

Grade

6

Algebra Carnival

MATH



Driving Question: What are the different ways we can represent Algebra?

Project Description:

The Algebra Carnival was a cross-campus project where 6th grades were planning to teach algebra concepts to lower elementary students. Teachers shared topics with students and the students in small groups had to design carnival-like activities to teach concepts to their younger peers. The main focus beyond math education was cooperation and collaboration, making math fun and a peer to peer connection. The teachers also teamed up with the elementary school elementary teachers and had opportunities to each in each other's classroom.



Student Products

- ▶ Choose an Algebra topic to teach to other students
- ▶ Design a lesson to teach to younger students in a station process

Teacher Reflections

"What we took away from this project is deeper thinking about how this could be an enriching activity by tweaking it beyond just a fun activity. We recognized how to adjust our teaching to help challenge or reexplain key math principles. Another reflection is that we have to think about how to differentiate in unique ways for all students. We also learned how important it was to explain the relationships between numbers and concepts. We need to think more about how can we make this "stick" and have a deeper meaning and apply it toward other learning. We will think in the future how to make lessons more meaningful for the students. We liked how the project only took 2 days, one day of planning and one day teaching in the other school." - Josh Sadek and Jolene Collier

Student Reflections

"I learned how to teach younger kids and how to simplify my language so that they could understand. I noticed how kindergarteners already had a background about algebra and patterns, although it wasn't as deep as ours. I hope that we could have more time for each station so we could prepare more fun activities and spend more time with each kid." - Student

"I learned to have more patience with small kids. I noticed that some students got the answer right away, but others we had to teach by using unit blocks. I loved the carnival! The kids were all adorable and they learned super fast" - Student

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