



Mastering the Basics

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Abstract

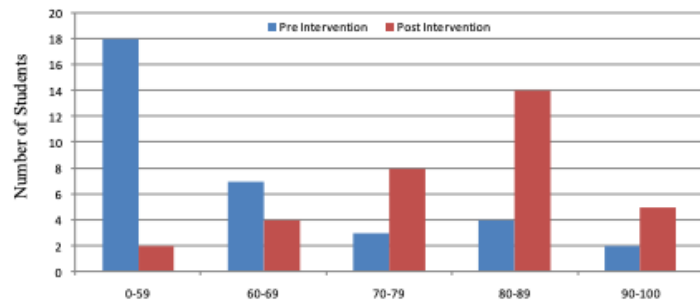
Focusing on basic math skills as students progress through grade-levels can provide all students with the foundation they need in order to succeed as a math learner.

Introduction & Research Question

Allowing students the time and access they need to learn or relearn basic math skills they have not yet mastered, like adding and subtracting can help them succeed when it comes to learning new and more advanced math concepts such as fractions, multiplication, and division.

Can a greater focus on basic math concepts pave the way for long-term student success?

If students have the opportunity to master basic math skills as they progress through grade-levels, then they can have a higher success rate as a math learner.

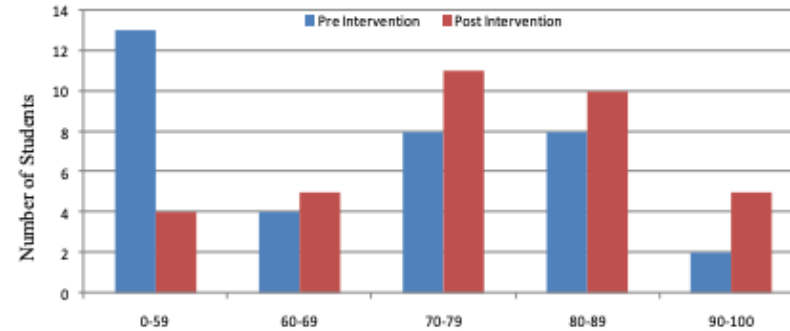


6th and 9th grade students

Data Collection

From January to May in 2010, a study was conducted with students in 4th, 5th, 6th, and 9th grade. These students were given a pre-test to determine a baseline for the data. They were retaught basic math skills through various technological devices. The math skills emphasized was number sense. Within the 4 grade levels, a total of 84 students participated in the study.

Results



4th and 5th grade students

Hudson, S., Kadan, S., Lavin, K., & Vasquez, T. (2010). Improving Basic Math Skills Using Technology [Online Submission]. In *Online Submission*.

Discussion

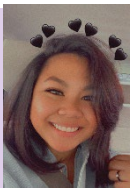
Through constant practice of basic math skills such as place value, numbers with decimals, and number sense through teacher-taught lessons and independent practice through technology, the research has shown that when students are given the opportunity to practice and relearn math concepts, their scores will overall improve in these areas. In turn, these students can continue to succeed in more advanced math concepts.

Conclusions

- Students can improve in math when given time and opportunities to relearn math concepts they have struggled with in the past
- Basic math concepts are the foundation to a successful math learner
- Allowing students to master the fundamentals before moving on will not only increase their academic learning, but also their self-confidence
- All students are capable of learning advanced math concepts when they have full understanding of the basic math skills

Contact

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References

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