**Classroom Discussions for Elementary Math**

Presented by Kelly Lenox 2nd Grade Teacher, NBCT

Riser Elementary School Ouachita Parish Schools lenox@opsb.net

*Classroom Discussions: Using MATH TALK to Help Students Learn* by Suzanne H. Chapin, Catherine O’Connor, and Nancy Canavan Anderson

**The “Talk Moves”**

* **Revoicing.**

*“So what you’re saying is that it’s an odd number?”*

* **Asking students to restate someone else’s reasoning.**

*“Can you repeat what he just said in your own words?”*

* **Asking students to apply their own reasoning to someone else’s reasoning.**

*“Do you agree or disagree and why?”*

* **Prompting students for further participation.**

*“Would you like to add on?”*

* **Using wait time.**

*“Take you time….we’ll wait…”*

**The Principles of Productive Talk**

* Establish and maintain a respectful, supportive environment.
* Focus talk on mathematics.
* Provide for equitable participation in classroom talk.
* Explain your expectations about new forms of talk.
* Try one challenging new thing at a time.

**The First Steps in Getting Started**

* Practicing two talk moves on your own.
* Introducing students to talk-centered instruction.
* Beginning with a whole-class discussion.
* Revoicing in small-group discussion.
* Using partner talk.
* Building and supporting an argument.

The teacher should think of a 3 digit number. No digit should be repeated. The class will guess number and the teacher will tell the class how many digits they guessed correctly and how many of these digits are in the correct place. The teacher should use the “Talk Moves” to have students justify their guesses.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *“Guess”* | | |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Number of Digits Correct* | *Number of Digits in the Correct Place* |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |