Use Your Math Power Books: A Model for Mathematical Practices and Opportunities for Student Reflection

Goal: The following lessons guide the teacher in using <u>Use Your Math Power</u> books to model mathematical practices and give students opportunities to reflect on enhancing their use of the practices by focusing on participation, perseverance, and communication.

Thinking behind the lessons

The <u>Use Your Math Power</u> books help students reflect on how they can use best practices and engage in a learning community. In the lessons, students focus on practices that help them succeed in math. You can use the lessons early in the year to set expectations, or during the year to reinforce best practices.

Though set in a primary classroom, these books help students of various ages think about mathematical practices, especially perseverance and communication.

Elementary students familiar with the math content can easily focus on the practices in the books. For first graders, teachers may wish to use each book during or after working on the math content in the book.

There are 3 lessons for each book, a first reading, a lesson focusing on a common struggle in classroom participation, and one focusing on effective communication.

The Lessons

Hatching Butterflies

- 1. A First Reading
- 2. Working with Partners
- 3. Focusing on Communication (includes Reader's Theater script)

Monkeys for the Zoo

- 1. A First Reading
- 2. Gaining Confidence to Share Your Ideas
- 3. Focusing on Communication (includes Reader's Theater script)

Penguins on Parade

- 1. A First Reading
- 2. Making Sense of Unfamiliar Problems
- 3. Focusing on Communication (includes Reader's Theater script)