

Learning Trajectories for Math

Narrator: Head Start knows that understanding how young children develop math skills is important. So, we partnered with early math experts to develop a series of videos that will help you do just that: understand young children's math development.

Consequently, when you know how children develop mathematic understanding, you can be more effective in questioning, analyzing, and providing activities that further children's development. And you can meet the needs of every individual. Introducing LT2, a free web-based tool for early childhood educators that can be used for ongoing professional development.

Early childhood educators register for the site, upload basic information about the children in their class, and monitor progress along the math Learning Trajectories that not only demonstrates how children think and learn about mathematics but provides tools to support effective teaching practices to support the learning of young children from birth to age 8.

On the LT2 website, you can learn about the Learning Trajectories for math. The Learning Trajectories are natural developmental progressions that children follow linked to instructional practices. Learning Trajectories have three parts. One, a learning goal, also referred to as a target, benchmark, or expectation. Two, a developmental path along which children take to reach that goal, composed of different levels of thinking. And, three, a set of activities and teaching strategies matched to each level of thinking in that path to help children develop the next higher level of thinking.

On LT2, you can review short video clips of children's thinking along the math Learning Trajectories to help you become better at collecting ongoing assessment data to recognize children's understanding of math and to individualize instructional practices. Best of all, you will find hundreds of activity ideas.

The Trajectories are aligned with the ELOF, so they can support your curricular and planning efforts no matter the setting, including software games for preschool-aged and older children as one way to support their development along the Math Trajectories.

Watch videos and download resources to help you implement effective practices at LearningTrajectories.org.

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