

Program Overview Guide







Our Vision

At MIND Education, our mission is to ensure all students are mathematically equipped to solve the world's most challenging problems.

MIND Education is the leading curriculum developer creating math programs entirely based on how the brain naturally learns. Backed by over 25 years of applied research and classroom experience, we design student-centered programs rooted in visual learning, spatial-temporal reasoning, and structured problem solving.

By focusing on conceptual understanding from the very beginning, we help prevent learning gaps before they start—giving every student the opportunity to grow into a confident, capable mathematical thinker.

Our belief is simple and powerful: when we design learning to match how the brain learns, every student can thrive in math.

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Welcome to InsightMath California!

You're about to teach math in a whole new way—one that brings learning to life—for your students and for you.

InsightMath California is designed with the brain in mind. That means more visual thinking, more student voice, and more moments where real understanding clicks into place.

What to expect:



Your students will:

- Jump into puzzles that get them thinking right away
- Talk about math—out loud, with each other, and with you
- Build real understanding, as they develop computational fluency and procedures



You will:

- See your students engaged, curious, and persistent
- Facilitate rich conversations using built-in supports
- Get everything you need—organized, clear, and ready to go



Your classroom will:

- Come alive with mathematical thinking
- Support every learner, every day
- Feel like a community where math makes sense

This guide walks you through the year. We're excited for everything you and your students are about to discover.

Let's do this!

-The Team at MIND Education

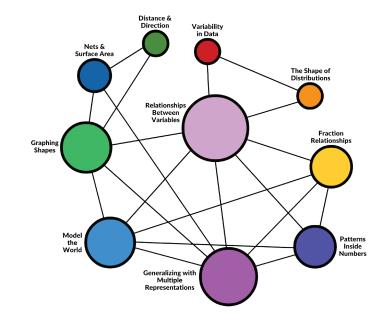
What's in **InsightMath California?**

InsightMath California is not just aligned with the new California Mathematics framework—it brings its vision to life. Students experience math as a coherent, sense-making journey built on Big Ideas, visual reasoning, and student-driven inquiry. Grounded in neuroscience and designed for all students from the start, InsightMath aligns with the Five Components of Equitable and Engaging Teaching for All Students:

- planning around big ideas
- using open and engaging tasks
- teaching for social justice
- inviting student questions and conjectures
- prioritizing reasoning and justification

Our visual-first program supports deep understanding, encourages mathematical discourse, and helps students develop the confidence to persevere through challenging problems.

From its rigorous, grade-level curriculum and dynamic problem-solving process



to its robust teacher support and inclusive assessments, the program fosters critical thinking, positive math identities, and lasting learning. InsightMath California empowers all students to see themselves as mathematical thinkers - ready to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

Projects

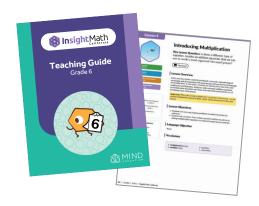
InsightMath California includes projects in each grade level that can be flexibly implemented by teachers at any appropriate time during the school year. The projects focus heavily on interweaving **Data and Statistics** with the **Environmental Principles** & Concepts, helping students explore connections between math, their classroom, and the world around them.

Grade 6 Program Components



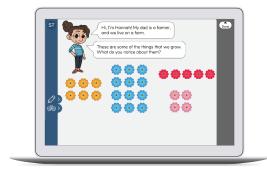
Digital Planning Guide

All Program Resources



Teaching Guide

Digital/Print Resources for Daily Instruction



Digital Student Edition

Student Portal into the Lessons



Playbook

Digital/Print Student **Activity Pages**



Tools, Tasks, and **Templates**

Digital/Print Teacher **Blackline Masters**



Classroom Manipulative Kit

Grade Level Manipulative Kit



Practice Book

Digital/Print Daily **Practice Pages**



Classroom Poster Pack

Classroom Character and Strengths Posters

| Grade 6 Scope and Sequence

Unit 0 **Doing Mathematics**

Big Idea All students are doers, knowers, and sensemakers of mathematics.

Cluster1 Collaborating to Do Mathematics

Cluster2 Persevering to Do Mathematics

Unit 1 **Discovering Algebraic Expressions**

Big Idea Algebra is a way of expressing generalizations.

Cluster1 Introduction to Variables

Cluster2 Operations with Variables

Unit 2 **Exploring Equivalence**

Big Idea Any number or expression can be represented in an infinite number of ways that have the same value.

Cluster1 Factors, Multiples, and Fraction Equivalence

Cluster2 **Equivalence with Numerical Expressions**

Cluster3 Equivalence with Algebraic Expressions

Unit 3 **Discovering Ratios**

Big Idea Numbers and measures can be compared by their relative values.

Cluster1 Representing Proportional Relationships

Cluster2 Representing Equivalent Ratios

Cluster3 Generating Equivalent Ratios Efficiently

Cluster4 **Comparing Sets and Mixtures**

Unit 4 Discovering rates, percentages and proportional data

Big Idea Rates and percentages are specific ratios that help compare numbers or measures by their relative values.

Cluster1 Introduction to Rates

Cluster2 Introduction to Percentages

Cluster3 Representing Proportional Relationships with Equations

Cluster4 Ratios and Data

Solving Algebraic Equations Unit 5

Big Idea Algebraic equations can be used to model and solve real-world problems.

Cluster1 Solving Algebraic Equations with Inverse Operations

Cluster2 Growing Patterns and Relationships

Unit 6 **Extending Fractions Operations**

Big Idea Division can be performed by multiplying due to the inverse relationship between multiplication and division.

Cluster1 **Dividing Fractions and Whole Numbers**

Cluster2 Using Multiplication to Divide

Cluster3 Dividing Fractions by Fractions

Unit 7 **Extending Arithmetic in Base-Ten**

Big Idea The base-10 system allows all four operations to be performed with algorithms involving a series of single-digit computations.

Cluster1 Addition and Subtraction of Multidigit Whole Numbers and Decimals

Cluster2 Multiplication of Multidigit Whole Numbers and Decimals

Cluster3 Division of Multidigit Whole Numbers and Decimals

Cluster4 Conversions Between Measurement Systems

Unit 8 **Extending the Number System**

Big Idea The number system can be extended to include negative numbers which are reflections of their positive counterparts over the origin.

Cluster1 Negative Numbers as Opposites

Cluster2 Comparing with Negative Numbers

Cluster3 Expanding the Coordinate Plane

Unit 9 **Exploring Statistics**

Big Idea How data is represented and analyzed can impact how it is interpreted.

Cluster1 Interpreting Shapes of Statistical Graphs

Cluster 2 Measures of Center

Cluster3 Measures of Variability (Spread)

Cluster4 Conducting a Data Investigation

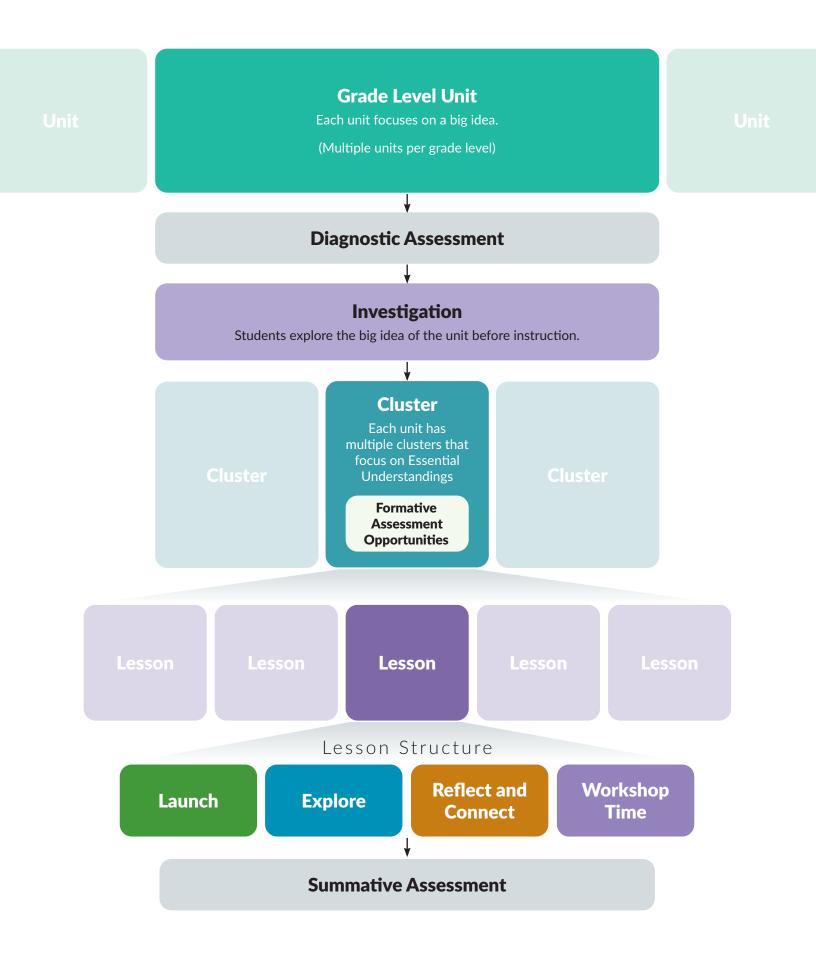
Unit 10 Exploring Two- and Three-Dimensional Space

Big Idea The size of objects can be quantified in one, two, or three dimensions to serve a particular purpose or context.

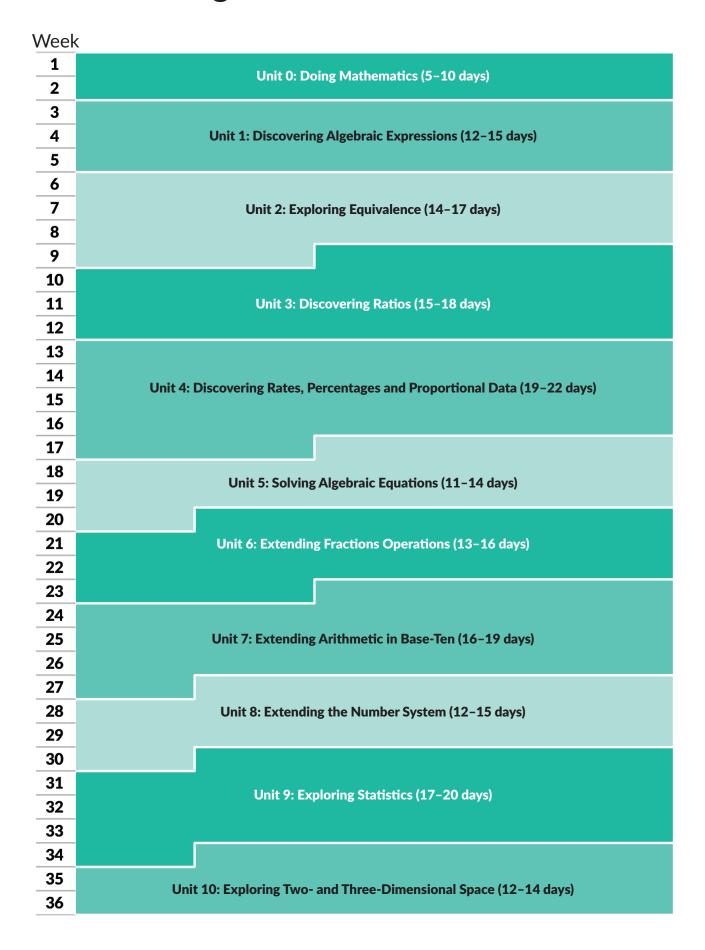
Cluster1 Area of 2-D Shapes

Cluster2 Volume and Surface Area of 3-D Shapes

Unit Structure



Grade 6 Pacing Guide



A Visual Approach to Math Instruction **Based on How the Brain Learns**

Changing the Math Story for Every Student

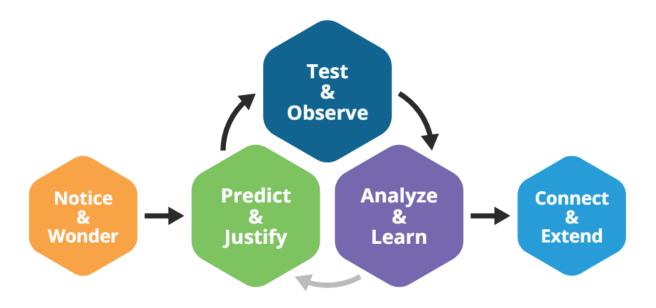
Developed by MIND Education, InsightMath California is a core program grounded in how the brain learns. It brings visual-first, spatial-temporal, and problem-based learning into the classroom.

InsightMath California builds deep understanding from the start through visual and manipulative-based activities—helping all students become confident math thinkers. Computation strategies, written language, and procedural fluency are developed on top of this strong foundation.

With digital and optional print formats, **InsightMath California** supports flexible teaching, equipping teachers to prioritize student thinking.

Instruction Designed Around How Students Learn Best

At the center of **InsightMath California** is the MIND Education Problem-Solving Process—a flexible, neuroscience-based routine, that supports open-ended questioning and deep exploration. Teachers guide students to reflect, reason, and connect their thinking with peers—promoting meaningful understanding and growing confident math thinkers.



An Asset-Based Approach

InsightMath California focuses on harnessing students' strengths. By starting with what students know, and giving them a chance to bring themselves and their thinking into the lessons, you will use their ideas as a launchpad for growth.

Every child has mathematical insight—InsightMath California helps you uncover and nurture it.



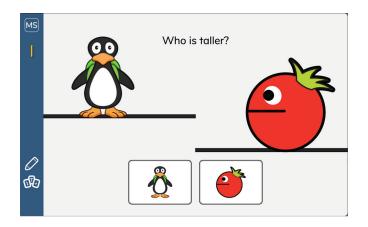
Unit 0 Starts the Year

Unit 0 is a weeklong introduction at the start of each grade level to establish classroom listening, speaking, collaborating and thinking routines to be used throughout the year.

Students are also introduced to a cast of characters who encourage students to bring their experiences into the classroom as they see themselves in the math.

Investigations Build Mathematical Thinkers from the Beginning

In **InsightMath California** classrooms, students don't just follow steps—they think like mathematicians. Every unit opens with an Investigation where students explore new ideas before the content is formally introduced. Students see patterns, explain ideas, and gain confidence and flexibility as mathematical thinkers.

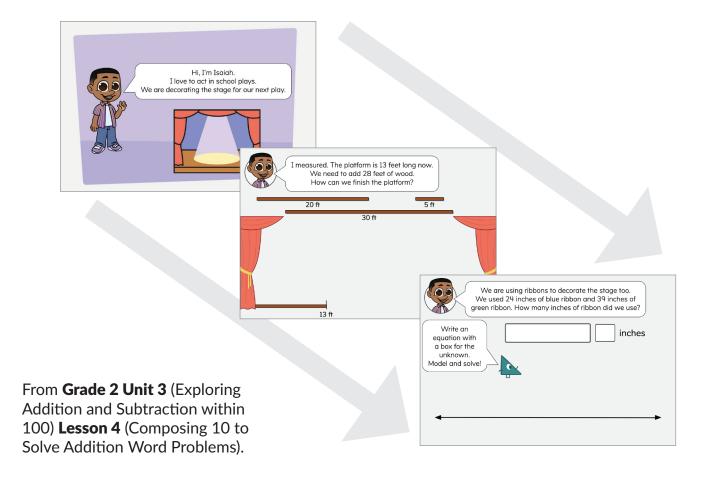


Reaching All Learners

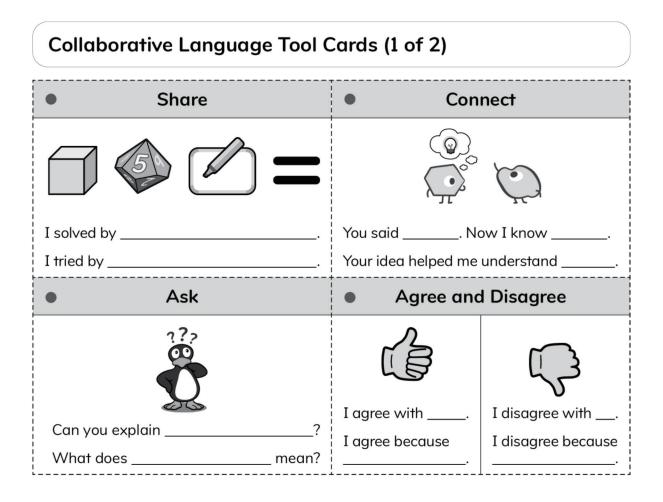
InsightMath California is built on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles to ensure all students can access meaningful, engaging math. Units follow researchbased learning progressions and are rooted in relevant contexts that connect to what students already know, supporting deeper understanding.

Students have choices in tools, models, and strategies, building confidence and ownership. Lessons develop conceptual understanding before introducing symbols. Vocabulary is introduced intentionally—students first describe ideas in their own words, then learn the formal math terms.

Problem solving is taught through a structured path focused on **real-world meaning**, not just word problem practice. Visual models support understanding and allow students to move between **concrete**, **representational**, and abstract forms. strengthening both content and language skills.



The program highlights connections across big ideas and includes built-in complexity so all students can access core learning, with optional extensions for deeper exploration. Tools like the Collaborative Language Tool encourage discussion and teamwork, helping students learn from one another.

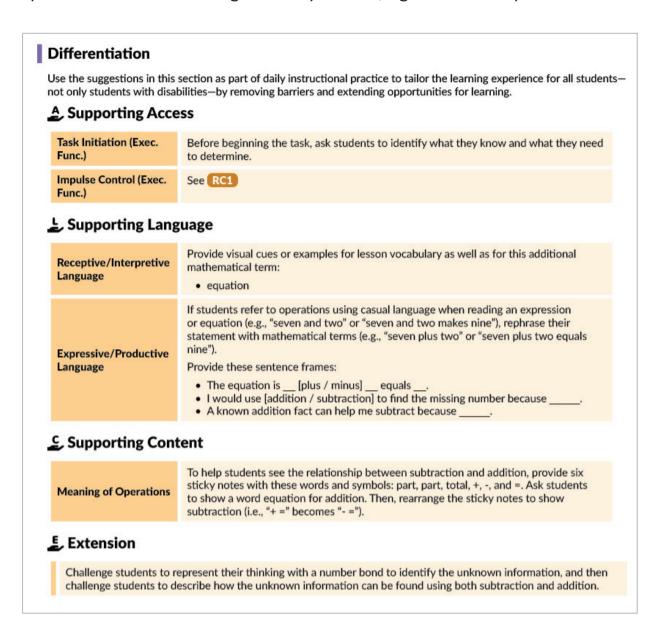


Students are supported in showing what they know in multiple ways. **Academic** language scaffolds help with math vocabulary and text structure. Most importantly, the program is designed with access and opportunity in mind, helping teachers recognize and apply UDL strategies in every lesson.

Differentiation in InsightMath California

InsightMath California is designed with built-in supports to ensure that all students can access rigorous, grade-level math content. These supports help meet the diverse needs of learners—whether a student needs a little extra help to stay engaged or is ready to be challenged with deeper thinking.

The program offers four types of differentiation that can be used flexibly with any student who needs support. These tools are designed to promote meaningful participation and understanding for every learner, right where they are.



Meeting the Needs of **Special Populations**

Many students belong to one or more special populations, and their needs are unique and varied. All students—whether identified as part of a special population or not—will need support at times and enrichment at others. InsightMath California is designed with flexibility in mind, using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and differentiation to help every student engage and grow in math.

Multilingual Learners

All students build language skills, but Multilingual Learners may need extra support. UDL and language differentiation are key tools, offering scaffolded sentence frames that vary in support so students can choose what fits their readiness. Language objectives guide instruction, and lesson-specific supports help students understand and express math ideas.

Students Receiving Special Education Services

InsightMath California provides multiple access points and built-in depth to support varied learning needs. Differentiation tools address content, language, and participation challenges so students can engage in grade-level math with meaningful support.

Gifted and Talented (GT) Students

Students ready for more advanced work benefit from layered complexity and built-in extensions. These provide deeper challenges and opportunities to apply thinking in new ways.

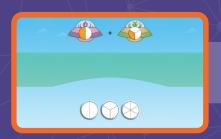
Students with Unfinished Learning

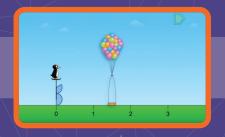
Some students have learning gaps for various reasons. Low-floor, high-ceiling activities allow access to grade-level content while targeted supports address unfinished learning. Formative assessments include guidance to help teachers support students struggling with specific concepts.

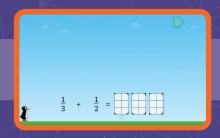
Building Mathematical Progressions Within and Across Grade Levels

Visual-First Learning That Makes Math Click

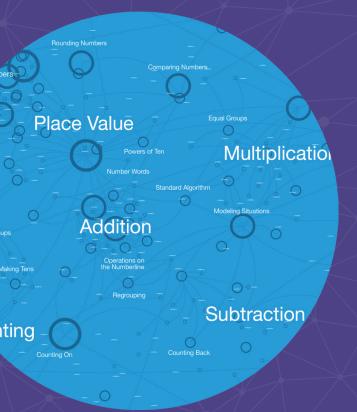
InsightMath California is built around a patented visual-first approach that helps students see and understand math. Interactive visuals activate students' spatial-temporal reasoning, building deep understanding even before introducing formal language or procedures.







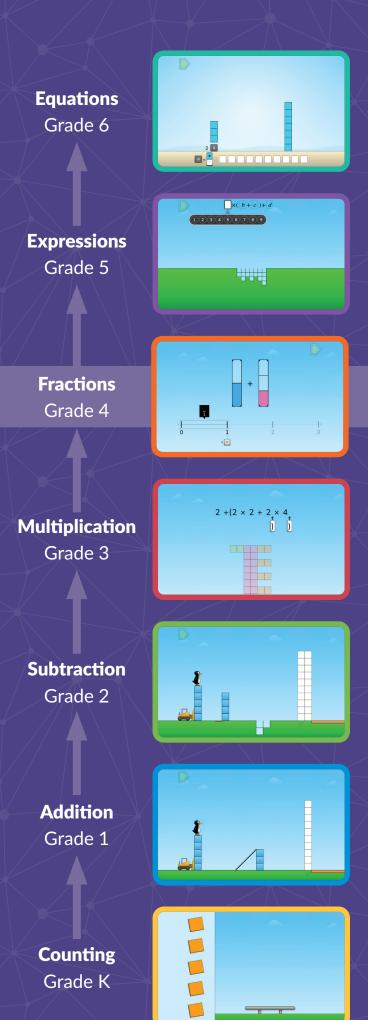
Multiple models for every concept within a grade level



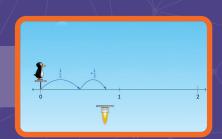
These scaffolded models support problemsolving, strategy sharing, and big-picture thinking—making math feel coherent and connected across and within grade levels.

To deepen learning, lessons use multiple representations—visuals, numbers, words, and symbols—helping students form a rich network of ideas they can apply to new problems.

With **InsightMath California** students go beyond memorization. They develop a connected understanding of math concepts, apply their learning flexibly, and build lasting confidence.

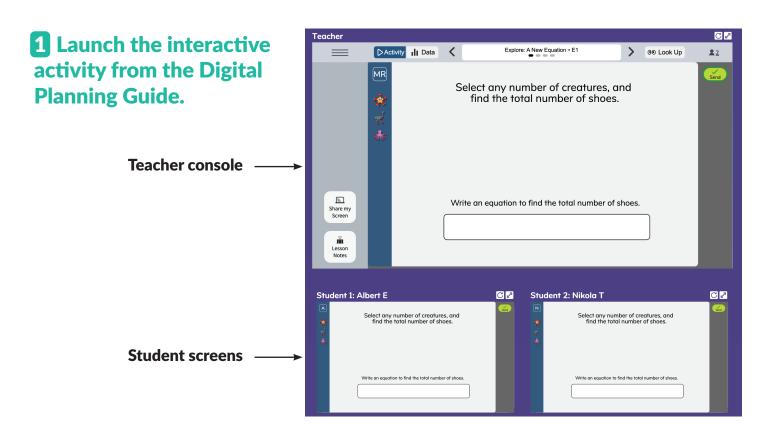


Connected visual models build in complexity across grade levels



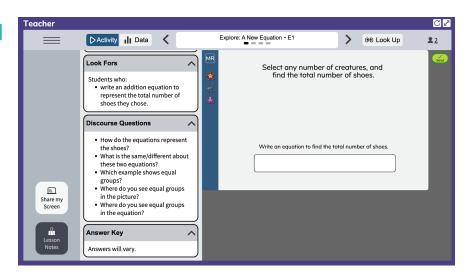
Insight into Student Thinking with Digital Planning Guide

InsightMath California lessons contain whole class activities that equip elementary educators with tools to teach math with confidence and clarity. The program blends technology, high quality mathematical content and practical support to make every teaching moment count.



2 Teachers access detailed notes including insights, "look fors," and discourse prompts.

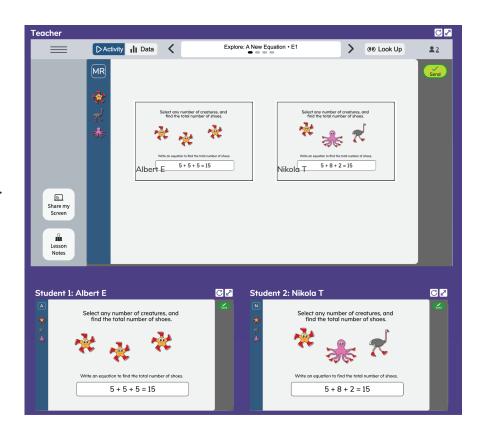
Support is available for every stage at point of use-unit, cluster, and lesson. These tools help create a classroom where students are seen. heard, and eager to engage with math.



3 Students submit responses, visible to teachers in real time.

The built-in data dashboard shows real-time student progress, making it easy to adjust instruction and keep every learner moving forward.

Teachers can project student work, and compare and contrast up to four different solution paths for whole-class discussion.



4 Teachers guide class discussion using selected student responses or Argumenteers.

In-Lesson Argumenteers

Argumenteers are sample student responses that can be used to spark discussion, inspire curiosity, showcase varied problem-solving approaches and highlight common misconceptions.

Look Up

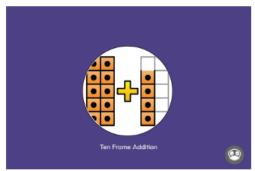
The "look up" button allows teachers to instantly direct student attention to the main screen-ideal for focusing during key moments.



Puzzle-Based **Learning and Practice**

Personalized Learning Through Game-Based Puzzles

In InsightMath California, personalized instruction is powered by game-based puzzles built on patented Spatial-Temporal (ST) models. These puzzles present nonroutine problems that promote deep thinking and offer visual, immediate feedback supporting reflection, productive struggle and helping students revise their thinking in real time.



Ten Frame Addition

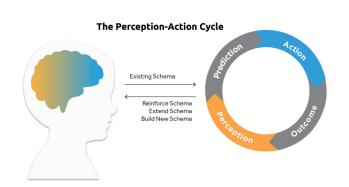
Students engage with puzzles independently during lessons or practice, applying learning in new contexts and extending their thinking. Because puzzles use visual models, they offer language-free access—making them especially effective for diverse learners before mathematical vocabulary is introduced.

Integrated into lessons, the visual interactive puzzles help students build conceptual

understanding and **perseverance**. Teachers also gain real-time performance data, offering insight into student thinking and guiding targeted support.

Immediate Formative Feedback for Students

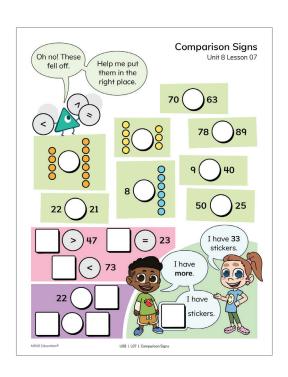
The game-based puzzles provide instant, visual feedback, engaging students' **Perception-Action Cycle**, the brain's natural mechanism active when learning-by-doing.

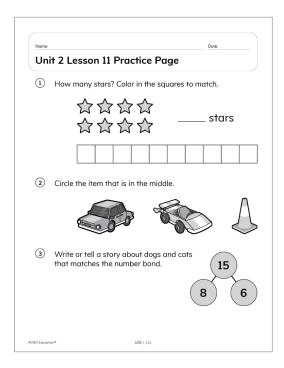


Student Playbooks: A Playground for **Math Thinking**

In addition to puzzle-based games, **InsightMath California** features a printed student **Playbook**—a hands-on space where students explore and extend their math thinking. It's a creative "math playground" that deepens understanding and encourages ownership.

Playbook activities connect the visual models from puzzles to lesson concepts, helping students test strategies, build connections, and grow their reasoning skills in a student-friendly format.





Student Practice Books

Each lesson includes a student Practice Page with a balanced mix of:

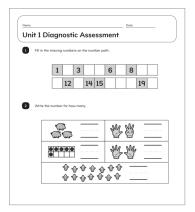
- Spiral review to strengthen prior learning
- Targeted practice aligned to the day's focus
- Real-world word problems for application in varied contexts

This structure ensures students consistently practice, reflect, and transfer learning—building confidence and fluency over time.

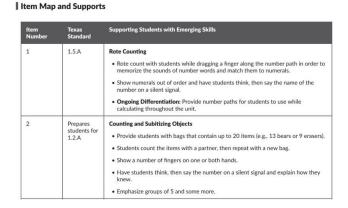
Assessments and Formative Feedback

Assessment That Supports and Celebrates Learning

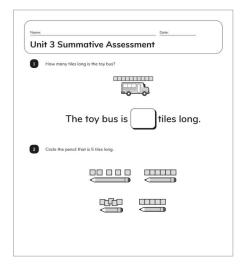
InsightMath California features a comprehensive, embedded assessment system that informs instruction and celebrates growth, making ongoing assessments a seamless part of teaching and learning. Tools include diagnostic, formative, and **summative** assessments, all aligned to grade-level standards.



Diagnostic Assessments at the start of each unit quickly check key prerequisite skills to see what students already know and what they may need help with.



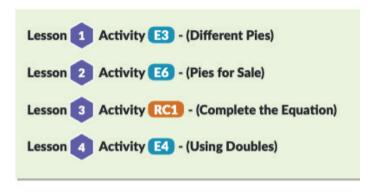
The **Assessment Guide** connects each question to helpful routines and activities teachers can use to build those skills as students begin the new unit.

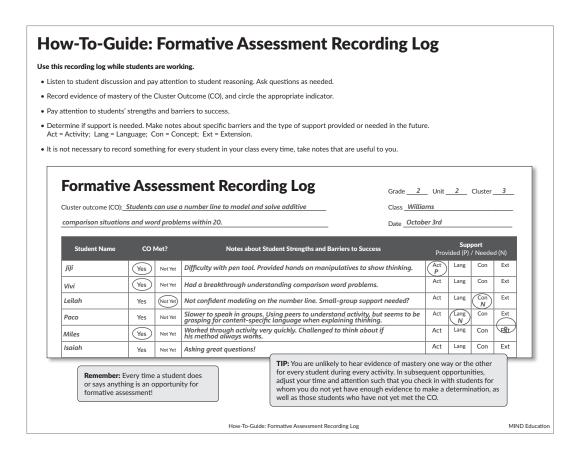


Summative Assessments at the end of each unit check for mastery through both skill and problem-solving tasks. In grades K-2, they are read aloud and look like regular class activities. Kindergarten uses one-on-one interviews with manipulatives and pictures, gradually adding more writing as students grow.

Formative Assessment in Action

InsightMath California includes built-in formative assessment opportunities in every lesson. Each activity features "Look Fors" to help teachers spot how students are thinking and support their learning. Teachers can check student work in real time or review it later to give feedback and plan next steps.

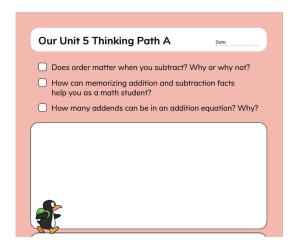


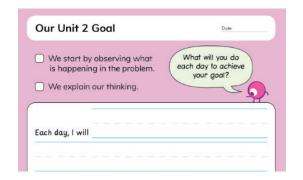


The Supporting Students After This Unit resource offers follow-up activities and routines to help students strengthen and maintain their skills.

Student Metacognition and Self-Assessment

Students use the **Thinking Path** to reflect on conceptual understandings and skills that they've gained across each unit.





Our **Unit Goal** supports the class in noticing their growing strengths in thinking like mathematicians.

Each InsightMath California unit includes a bilingual English/Spanish Family Guide with activities to support and extend student learning at home











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