



How Horizon's Distinctive Spiraling Approach Maximizes Learning and Leads to Success

The feature that sets Horizons apart is the sequence in which the material is presented. The math problems are essentially the same as any other materials. The amount of practice and the order in which concepts are taught would also be similar. The key distinctive of the Horizons approach is: what level, how much, and how often.

This chart illustrates how Horizons Math provides a detailed concept introduction, development and review cycle. Horizon builds comprehension by gradually introducing and reviewing each concept. The result is orderly learning from the simple to the complex. The first presentation is usually a brief familiarization. Then the basic teaching is accomplished as part of three to five lessons.

Each concept will be reviewed for three to five lessons after the complete presentation. For the next two months the concept will be presented every two weeks as a part of two or three consecutive lessons. After a break in presentation of four weeks, the concept will be thoroughly reviewed as part of the lesson for three to five days. This will be followed by a period of two months where the concept will be reviewed every two weeks as part of two or three lessons. This progression continues until the students have had the opportunity to thoroughly master the concept.

Some math curriculum might teach graphs for two weeks and not go back to it again. In Horizons, it will be introduced and practiced for two weeks. For the next two months, graphs will be presented every two weeks as a part of two or three lessons to give the students continual practice to develop mastery of the concept. The third month will be considered a break from presenting the concept and graphs will not be taught. In the fourth month, graphs will first be thoroughly reviewed and again practiced every two weeks as a part of two or three lessons.

By having a series of practices every two weeks, the students will retain what they have learned to a greater degree. Short periods of exposure repeated many times is much more effective than long periods with fewer exposures. Since there are three types of graphs to study at this level (bar, line, and pictograph), each type is introduced at separate intervals. The bar graph is taught at the introduction to the study. Line graphs are introduced a month later (following the same progression), and pictographs another month later. After each type of graph has been completed introduced individually, the three types are presented together for the remainder of the year.

Horizons Spiraling Concept Development

