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| **Engaging Students Through Differentiation**One of the most crucial challenges any teacher can face is making sure that each student receives experiences that are on par with his or her level of learning.Effective teachers will differentiate their instruction to provide appropriate rigor to all students, thus accommodating all levels of academic ability. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc. (nctm.org) published an article, [*Differentiating the Curriculum for Elementary Gifted Mathematics Students*](http://edivate.schoolimprovement.com/e1t/c/%2AW8_rtrG5ckJgdW8qRd6_8Byh2z0/%2AW946hqc3F0Rd2W1vbDJX4g72D30/5/f18dQhb0S3_Z1Qg1MfMWpdD6DQcf_Vj5ZKv4TJ-8pW8zXTwH3fx1bzW5PtPSp592hPgW3dr69N2D0vgbW4lhLx595n7PWW3cJVB897mnxSW5FxS5-9h9Tr9W10HjvY1dZ3vRVBr_Kc7yJ4zmW8WsTYY46psDjW258rtq4CSqpTW7qZTcT6jG7lwW2RzMtm3W_9BGW51KXcD1lpXcHW3cTPQx5Cw1zGW43yQf9725hCnN2jRMSs8j4RPW3cY0jQ3zCpwKW8CdyCC58x1b4N5SymkhQq4mqW7mFd_n3-7FPKW5Tf-bX5CCF5YW8b26Dz903zJbN8KGzdbnVpWfW647rmP7SCyFVW8k1JQB5MNVrfW1CThmV5pxbcvW1hmX0s3wK-VXW7rnHLr5B1SD7W7w9vD53R32tzW67wFBX8xWjQQW5Fx4rJ5wCdLXW4XhXYY1mPndYW2xcLXC3z6HCyN4w8k8rNkBjmW6r_Hyg92P8TKVvNzcN3zQzz4W1Mqwg-42TjtpW1TYwFc32_byMW59ptt67Tz9KxW75bRMy2RQnyzW1wcqJg742KwHW8Lq7Q_89WNrtN6_t6F6TXJ8ZW2CcrXy3trVBCN7ZWB15B6KNJW1_gDQL75NyRX111), which explores in depth how to create activities that meet the academic needs of accelerated math students. The article outlines 10 attributes of effective differentiated activities: 1. The activity is investigative and will require some initiative and discovery on the student’s part. Recipe-like activities in which the students are walked through the steps of one solution are to be specifically avoided.
2. The activity can be approached in different ways. There may be more than one pathway to the solution or more than one solution.
3. The activity is complex and will require a variety of mathematical skills to solve. The activity may or may not be solvable in one mathematics period, allowing students to learn to cope with frustration and develop perseverance.
4. The activity is structured so that gifted students of a variety of abilities can begin the problem at their own level. However, the activity is *not*designed to be simple enough that the lowest-achieving student can succeed without assistance.
5. The activity will provide practice or fresh insight into the skills being presented in the regular mathematics unit.
6. The activity is engaging for elementary school students.
7. The activity is structured so that it can be worked on individually or in small groups, thus providing opportunities to discuss mathematical ideas.
8. The activity is structured to encourage reflection and communication about mathematical ideas.
9. For each unit, attention will be given to different learning styles. For example, some of the nine activities will be geared toward kinesthetic learners, others to visual learners, and so on.
10. For each unit, attention will be given to Bloom’s taxonomy. For example, some of the nine activities will be designed to promoted analysis, synthesis, or evaluation. Comprehension is a prerequisite, not a goal, of all activities.

Source: Teaching Children Mathematics / August 2006**See How One Teacher Differentiates Math In Her Classroom**This short video on Edivate demonstrates math differentiation in an elementary classroom. See how Teressa Paepke, first grade teacher at Sage Hills Elementary in Saratoga Springs, Utah, adjusts her learning activities to meet the needs of all her students. “It honestly does not take time, but the rewards and the benefits are so valuable and it’s an amazing thing that I love doing,” says Ms. Paepke.This content [**includes a study guide**](http://edivate.schoolimprovement.com/e1t/c/%2AW8_rtrG5ckJgdW8qRd6_8Byh2z0/%2AVgzV8b8dk8TpW6KbFDZ9dDtTq0/5/f18dQhb0SbTW8Y9_DzW6_1kZ44T_wzgW4Y9jSW1qwqjvMscPFWXD6prW7cmS1s61CkxyW50F6ch96dt4SW4r1Kb91xq-zYW2m0n8g4HFMmmW5RXF9R5D9NNRV8qVtn2B89VmV2l4zv6-MpphW4WYsmG3V416fW6PVKcr6N3nBLW8xGZNL9jWB-RW4MgZpM5ZpycSW57-ZBT83C5JPW6rstCR7J39qHV1FlQ11hBlycW18dKPT1VJrykW5lX8fq13bD4hW6dkdGF2fkw7hW13zFNJ3qJTHpW5ZD_Xc771dlKW3r30vz1BMtf0W1TWw9083B3wxW7r_TGw77RHQQW6f-FvV5n3PFKN7Jm7cSrhfm_W6fPf-j4j5SbpW7v70z75pfj1RW2cw_7x54tJJsW2fRj1H5JR9dvN8nDXSCnK4LvW3Cdk0d3wv7SmW1Tq8Np7mbzrFW1txQH-1KqxB1W1FXRbR5mRgWyW6MXsh08fypjbW41MhPC6s1L8tW9lx1zx3mD4SFW7VHkX02WtcMYDvHVknGY-gf5FCwGl03) with summaries and links to additional resources about differentiation and classroom management.[**Watch the Video in Edivate**](http://edivate.schoolimprovement.com/e1t/c/%2AW8_rtrG5ckJgdW8qRd6_8Byh2z0/%2AW37lQwR56SBjrW7XpXMR3PwYf70/5/f18dQhb0S5fm8XJ8bxW8846tc2qwv1yN2t4GqZKfK8fMf5sCHXD6prW7cmS1s8pCQ6vMbb6pjdPnGrW6PZxrZ1nrCGBW51LTg55DHNj2W74Nxwj1b7ygdW7JCxGl81bhDKW7N_KqM11GtpLW520N2H7v70tSW2Hyb609dH8_6W6V4mf76BgJRTW8QKpyr4sj3hVW2BcyM91mGWjzVG1KC_8KNPxkW4L3Bc83Kzr9VN9hXsccYPTb2W5X7qtj8p69yrW2gDrFJ5X0Gh0W74B7PN7bMbJQW4XHK9c5jFd50Mdh3l_YmdPkW4MjxRf24wYYPW51Gkx_8Lb4CNW87Qpqt65fwf-W2J_-qH6SSJNcVc9_Lz54W8XDW4Hrm2q1MjhK9W7vSXk51W-tQCW6BXj_P8Ph58-W58CcKY1CpgZwW4fb8l21thlRGW2MkLFC5hfQL4W8pg4WP8hGsQpW1pRJpl1vhgrHW86192r8Y7Dx3W5BzSbR8zjT3cMcYWZCcStdhf2JPsH902)If the video doesn't automatically play after you log in, type "**10731"** into the search bar.**Common Core Still a Challenge?**There’s no question implementing the Common Core is tough. But that doesn’t mean that with the right approach, it can’t help drive dramatic improvement in everything from teacher practice to student achievement.[**Download this white paper**](http://edivate.schoolimprovement.com/e1t/c/%2AW8_rtrG5ckJgdW8qRd6_8Byh2z0/%2AW6gZX2D1g4vsWW4yl9zZ6B-Lk10/5/f18dQhb0Sjvg8YHrG2W8846tc2qwv1yN2t4GqZKfK8fMf5kBqXD6prW39DrZG1x4f9hW1njMDh7lPF01W25G6z12z3vSwW6PkC-_4vgKM1W97Nt_15S0D-jW3vBP2B5zBpZ0W3jdjJk3jJ_1yW5K-FKH5B4_2rN1151nPc-S7WW1L4xyj6FKg-TW2XsCWx7t7kSvW5kFtm-3qJ4kfW1wchBz5Rp4xHW7G2gzr2tk5vHW2z_scn6x2RKSW5-lMJc5tk_xfW5fbrJn4Dn_mZW4LdwCN47vbQWW4VhTTn62nTbjW6s44-64Z3LVFW3scsjl3Rgxc1W36LBgX3R0kNVW3CfgNy2xMpPpW4kMJf751Cy0jW47B9fR2nWFqtW2_6Vj33HsnrYW6Mlkkh6gFzRlW3wTXtH82G-VBN8yRkqzrPpMvVrJh2D3L-cXmW7Zt7yd8pnPbkW7cFCN31m13GxW49FShz3bnPmYW9f7G_l407rZBW4lpHLt4Hv0jgW3YT7kk6R8CkLW6bM_bW73r2_lThKvM2lSlZz103) to learn strategies top performing districts are using to succeed with the Common Core. And be sure to visit our [Common Core blog](http://edivate.schoolimprovement.com/e1t/c/%2AW8_rtrG5ckJgdW8qRd6_8Byh2z0/%2AVVHJcj27NshDW2Qtjr42DYDg50/5/f18dQhb0Sjvg8YHrG2W8846tc2qwv1yN2t4GqZKfK8fMf5kBqXD6prW39Dr-N8pCDMDW7lPF0125G6z1W2z3vSw6PkC-_W4vgKM197S3C5W8yfJNz38x-DsW41XMz_6cP7N2W89tcfY20_Z7mW6JknFh2fZzNFW2k0LxW2Z2PJ4W5rcZX12-294gW5J0bGN7d-VJLW5J10-t5FHM5wW1v3hGt39HsnSW392CP75jPVDHW47P0wC403tVSW3vbpkw6nlCr0W3l4jMX6SVWcwW2_frmB3M6WC8W5S84ck5m0m4yW38g2Bk2yzTG0W5HTkBw6pPY2rW3c1kh42WJ68BW64T6Y74wFcwmW6scyL83dwGvnW47BH795Q6ZvqW6pV0Hq62-y95W2nPtTG4mL5sgW27_ctF2PGKtHMzJrw6wKJnCV3qXVs3ntYvyW6bCn5L7lFcXZN4tGhJG42cYPW3nNLJp3s4l9gW96ZSFJ54rYSMW7tZJxQ90v9DDW8d4Rcs5xyPPfW6bYwkh2ZkDpKW63vfD72H2jd80) to get the latest on national trends relating to the Core Standards. **Read last week's Strategy of the Week:**[**Establishing Hallway Procedures**](http://edivate.schoolimprovement.com/e1t/c/%2AW8_rtrG5ckJgdW8qRd6_8Byh2z0/%2AW1nh01p3J8GRdT2x59681Rjt0/5/f18dQhb0S4172nS2nsV1vjmL2J2YbQW4LrpvC19jz25W51zm622LjCvFW5gyyG48qNGyQW933K_07L5x9KW6QXY_q4qDBnXW4PhZ4c4_bhJsW1JNvbz2YGCnyW74224x29DBFgW17RSn12RGPm5W5CtynZ30fv20W7RkzDh7KyjTgW423cdn6wPW13W5bBFFR3wDD1PN78TylsNfC7nW8B37507Rhgd3V2vmBj3SjbDlW5MQq6J6RQfpmW4m00t113KPcGW2gTR7d1fPy00W7v92LB6TYVkZW13kFW01sY714W964Y0d58JclhW73YFGV5Bw7cqN8PphDvN_rRbW4pd9P44vCsZcW50tLPx3MBfZnDyp9W43X_TW2Slh1w4jd3qHW8PlZZR3ctfhGW4fxsZ-5f2VtMW1WKpyr6KL6tVW6BykVz4VyDpqW5fQ-5y2yqXyTW1n3ktC48hnVNW6jG-vb7llKwyW321qtT5yY0PDW3Vs7B_6Bf7C_W3c22C13wX524W7_zLfc93cNJjW5PKBf-1s9nySW958wJx8kJyQCW58z_k_2kKHssN1Hk8DW3SZ6ldgGCRj03)**The Research On What Really Drives Student Achievement Gains Is In—and the Findings May Surprise You**Recently published research examines how the top school systems around the world are achieving significant gains in student achievement. Learn more in our insightful article “Four Keys to Successful School Improvement” featured on edsurge.com. [Learn More](http://edivate.schoolimprovement.com/e1t/c/%2AW8_rtrG5ckJgdW8qRd6_8Byh2z0/%2AW2RyMng5djp7QW8R_NPZ4QnB160/5/f18dQhb0SbTZ8Y9-RWW6_1kZ44T_wzgW4Y9jSW1qwqjvVscNPW1SddPTW53DQ4N7s5LskW30rzR355Vv0_W5mZ50N8W5d6BW8-vzkg2RRPsnW4gZm8X7Mb6KBW4gg0Gt558N9sW4hXWwt5nJ4G1W7KWgv055pcjzW8WlR6h4b_FjYW7r9ddZ8W1ZbQN2MTPSyKng6qW1Wg4bj4RrbcZW2lj6vd9gM8G-VYT2jk6P4lCXW3xPtL65rC5Q6W3lzN6v4Dk-X2V8C6jc7x_kd6W7P1-wW33FK-yMqPkxDnjZC8N1GPQb-76BsKW2rCNMs1g8XnCW838C0d6YhVLSW33kZZR12zS8VW12Vm5M6X07XQW7pYMNq4j9cP3W2qzs6B4bXT2VW4QtTR_2str2FW4b3yGf5nj_0zW3pt93p2NY7lbW1RMS-k4PJkGHW2rCWJp2p8_TTW7-lfTK46ngsMW3ygvH88c388wW8gfnmj7Xr6vfW5V67Dy1M76BqW2nRylc5rNH3kW51m7GN5GgWrrW5_5bJw4nNvbFW7Gg6P83C53KPN69YFFDVMPV8VVmwq16Bj0Lr102) |

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