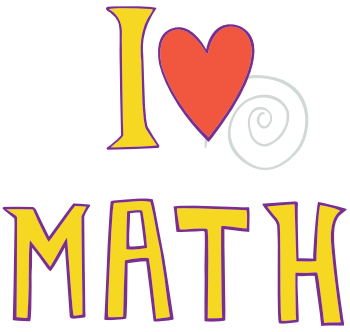
tutor.com™
USA OWNED AND OPERATED

Middle School Math Teacher Spotlight

Class profile

This is my first year teaching at a Title 1 middle school school in Paso Robles, CA. This year, I am co-teaching math for 7th and 8th graders, so the students I serve come from a wide range of backgrounds, home lives, academic needs, and math skills.

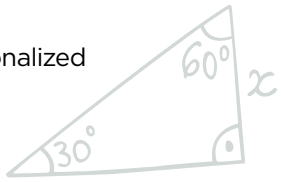


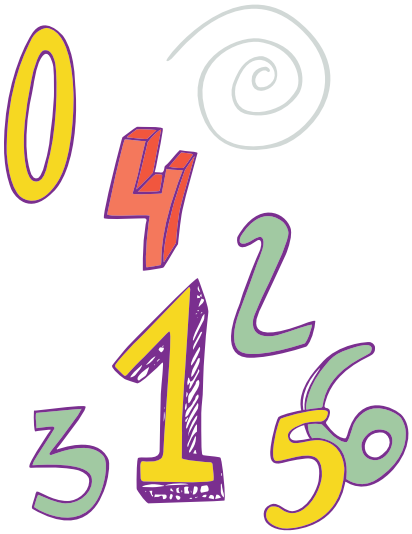
Introduction

I introduced Tutor.com to my students by having them complete test corrections with individual tutors. I referred students through the Teacher Dashboard and included their missed questions as an attachment, so that each student and the tutor could see what they should be working on.

I emphasized that these are real people who are trained to tutor (it is not AI) and they will not be able to see you or get personal information about you.

Many students were resistant at first, but as they each logged on to receive a personalized and customized test correction experience, students became very engaged.





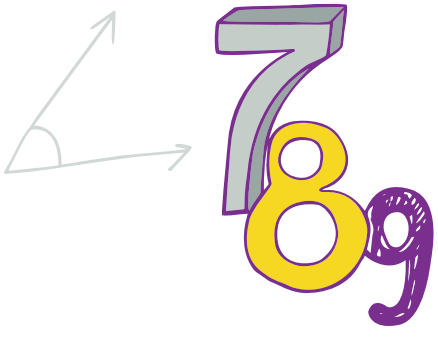
Impact

The best part is that each student is forced to engage and think at a pace that works for them.

When I have done test corrections with the whole class, the same few students would raise their hands to participate, while the rest of the class passively copied down the work. It was great to see the typically passive students talking and thinking as they worked with a tutor. It was also nice for the more advanced students to quickly get their corrections over and move on to other work, instead of having to wait for me to walk through every problem step-by-step for the students who needed more support.

The differentiated instruction and support for each student was really great!

$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$



Tips and Tricks

- Reassure students in your introduction that their identity and location won't be seen by the tutor or shared.
- I've learned it helps to clearly teach etiquette for talking with a tutor, such as keeping questions academic and staying engaged with their tutor.
- Put sentence frames on the board, so students know how to speak to the tutor, ask questions, and wrap up the call politely.