Pre-Kindergarten – 1st Grade Students: Nemeth Code within UEB Contexts and Strategies for Supporting the Student in Building Math Skills

Lesson 5: Working with the Educational Team

University of South Carolina Upstate, Spring 2020
Lesson 5 Objectives

Participants will be able to:

1. Describe their role as a TSVI working with students who are in PK-1 education
2. Identify ways they, as the TSVI, can support the general education teacher
3. List ways they can support the paraprofessional to do his/her job successfully
4. Determine when to prepare a teacher reference sheet and what to include
“In general, it is the responsibility of the person providing instruction to ensure that all students, including the student with a visual impairment, have full access to instruction and all materials used in a lesson.”

Kapperman, Heinze, & Sticken, 2000, p. 174
Your Role as a TSVI in Math and Science Instruction

• Work as a member of the team.
• Evaluate the student’s conceptual understanding.
• Teach the student to compute math problems using VI specific tools and manipulatives.
• Identify upcoming Nemeth Code symbols and teach them to the student.
• Prepare materials including tactile graphics.
• Ensure the student’s success!
Work as a Member of the Team with the General Education Teacher

Guide the teacher to understand:
• Your role as the TSVI
• The paraprofessional's role
• Workflow
• Materials used by the student
• Expectations
Work as a Member of the Team with the Paraprofessional

- Determine when paraprofessional support is needed
- Facilitate communication between you, the general education teacher, and the paraprofessional
- Teach material preparation
- Teach data collection methods when appropriate
As a Team Member You are a Model and Resource

• Provide visual access
• Reinforce instructional concepts
• Share strategies for success
• Promote full participation
• Identify materials from APH and other sources
• Troubleshoot technology issues
• Encourage the student to self-advocate
• Demonstrate creative problem solving skills
Nemeth Code Success for Your Student Depends on You!

• Preview instructional materials to identify new Nemeth symbols and formatting to teach
• Pre-teach symbols and formatting
• Pre-teach concepts
• Teach use of tools to produce braille
• Ensure your student has braille at the same time classmates have print!
Teacher Reference Materials

• These are a guide for the adult supporting the student in your absence.
• Avoid technical terms
• If you opt to omit something, be sure a math concept is not being lost!
• Identify omitted material in the braille
• Identify materials needed
• Provide any alternative instructions
Example 1: What Would You Include in the Teacher Reference Sheet?

• The class has just begun to work with ten frames.
• Rico will benefit from use of manipulatives.

Show 6 on the first ten frame and 8 on the second ten frame. Then compare which one is larger.
Example 1: Teacher Reference Sheet

I've made a sheet with 2 ten frames that have Velcro in each square. Rico can use the teddy bear counters or coins, his choice. Verbally tell him to put 6 in the first ten frame and 8 in the second one. Once done, ask him to compare which is larger. I did not braille the question for him today, because I know you are focusing on the comparison concept and the time he would take to read the braille would take away from the concept you’re teaching.
Example 2: What Would You Include in the Teacher Reference Sheet?

Counting Fun!

Draw a picture for each number.

5

2
Example 2: Teacher Reference Sheet

Instead of drawing, Carolyn will use magnetic circles and a metal cookie sheet to create a tactile picture for each number. I left the magnetic circles and cookie sheet in your mailbox in the teacher’s workroom. Carolyn practiced building numbers with the magnetic circles and the cookie sheet with me yesterday. Email me if you have questions.