

Using Renaissance Accelerated Math® with Primary Students

Completing and Scoring Printed Assignments

- Begin by teaching students how to complete assignments. Select a simple objective, and print an exercise with only two or three problems. Work through the problems together. Tip: Print an exercise with a large font for one student. Delete this assignment after printing so you aren't prompted to score it later. Cover the student name and then make copies for all students.
- Next, teach the routines for completing printed assignments:
 - Draw lines between problems.
 - Show your work on the assignment page or on separate work paper.
 - Circle the chosen answers.
 - Write the letter of the answer choice in the left margin.
- On the following day, teach students to score and submit their answers. These procedures will vary depending on the type of scoring device your students will use.
- Once students are able to complete and score assignments, try the entire routine: print an exercise with two or three problems, work the problems together, and have students score assignments independently or in pairs.
- Print an exercise with two problems and let students try the process alone.

Completing and Scoring Online Assignments:

If students are working their Accelerated Math assignments online, share these tips with them:

- Write today's date and the subskill name in your math journal.
- Number each problem and copy it when reasonable.
- Work through the problem in your math journal before selecting your answer.
- If you don't see your answer on-screen, rework your problem.
- Use the flag to mark problems you want to come back to.
- Click "Review and Submit" when you are finished. Look to see that you have answered all items before you click "Submit."

Other Tips

Teaching the Math Practice Cycle

Create a visual reference for the steps in the math practice cycle. Take photos of students performing each of the tasks listed below. Create captions for each photo. Display the photos and captions on a bulletin board.

- Collecting an assignment from the printer
- Working an assignment
- Scoring the assignment
- Collecting the TOPS Report and possibly the next assignment
- Stapling the assignment to the TOPS Report
- Placing the TOPS Report in a basket on your desk

Suggestion: Use a different student as the model in each photo. Then, gather the rest of the students and have them pose as a group with their TOPS Reports for a “celebration photo.”

Printing Assignments

- Print identical exercises rather than practice assignments at first. You may find it easier to teach younger students about Accelerated Math if they’re initially working on the same problems. Students can work problems and score assignments together.
- You may wish to change a few preferences for how assignments display. In the Preferences section of the Accelerated Math software, change the Assignment Font Size to Large (14 point) and Answer Placement to Vertical, so each answer choice is printed in a separate row.

Prioritizing TOPS Reports

Create “priority baskets” for TOPS Reports, so you can easily identify who needs your immediate help. For example, provide a red basket for reports that need immediate attention and a green basket for reports on which students score 100 percent (or whatever criteria you choose). Pull reports from the bottom of each basket.

Helping Students

To identify who needs help as students are working, create red and green construction-paper tents, or use colored cups or craft sticks. Students “post” a red indicator if they need help; a green marker indicator if they are working and no help is needed.

Teaching Vocabulary

Create flash cards of commonly used math words and teach them in your lessons. Keep the flash cards on a bulletin board or other area where students can easily access them.