

enVisionMATH Tools4Math: Orientation

Program Description

Tools4Math is a suite of digital manipulatives that can be used for instruction and modeling math solutions. It provides an opportunity for discovery and exploration of math skills and concepts through the manipulation of digital objects.

Purpose of Digital Manipulatives

Tools4Math is similar to eTools and is the next generation of digital manipulatives. Tools4Math helps students deepen their understanding of important math concepts as they explore and interact with a variety of digital objects.

Teachers can use Tools4Math to model solutions to math problems during whole-class or small-group instruction. Students can use them to demonstrate their knowledge, practice math skills, and explore math concepts.

Location of Tools4Math

Tools4Math is located within the enVisionMATH Premium Digital System on Pearson SuccessNet.

Teachers access Tools4Math from the Content tab. Students access Tools4Math from the Tools4Math icon in the menu bar within the enVisionMATH Premium Digital System.

Tools4Math is also linked within Guided Practice activities, which are found in enVisionMATH digital lessons. Teachers can also access Guided Practice activities using the Search feature.

Benefit of Using Digital Manipulatives

Students benefit from seeing math ideas portrayed pictorially. Interacting with digital manipulatives actively engages them in thinking about and solving problems.

Digital manipulatives may have some advantages over physical manipulatives, including the following:

- Tools4Math provides quick and easy access to a large number of counters, coins, and shapes.
- Students can more easily see how teachers manipulate objects when Tools4Math is projected onto a screen or interactive whiteboard.
- Tools can instantly glue items together, break them apart, and arrange them neatly on the workspace.
- Tools4Math provides unique workspaces to measure time in different formats; count frogs, fish, or round objects; and explore probability outcomes.
- There is instant cleanup by simply closing the application.

Implementation Options

There are a variety of ways to use Tools4Math that may suit different instructional styles and meet the needs of students with varying learning styles.

Connect a computer to an LCD projector or TV monitor to use Tools4Math to model solutions to math problems during whole-class or small-group instruction.

With an interactive whiteboard, Tools4Math can be used by either teachers or students in front of the class. The tools can be manipulated by touching the whiteboard without installation of additional software.

Students can work independently with Tools4Math once logged in to Pearson SuccessNet on a computer workstation at school, at a public library, or at home.

Teacher Resources

The Tools4Math Step-by-Step Guide provides lesson examples that describe how to use Tools4Math during instruction. The activities are ideal for classroom lessons, or they can be used as a training activity to provide more in-depth, structured exploration of each tool.

Teachers access the Step-by-Step Guide by clicking **Teacher Resources**, which appears in the My Library section of the SuccessNet Teacher Center. This provides access to the enVisionMATH Resource Center, which houses the Tools4Math Step-by-Step Guide and other helpful documents.

My Library

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