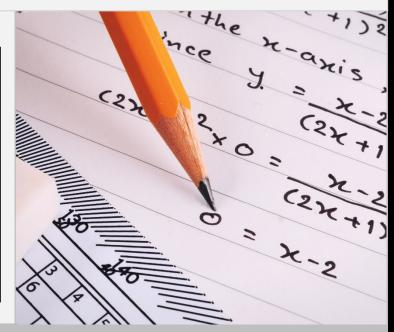


The Rule of Four

Graphically Numerically Algebraically Words (Verbally)





FLAMINGO MATH

G.N.A.W. and the Rule of Four

What is GNAW and the Rule of Four?

The "Rule of Four" or G.N.A.W. Approach is a method of thinking about mathematics in order to make connections through multiple representations of our mathematical thinking. Students should be able to represent mathematics in graphic, numeric, algebraic, and verbal formats. G.N.A. W.

Why should you use the GNAW approach?

By implementing this process into your classes, student will gain a deeper understanding of the mathematics. The Rule of Four helps students connect and validate concepts and techniques.

How can you use the Rule of Four?

Teachers can model this approach during instructional time to set the "tone" for expected thinking and reasoning. Then, give your students many chances to practice the techniques. It is also important that students learn to make connections between the different representations.

What next?

In the attached pages, you can create a year long attitude of exploring concepts using the G.N.A.W. method. Simply give students a place to begin and add a set of instructions for each of the other two or three representations. You have the options of a Rule of Three on half sheets of paper or a Rule of Four on a full sheet of paper.

For example, you want students to understand and investigate parabolic behavior.

Graphical: Begin with the function $y = x^2 - x - 12$

Numerical: Give a set of x-values to find y-values that include both x-intercepts and y-intercepts

Algebraic: Students will factor and solve the function

Verbally: Have students describe key features of the function such as domain, range, vertex, intercepts.

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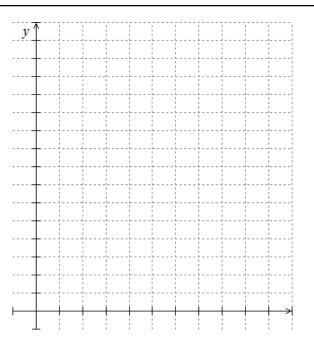
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Let's Connect...



















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