

Equals Group Options

1. Rotating Groups

The teacher and paraprofessional or other professional staff who work with students in the same room and rotate groups of students after a designated period of time. This option works with groups of students working on different objectives at stations. Each group can be working on a different skill/lesson. Take care to assign only non-instructional lesson components to unlicensed staff.

Staff support with Equals lesson parts:

Teacher: Getting Ready

Support: Follow-up (previous lesson)

Support: Sensing Math

Support: Number Notes



2. Teacher+

Teachers may opt for completing all instruction, practice, and application activities with students along with professional support staff and/or paraprofessional staff. There are many benefits to team teaching with an occupational therapist or speech and language clinician. These professionals bring a different perspective to group instruction and practice. Working together, you can better serve students' communication and motor needs. It is suggested to meet regularly to discuss and plan, solve problems, and make decisions regarding individual student needs.

Working with paraprofessionals during math group is helpful and rewarding when the staff has been given adequate training. Paraprofessional staff will appreciate knowing the lesson objective, operation of assistive technology, and expectations you have for your students.



Did you know...?

Research shows that students achieve more in small and large groups than with 1-1 instruction.

Benefits include students learning incidentally from other students, opportunities for students to teach others, and students learning from peer role models.

3. Instructional Group/Practice Group

In this option the teacher provides instruction to a group of students while paraprofessional staff provide practice activities or assistance in completing math tasks. The time with the paraprofessional(s) can take place in another part of the room while the teacher instructs a different group of students or can happen at a different time of day.

Example:

Teacher: Problem Solving instruction

Support: Follow-up game

Support: Help students finish Number Notes

4. Groups by Level

Teachers can group students by Level 1, 2, or 3 as long as all the students in the same group are working on the same general skills/lessons.

5. Groups by Lesson

Teachers can group students of varying levels in the same group as long as they are working on the same lesson. Often this is beneficial as students can act as peer role models or help another student. When a student shows a peer how to complete a math task, his or her own understanding increases.



Equals Instructional vs. Practice/Application

Licensed professional staff are required to teach instructional portions of lessons while paraprofessionals may assist students with individual work, practice, and application activities after instruction has been completed. The instructional and practice and application components of Equals Math lessons are:

Instructional: Getting Ready, Introduce and Connect, Vocabulary, CSA, Problem Solving

Practice and Application: Worksheet assistance, completing Number Notes, Sensing Math, activities on Follow Up page.