

ZMATH 2013d.00446

Cross, Dionne I.; Adefope, Olufunke; Lee, Mi Yeon; Perez, Arnulfo

Hungry for early spatial and algebraic reasoning.

Teach. Child. Math. 19, No. 1, 42-49 (2012).

From the text: Tasks that develop spatial and algebraic reasoning are crucial for learning and applying advanced mathematical ideas. In this article, the authors describe how two early childhood teachers used stories as the basis for a unit that supports spatial reasoning in kindergartners and first graders. Having mathematical experiences that go beyond manipulating numbers and symbols is important in developing children's mathematical reasoning skills. The authors' goal is to encourage early childhood teachers to challenge their students by engaging them in mathematically rich activities – similar in scope and content to the ones described in this article – to enhance students' spatial awareness and algebraic reasoning and to prepare them for future study in algebra and geometry.

Classification: G21 E51

Keywords: preschool children; algebra; spatial ability; abstract reasoning; units of study; preschool teachers; geometry

<http://www.nctm.org/publications/article.aspx?id=33741>