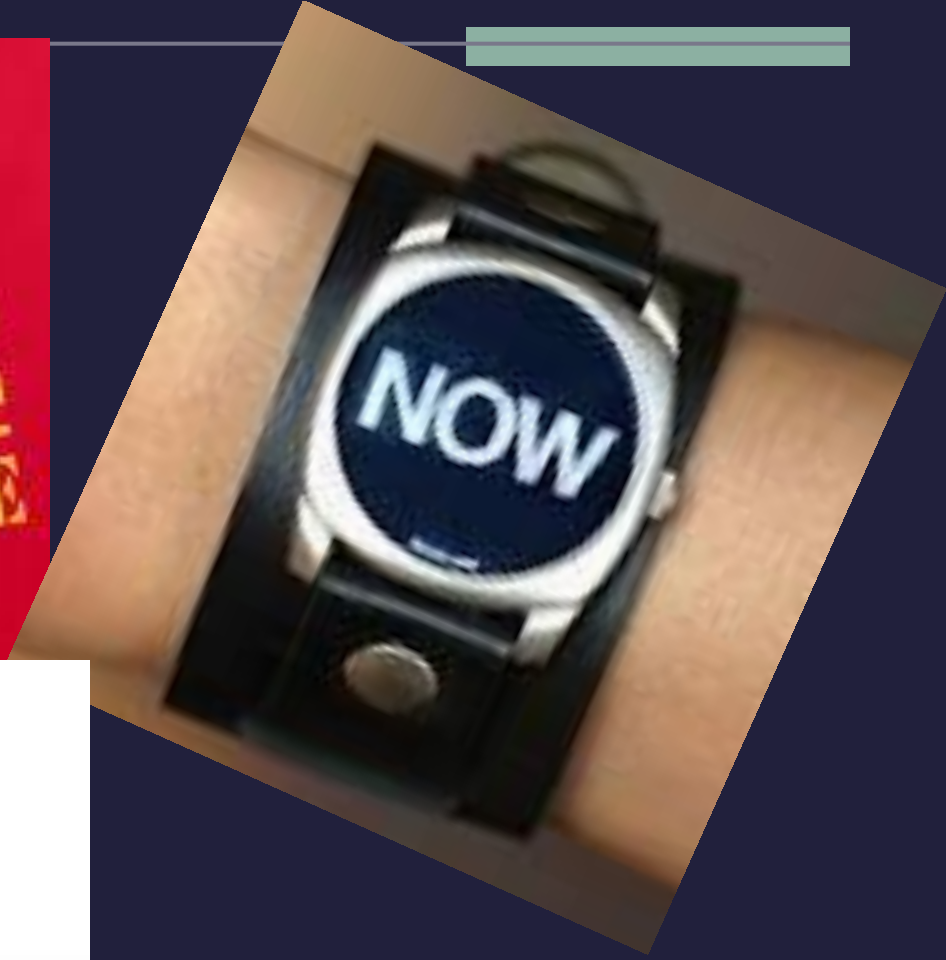


Tara





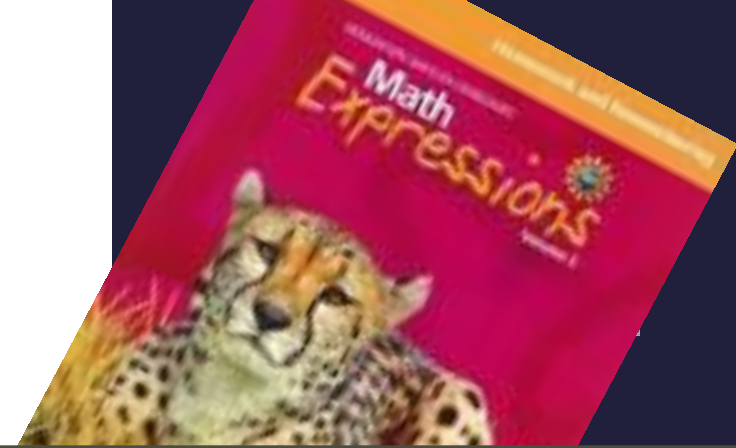
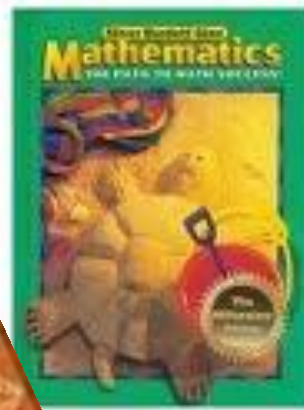
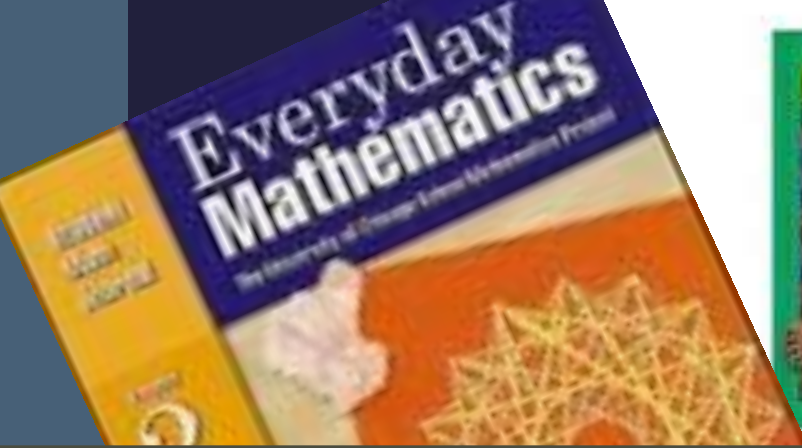
# Discussion



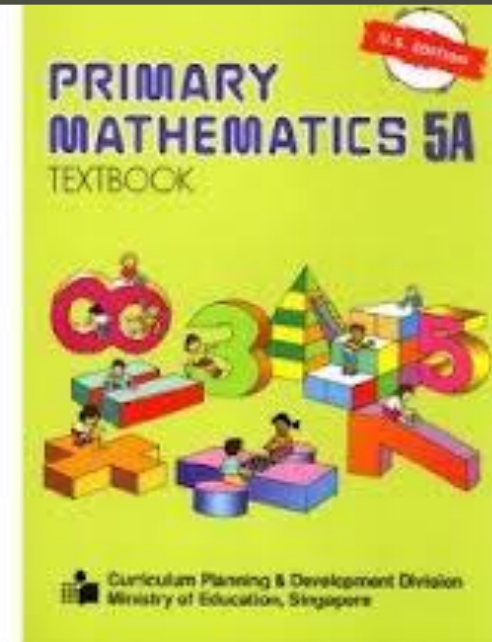
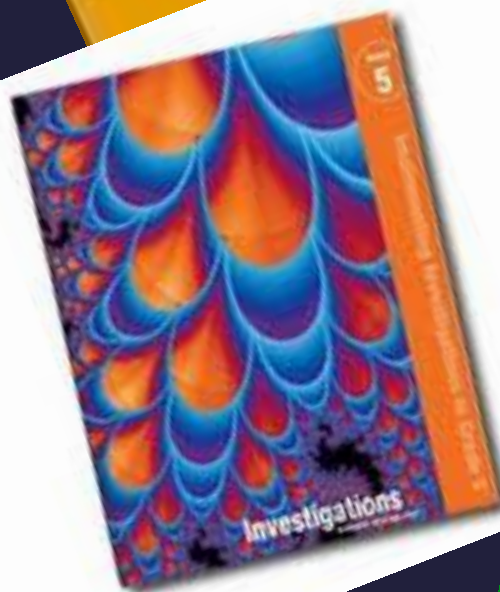


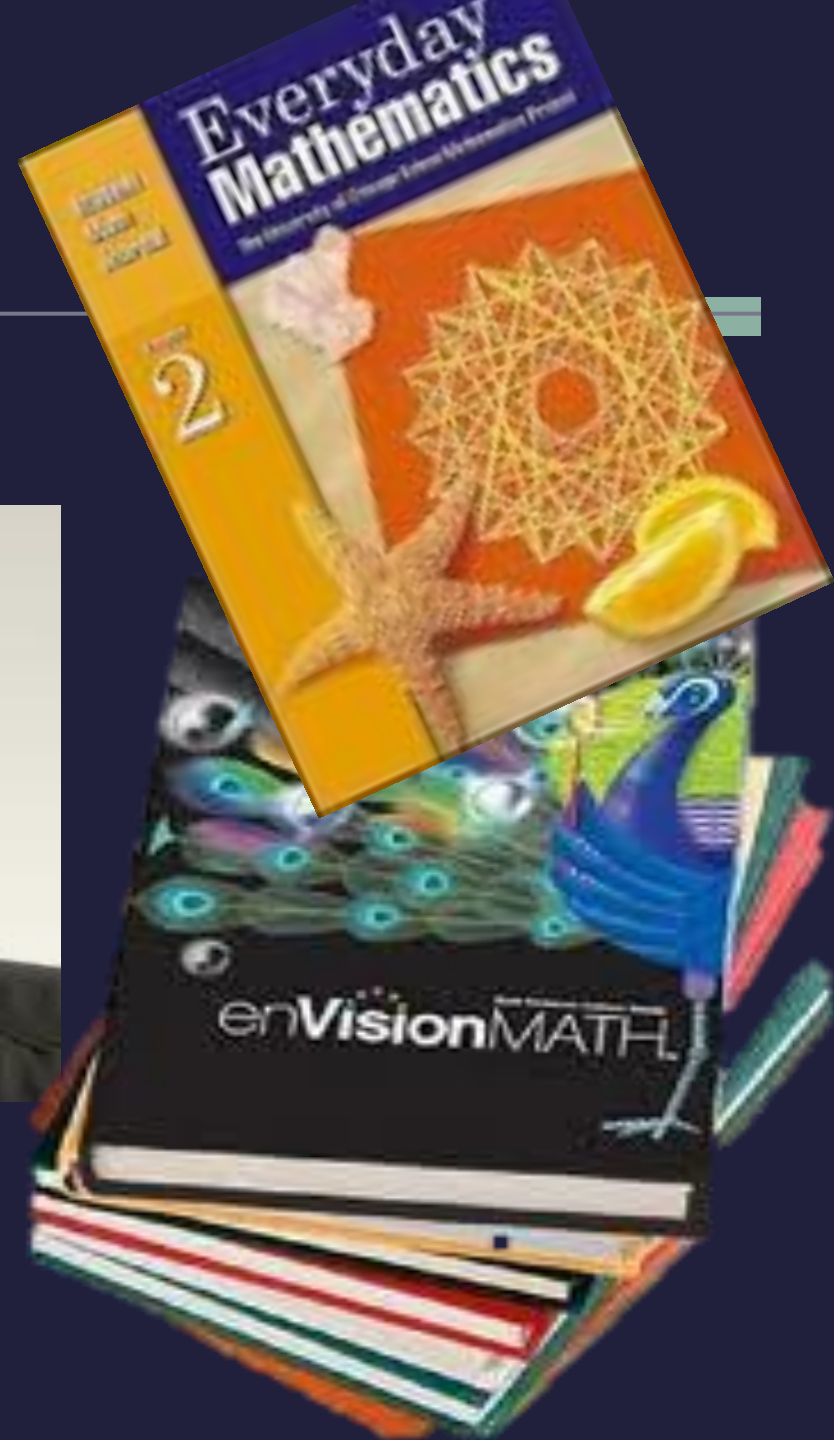






# Analysis of Curriculum Spaces





Ball & Cohen, 1996

## First Space

Individuals' home,  
community & peer  
networks

## Second Space

Work, school,  
church



## Third Space



Moje, 2004

# Analysis

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- Analyzed 24 lessons – 3 each from 8 different elementary mathematics curriculum series
- Introduction to fractions, single-digit multiplication, and multi-digit addition
- Considering what we know about children's learning of mathematics, where were the spaces for connecting to (including eliciting, building on, etc.) children's MMKB?



## Curriculum Spaces

Opportunities in the written curriculum lesson for children's MMKB to emerge

## **Real-World Connections**

- Replace – Real-world objects replace another manipulative
- Single Space – A single real-world connection is made by the textbook
- Open Space – Children have space to make their own real-world connections to the mathematics
- No Math - No math is discussed in the connection (e.g., a connection to a social studies concept)

## **Spaces for students to create/develop solution strategies and make sense of mathematics**

- Before - Space occurs before teacher/textbook presents a strategy
- After - Space occurs after teacher/textbook presents a strategy

*Each of the above codes could occur either with supports for the teacher or without.*

## **Spaces for students to discuss/explain their mathematical strategies**

- Open space for students to discuss/explain their own strategy
- Space for students to discuss/explain a strategy presented by the teacher/textbook.



# Findings

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- Specific design features that open or close potential spaces for exploring and discussing
- Significant differences existed among the curriculum spaces in the main lesson and the lesson peripherals (e.g., teaching notes, differentiation activities, homework).

# Practice

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- Tool for scaffolding PSTs in perceiving and mobilizing spaces within different curriculum materials
- Strategies for opening spaces:
  - Re-arrange the lesson – Peripheral becomes main
  - Open tasks by focusing on design features (e.g., number choice; focus on multiple strategies and representations)
  - Elicit authentic real-world connections

# An example: *EDM*, Grade 4

## OBJECTIVE:

- “To guide the exploration of a variety of strategies to solve equal-grouping division number stories” (UCSMP, 2007, p. 406)

**MATH MESSAGE:** “A box holds 6 chocolate candies. How many boxes are needed to hold 134 chocolate candies?” (p. 407)

## TEACHER DIRECTIONS:

- “Ask several students to give their solutions to the Math Message problem and to describe their strategies. [Information about “four possible strategies” is provided.]” (p. 407-408)
- “Tell students that there are many ways to solve equal-grouping division problems. One strategy, multiples-of-10, is introduced in this lesson” (p. 408)
- Extended scripting of explanation of multiples strategy, with examples (p. 408-410)
- “Encourage students to use a variety of strategies to solve the problems on journal pages 142 and 143” (p. 410)

# Student Page

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

**LESSON**  
**6-2**

## Solving Division Problems



For Problems 1–3, fill in the multiples-of-10 list if it is helpful. If you prefer to solve the division problems in another way, show your work.

1. Josi's class baked 64 cookies for the school bake sale. Students put 4 cookies in each bag. How many bags of 4 cookies did they make?

10 [4s] = 40

Number model:  $64 \div 4 = 16$

20 [4s] = 80

Answer: 16 bags

30 [4s] = 120

40 [4s] = 160

50 [4s] = 200

2. The community center bought 276 cans of soda for a picnic. How many 6-packs is that?

10 [6s] = 60

Number model:  $276 \div 6 = 46$

20 [6s] = 120

Answer: 46 6-packs

30 [6s] = 180

40 [6s] = 240

50 [6s] = 300

3. Each lunch table at Johnson Elementary School seats 5 people. How many tables are needed to seat 191 people?

10 [5s] = 50

Number model:  $191 \div 5 \rightarrow 38 \text{ R}1$

20 [5s] = 100

Answer: 39 tables

30 [5s] = 150

40 [5s] = 200

50 [5s] = 250

# Opening space in the *EDM* lesson

- Omit explanation of the multiples strategy and/or the scaffolded worksheet that directs/requires students to use a single strategy
- Focus on one problem with multiple number choices:

Jose's class baked \_\_\_\_\_ cookies for the school bake sale. Students put \_\_\_\_\_ cookies in each bag. How many bags did they make?

(24, 4) (64, 4) (180, 6) (276, 6) (191, 5)

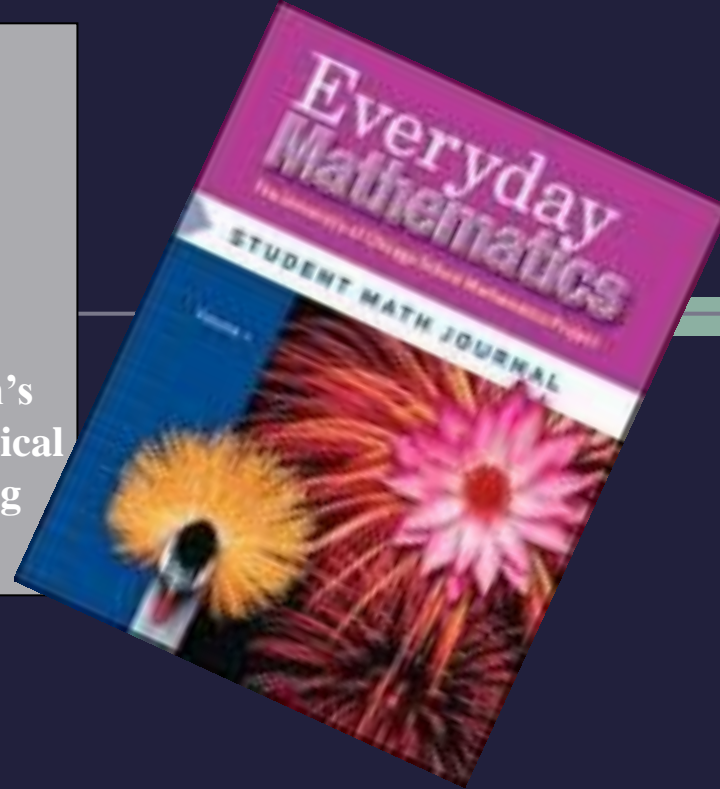
- Elicit and connect to authentic connections (may or may not include the context given in the published curriculum materials)

Integration of multiple  
mathematical knowledge  
bases in practice

Children's  
Cultural, Home, &  
Community-  
based  
Knowledge



Children's  
Mathematical  
Thinking



**EDUCATIVE**

**LARGE-SCALE  
ENACTMENT**

Read

Adapt

Enact

# Conclusions & Implications

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- Evidence that PSTs can develop these ambitious, equity oriented teaching practices
- PSTs' multiple entry points suggest that keeping the practice integrated (rather than isolating constructs) is beneficial
- Continue to identify leverage points for PST learning

Teachers  
Empowered to  
Advance  
CHange in  
MATHematics

Thank you



For more information  
TEACH MATH Website:

<http://mathconnect.hs.iastate.edu>



National Science Foundation Award No. (DRL#1020155)



# TEACH Math Publications

- Bartell, T. G., Foote, M. Q., Drake, C., Roth McDuffie, A., Turner, E. E., & Aguirre, J. M. (2013). Developing teachers of Black children: (Re)orienting thinking in an elementary mathematics methods course. In J. Leonard & D. B. Martin (Eds.), *The brilliance of Black children in mathematics: Beyond the numbers and toward a new discourse* (pp.343-367). Charlotte, NC: Information Age.
- Turner, E. E., Drake, C., Roth McDuffie, A., Aguirre, J., Bartell, T. G. & Foote, M. Q. (2012). Promoting equity in mathematics teacher preparation: A framework for advancing teacher learning of children's multiple mathematics knowledge bases. *Journal of Mathematics Teacher Education*, 15, 67-82. DOI 10.1007/s10857-011-9196-6

# TEACH Math Publications

- Aguirre, J., Turner, E., Bartell, T. G., Drake, C., Foote, M. Q., & Roth McDuffie, A. (2012). Analyzing effective mathematics lessons for English learners: A multiple mathematical lens approach. In S. Celedón-Pattichis & N. Ramirez (Eds.), *Beyond good teaching: Advancing mathematics education for ELLs* (pp. 207-222). Reston, VA: NCTM.
- Aguirre, J., Turner, E., Bartell, T., Craig, C. K., Foote, M. Q., Roth McDuffie, A., Drake, C. (in press). Making connections in practice: Developing prospective teachers' capacities to connect children's mathematical thinking and community funds of knowledge in mathematics instruction. To appear in *Journal of Teacher Education*.