

ZMATH 1997d.02441

Matos, J.F.; Carreira, S.

The quest for meaning in students' mathematical modelling activity.

Houston, S.K. et al., Teaching and learning mathematical modelling. Albion Publishing, Chichester (ISBN 1-898563-29-2). 63-75 (1997).

The central claim that every mathematical model is based on a certain interpretation of reality motivates the search and examination of the meanings that support students' modelling activity. In this quest for meaning we analysed three episodes extracted from a modelling activity developed by a group of four tenth grade students, where the situation to be modelled involved the calibration of an hour-glass. Our results support the conclusion that students' models are mediated by their particular interpretations and discussion activities, and by their mathematical, technological and symbolic tools. (orig.)

Classification: M13 C73