ZMATH 2003d.03403

Van Dyke, Frances

A visual approach to functions. Blackline activity masters.

Key Curriculum Press, Berkeley, CA (ISBN 1-55953-537-7). 181 p. (2002).

Beginning algebra students as well as those who have studied it for a year or more will benefit from A Visual Approach to Functions, a series of visual exercises that introduces all of the standard functions and applications that students encounter in algebra. As they directly explore the relationship between a qualitative graph without scales and a verbal statement describing a function, students are drawn into the application and begin to think abstractly. Next they are led toward an understanding of algebraic concepts using quantitative graphs, then tables, and finally with equations. Lessons consisting of blackline masters accompanied by teacher notes and answers are organized into six chapters, each of which includes optional activities that use graphing calculators and motion detectors. Contents: 1. Distance as a function of time, 2. Value as a function of time, 3. Exponential growth and decay, 4. Investments, 5. Height of a projectile, 6. Quadratic applications

Classification: I20