

ZMATH 2016e.00813

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Exploration of polynomials through the use of code word solutions.

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Summary: The study of polynomials is an important foundational idea in elementary algebra and introductory calculus. This activity will reinforce and introduce ideas about where roots occur, change in slopes over the curve, and determining extremum. This project has students choose a word which has meaning to them, encipher it, and produce a polynomial of their own. From this personalized polynomial they will carry out these studies.

Classification: I20 H20

Keywords: teaching; polynomial functions; personalized polynomials; elementary algebra; precalculus; approach; mathematical model building; code words; coding; multiplying polynomials; graph of a function; zeros; student activities