

# Welcome!

- **Fine-Tuning Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction**  
*Grades Pre K-8*

The presentation will include specific examples of how a narrowing of the curriculum (to less than “a mile wide”) might be accompanied by an increase in the depth of learning (to more than “an inch deep”). The eight mathematical practices will be highlighted as participants “do” mathematics aligned with the Common Core.



Fine-Tuning Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction  
to Implement the Common Core State Standards in  
**MATHEMATICS**  
Grades Pre K-8

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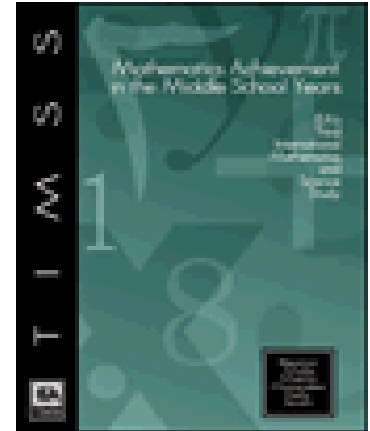
# Common Core Implementation

Core Curriculum Content Standards	Adoption by State Board	Implementation by Districts
Common Core State Standards for Mathematics	June 16, 2010	K, 1, 2 Sept. 2011 3, 4, 5 & H.S. Sept. 2012 6, 7, 8 Sept. 2013

**The NJ ASK 6, 7, & 8 Mathematics  
and  
the NJ ASK 3, 4, & 5 Mathematics  
will all be aligned with the Common Core State Standards  
for the April and May 2013 administrations.**

# “A mile wide and an inch deep”

Approximately 15 years ago, the phrase “a mile wide and an inch deep” entered the discourse on mathematics education in the United States. Growing out of the results from the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), the phrase was a criticism of expansive, unfocused, and purportedly less rigorous mathematics curricula in the United States as compared to curricula in other nations. (Schmidt, McKnight, & Raizen, 1997).



# **“A mile wide and an inch deep”**

**No clear focus!**

**Spread too thin!**

- Number of topics
- Thickness of textbooks

# What the United States Can Learn from Singapore's World-Class Mathematics System: An Exploratory Study

**Alan Ginsburg**

United States Department of Education  
Policy and Program Studies Service (PPSS)

**Steven Leinwand**

American Institutes for Research

**Terry Anstrom**

American Institutes for Research

**Elizabeth Pollock**

American Institutes for Research

**AIR**

**January 28, 2005**

# What the United States Can Learn from Singapore's World-Class Mathematics System: An Exploratory Study



“Analysis of these evidentiary streams finds Singaporean students more successful in mathematics than their U.S. counterparts because *Singapore has a world-class mathematics system with quality components aligned to produce students who learn mathematics to mastery*. These components include Singapore’s highly logical national mathematics framework, mathematically rich problem-based textbooks, challenging mathematics assessments, and highly qualified mathematics teachers whose pedagogy centers on teaching to mastery. Singapore also provides its mathematically slower students with an alternative framework and special assistance from an expert teacher.”

**AIR**

**January 28, 2005**

# What the United States Can Learn from Singapore's World-Class Mathematics System: An Exploratory Study



*“The U.S. mathematics system does not have similar features. It lacks a centrally identified core of mathematical content that provides a focus for the rest of the system. Its traditional textbooks emphasize definitions and formulas, not mathematical understanding; its assessments are not especially challenging; and too many U.S. teachers lack sound mathematics preparation. At-risk students often receive special assistance from a teacher’s aide who lacks a college degree. As a result, the United States produces students who have learned only to mechanically apply mathematical procedures to solve routine problems and who are, therefore, not mathematically competitive with students in most other industrialized countries..”*

**AIR**

**January 28, 2005**



# What the United States Can Learn from Singapore's World-Class Mathematics System: An Exploratory Study



“...reduce breadth of coverage and deepen topic instruction.” (p. xii)

**AIR**

**January 28, 2005**

**One intent of the  
Common Core State Standards  
in Mathematics  
is to provide**



# Kindergarten

- **Two critical areas of focus:**
  - Representing, relating, and operating on whole numbers, initially with sets of objects
  - Describing shapes and space



# Kindergarten: What's Different

- **No time**
- **No calendar**
- **No graphing**
- **No money**
- **No non-standard measurement**
- **No fractions**
- **No patterning**
- **No estimation**



# First Grade

- **Four critical areas:**

- Developing understanding of addition and subtraction, and strategies for addition and subtraction within 20
- Whole number relationships and place value
- Linear measurement and measuring lengths
- Composing and decomposing geometric shapes



# Second Grade

- **Four critical areas:**
  - Extending understanding of base-ten notations
  - Building fluency with addition and subtraction
  - Using standard units of measure
  - Describing and analyzing shapes



# Fifth Grade

- **Three critical areas:**

- Developing fluency with addition and subtraction of fractions, and developing understanding of multiplication and division of fractions
- Extending division to 2-digit divisors, integrating decimal fractions into the place value system and developing understanding of operations with decimals to hundredths, and developing fluency with whole number and decimal operations
- Developing understanding of volume



# Eighth Grade

- **Three critical areas:**

- Formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations
- Grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships
- Analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem





# What the United States Can Learn from Singapore's World-Class Mathematics System: An Exploratory Study



“...reduce breadth of coverage and deepen topic instruction.” (p. xii)

**AIR**

**January 28, 2005**

# Standards for Mathematical Practice



- 1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- 2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- 3 Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- 4 Model with mathematics.
- 5 Use appropriate tools strategically.
- 6 Attend to precision.
- 7 Look for and make use of structure.
- 8 Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

# The Challenge of “Deeper” Learning

The emphasis in many classrooms has been on getting the answer to a problem or series of problems.



Phil Daro

**AMTNJ**  
**2012**

“...reduce breadth of coverage and deepen topic instruction.”

# The Challenge of “Deeper” Learning

- The challenge is to have students learn mathematics from the problems, and in many cases that means having them keep their brains turned on even after the answer has been found.
  - Diverting students’ attention from mechanically following a memorized algorithm.
  - Diverting students’ attention from just finding the answer.

Don't provide a question ...

## Provide a situation to discuss!

### Grade 8

Train A leaves the station going 50 miles per hour and continues at that speed.

Train B leaves the station 3 hours later going 60 mph.

- How long will it take train B to overtake train A?
- When train B departs, how far behind train A is it?
- How far will they both have gone when train B catches up to train A?

*[Students identify possible questions that arise from the context.]*

--Phil Daro,  
April 20, 2012



Don't provide a question ...

## Provide a situation to discuss!

### Mathematical Practice:

**Grade 8** 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

4. Model with mathematics.

**CCSS 8.EE.8** Analyze and solve pairs of simultaneous linear equations.

- a. Understand that solutions to a system of two linear equations in two variables correspond to points of intersection of their graphs, because points of intersection satisfy both equations simultaneously.
- b. Solve systems of two linear equations in two variables algebraically, and estimate solutions by graphing the equations. Solve simple cases by inspection. *For example,  $3x + 2y = 5$  and  $3x + 2y = 6$  have no solution because  $3x + 2y$  cannot simultaneously be 5 and 6.*
- c. Solve real-world and mathematical problems leading to two linear equations in two variables. *For example, given coordinates for two pairs of points, determine whether the line through the first pair of points intersects the line through the second pair.*

Don't provide a question ...

**Provide a situation to discuss!**

## Kindergarten

Juan and Naomi each reach into a cookie jar.



Juan takes out 5 cookies.



Naomi takes out 3 cookies.



**[*Students identify possible questions that arise from the context.*]**

Don't provide a question ...

## Provide a situation to discuss!

### Mathematical Practice:

**Kindergarten** 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

**CCSS K.CC.6** Identify whether the number of objects in one group is greater than, less than, or equal to the number of objects in another group, e.g., by using matching and counting strategies. [*Include groups with up to ten objects.*]

**CCSS K.OA.2** Solve addition and subtraction word problems, and add and subtract within 10, e.g., by using objects or drawings to represent the problem.



Provide a question, and ask ...

## Why is it the answer?

### Grade 1

Example for comparing indirectly:

Two students each make a dough “snake.” Given a tower of cubes, each student compares his/her snake to the tower. Then students make statements such as, “My snake is longer than the cube tower and your snake is shorter than the cube tower. So, my snake is longer than your snake.”

Provide a question, and ask ...

# Why is it the answer?

## Mathematical Practice:

3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

## Grade 1

- **CCSS 1.MD.1** Order three objects by length; compare the lengths of two objects indirectly by using a third object.

Give them the answer, and ask ...

# Why is it the answer?

## Grade 5

$4/5$  is closer to one than is  $5/4$ .

Explain why using the number line.

--Phil Daro,  
April 20, 2012



Give them the answer, and ask ...

## Why is it the answer?

Mathematical Practice:

3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

### Grade 5

**CCSS 5.NF.2** Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions referring to the same whole, including cases of unlike denominators, e.g., by using visual fraction models or equations to represent the problem. Use benchmark fractions and number sense of fractions to estimate mentally and assess the reasonableness of answers. *For example, recognize an incorrect result  $2/5 + 1/2 = 3/7$ , by observing that  $3/7 < 1/2$ .*

Give them the answer, and seek ...

## Alternative solution strategies

### Grade 6

**CCSS 6.G.1** Find the area of right triangles, other triangles, special quadrilaterals, and polygons by composing into rectangles or decomposing into triangles and other shapes; apply these techniques in the context of solving real-world and mathematical problems.

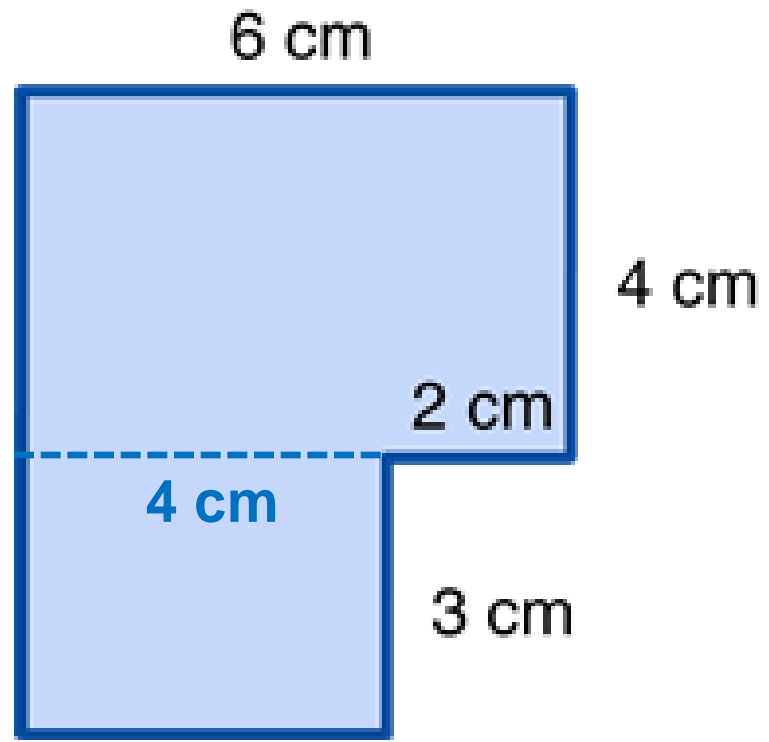
36 cm<sup>2</sup>

Give them the answer, and seek ...

# Alternative solution strategies

## Grade 6

- [CCSS 6.G.1] Find the area of this room:

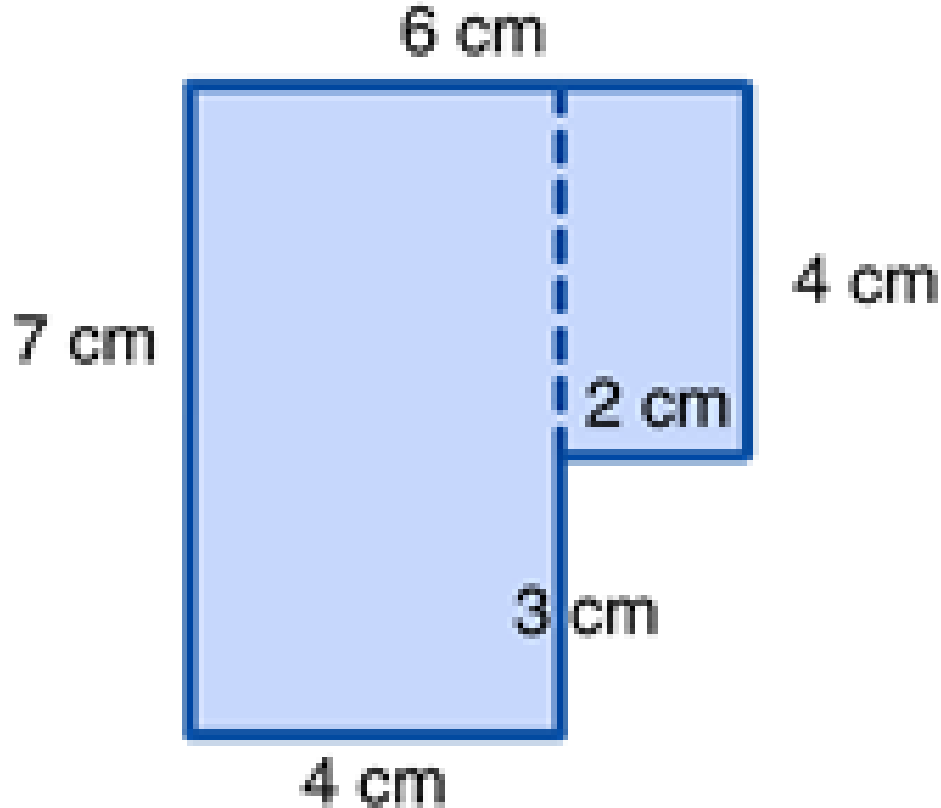


Give them the answer, and seek ...

# Alternative solution strategies

## Grade 6

□ [CCSS 6.G.1] Find the area of this room:



Give them the answer, and seek ...

# Alternative solution strategies

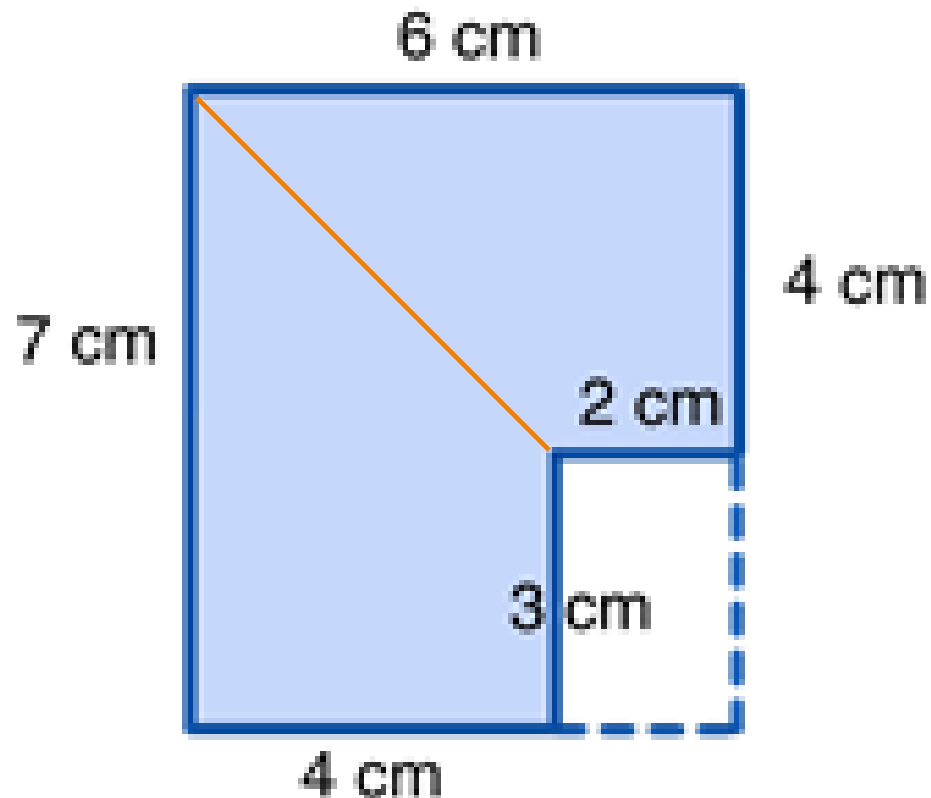
Mathematical Practice:

4. Model with mathematics.

7. Look for and make use of structure.

**Grade 6**

□ [CCSS 6.G.1] Find the area of this room:



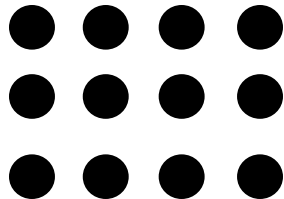


Give them the answer, and seek ...

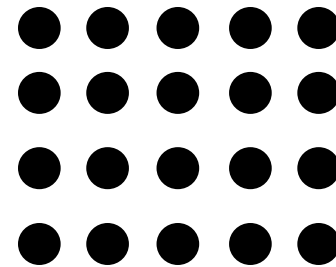
# Alternative solution strategies

## Grade 2

- **[CCSS 2.OA.4]** Students may arrange any set of objects into a rectangular array. Objects can be cubes, buttons, counters, etc. Objects do not have to be square to make an array. Students then write equations that represent the total as the sum of equal addends as shown below.



$$4 + 4 + 4 = 12$$



$$5 + 5 + 5 + 5 = 20$$

Give them the answer, and seek ...

# Alternative solution strategies

## Mathematical Practice:

4. Model with mathematics.

7. Look for and make use of structure.

## Grade 2

**CCSS 2.OA.4** Use addition to find the total number of objects arranged in rectangular arrays with up to 5 rows and up to 5 columns; write an equation to express the total as a sum of equal addends.

3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

Don't give them the answer, and seek ...

## Alternative solution strategies

### Grade 8

- **[CCSS 8.EE.5]** The graph summarizes information about the trips that 4 students took over the spring break. According to the graph, which student had the greatest average speed?
  - (A) Carmen
  - (B) George
  - (C) Ali
  - (D) Jo

Don't give them the answer, and seek ...

# Alternative solution strategies

Mathematical Practice:

2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

4. Model with mathematics.

## Grade 8

- **CCSS 8.EE.5** Graph proportional relationships, **interpreting the unit rate as the slope** of the graph. Compare two different proportional relationships represented in different ways. *For example, compare a **distance-time graph** to a distance-time equation to determine which of two moving objects has greater speed.*

Give them an open-ended question with ...

## Multiple Answers

### Grade 7

1. Discuss with your partner how you might break the strand of linguini into pieces that cannot be formed into a triangle by connecting the pieces at their endpoints.
2. Break the strand of linguini into pieces that you believe will not form a triangle.
3. Try to form a triangle with the pieces by connecting them at their endpoints. (If your strategy was correct, you should not be able to form the triangle.)
4. Compare your solution with the solution obtained by another group. If neither set of pieces can be formed into a triangle, is it for the same reason?

Give them an open-ended question with ...

# Multiple Answers

**Mathematical Practice:**

6. Attend to precision.

8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

## Grade 7

- **CCSS 7.G.2** Draw (freehand, with ruler and protractor, and with technology) geometric shapes with given conditions. Focus on constructing triangles from three measures of angles or sides, noticing when the conditions determine a unique triangle, more than one triangle, or no triangle.

3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

Give them an open-ended question with ...

## Multiple Answers

### Grade 3

- **CCSS 3.MD.2** Students identify 5 things that weigh about one gram. They record their findings with words and pictures. (Students can repeat this for 5 grams and 10 grams.)
- This activity helps develop gram benchmarks. One large paperclip weighs about one gram. A box of large paperclips (100 clips) weighs about 100 grams so 10 boxes would weigh one kilogram..

Give them an open-ended question with ...

# Multiple Answers

**Mathematical Practice:**

**2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**

**6. Attend to precision.**

## Grade 3

- **CCSS 3.MD.2** Measure and estimate liquid volumes and masses of objects using standard units of grams (g), kilograms (kg), and liters (l). Add, subtract, multiply, or divide to solve one-step word problems involving masses or volumes that are given in the same units, e.g., by using drawings (such as a beaker with a measurement scale) to represent the problem.



Give them the answer, and ask them to ...

# Interpret the answer within the context!

--Phil Daro



## Grade 6

- **CCSS 6.RP.2** Diane ran 30 laps in 15 minutes.

$$30 \div 15 = 2$$

What does the 2 tell you about Diane's run?

laps/minute

$$15 \div 30 = 0.5$$

What does that tell you?

minutes/lap

How do you know that's what it tells you?

Give them the answer, and ask them to ...

# Interpret the answer within the context!

## Grade 6

- **CCSS 6.RP.2** Diane ran 30 laps in 15 minutes.

$$30 \div 15 = 2$$

What does the 2 tell you about Diane's run?

laps/minute

$$15 \div 30 = 0.5$$

What does that tell you?

minutes/lap

How do you know that's what it tells you?

15 minutes

30 laps

0.5 minutes/lap

Give them the answer, and ask them to ...

# Interpret the answer within the context!

## Mathematical Practice:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

## Grade 6

- **CCSS 6.RP.2** Understand the concept of a unit rate  $a/b$  associated with a ratio  $a:b$  with  $b \neq 0$ , and use rate language in the context of a ratio relationship. *For example, “This recipe has a ratio of 3 cups of flour to 4 cups of sugar, so there is  $3/4$  cup of flour for each cup of sugar.” “We paid \$75 for 15 hamburgers, which is a rate of \$5 per hamburger.”*

6. Attend to precision.

7. Look for and make use of structure.

Give them the answer, and ask them to ...

# Interpret the answer within the context!

## Grade 4

- **CCSS 4.OA.3** Solve multistep word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations, including problems in which remainders must be interpreted. Represent these problems using equations with a letter standing for the unknown quantity. Assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies including rounding.
- **CCSS 4.MD.2** Use the four operations to solve word problems involving
  - distances,
  - intervals of time,
  - liquid volumes,
  - masses of objects, and
  - money,

including problems involving simple fractions or decimals, and problems that require expressing measurements given in a larger unit in terms of a smaller unit. Represent measurement quantities using diagrams such as number line diagrams that feature a measurement scale.

Give them the answer, and ask them to ...

# Interpret the answer within the context!

## Grade 4

### □ **CCSS 4.OA.3 & 4.MD.2**

Describe a situation in which you might want to divide 12 by 3 ( **$12 \div 3$** ).

12 feet of ribbon divided equally among 3 students

12 photographs shared equally among 3 students

12 crayons divided into packages of 3 crayons each

Give them the answer, and ask them to ...

# Interpret the answer within the context!

## Mathematical Practice:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

4. Model with mathematics.

## Grade 4

### □ CCSS 4.OA.3 & 4.MD.2

Describe a situation in which you might want to divide 12 by 3 ( **$12 \div 3$** ).

**2** feet of ribbon divided equally among 3 students

**24 inches  $\div$  3 students**

**2** photographs shared equally among 3 students

**Give students problems that can't be done**

# Welcome to Mathtown

Founded 1890

Population 3000

Altitude (ft) 1000

Total: 5890



--Marilyn Burns

# Thank you!

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Questions?

Concerns?

“...reduce breadth of coverage and deepen topic instruction.”