



THIRD SPACE
LEARNING

Math Intervention Checklist

8 steps to ensuring your math intervention has maximum impact on the students who need it most.

School and District Leader Guides

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Introduction

Every semester, we speak to hundreds of teachers, math leaders and other school leaders who have identified students in need of extra math support and are looking to join the 4,000 schools who've signed their students up for Third Space Learning's online one-on-one math intervention program.

Since we started in 2013, we've learned a lot about what highly-effective schools do to ensure their math interventions have maximum impact on student achievement. Whatever type of intervention you choose, these 8 steps are essential.

Third Space Learning's math specialists conducted thorough research to craft a comprehensive checklist outlining principles for developing an effective math intervention program.

"As administrators, we're always looking for that silver bullet, and this is pretty close. One-on-one interaction is what so many kids need, but providing that kind of instruction simultaneously just isn't normally possible in school. With Third Space Learning, it is."



Ryan Lucas, Principal
Governor's Ranch Elementary, Colorado



Math intervention checklist

1 Select students strategically to maximize impact

- ✓ Start with looking at your internal benchmark data as well as standardized testing data, such as state assessments, for both general and special education students. Identify which students are not performing at grade level, have gaps in achievement and would benefit from additional support.
- ✓ Look at the free and reduced lunch data to ascertain which students are from low socioeconomic households and might not otherwise have access to extra support.
- ✓ Consider the individual needs of the students, some thrive with online interactive tutoring while others prefer having face-to-face interactions.

2 Establish precise goals for your intervention program

- ✓ Are you looking to provide support to students that are way below grade level standards or those that are near or at grade level standards to stretch and challenge them?
- ✓ Is it a short term boost that's needed for state assessments or are you looking for more long-term gains in confidence and attitudes to math?
- ✓ What grade bands will the math intervention program service?
- ✓ Will there be a particular focus on specific skills or will it be broader with a focus on critical thinking and problem solving?
- ✓ Be sure to include the benefit of a safe space to make mistakes in your math intervention programs. This does wonders for students' confidence and willingness to try!

3 Choose your schedule

- ✓ Some students will require more intensive intervention, others might just need a few extra opportunities to apply their skills.
- ✓ Consider the individual needs of your students and choose the right schedule to suit each student.
- ✓ Having a regular intervention schedule during the school day is more likely to provide positive results in raising math achievement.

4 Consider your budget and capacity

- ✓ Consider how much capacity your school staff have to plan, manage and monitor math interventions in school.
- ✓ Title 1 and ESSER funding can be used on 'targeted academic support'.
- ✓ Look into your state's Department of Education for possible grant opportunities specific for tutoring.
- ✓ Consider the time of day the math intervention program will run. Will it be embedded as part of the school day where it becomes part of a teacher's teaching assignment or will it be after school and a stipend position for teachers?
- ✓ Consider the availability of staff to run the math intervention.

5 Use math specialists

- ✓ Math interventions will be most effective when delivered by math specialist teachers or tutors.
- ✓ Consider the daily teaching schedule of math teachers and if it's feasible for them to facilitate a math intervention.
- ✓ If you don't have access to a wide enough pool of math specialists internally or locally, consider online interventions.

6 Plan up-front how you'll measure success

- ✓ Is a pre-test and post-test appropriate or are you evaluating the softer skills of your students?
- ✓ Will you speak regularly to whoever is leading the intervention, as well as each student's class teacher, to understand progress and impact over time?
- ✓ If using an external provider or platform, will there be reports you can access to understand impact?
- ✓ How often will you speak directly to the students involved to hear from them how they feel the tutoring is benefiting them?
- ✓ What will be most effective at proving the impact the tutoring has had on your students to your school administrators and district leaders?
- ✓ Last but not least, consider what your state's Department of Education will need to see – this is particularly relevant for Title 1 interventions.

7 Use regular assessments

- ✓ Make sure you're identifying each student's gaps and misconceptions, and implementing an intervention that will address these most efficiently.
- ✓ Ensure whoever is leading the intervention can access the results of these assessments and are trained to also use Assessment for Learning during the sessions themselves.

8 Ensure intervention content is consistent and standards-aligned

- ✓ If using an external intervention program, ask to review the content to ensure it is not only consistent across the group but also curriculum aligned to state standards for math.
- ✓ The best math interventions give students the opportunity to address gaps and move onto independent practice once that skill is secure; ensure your intervention materials provide the necessary scaffolding to develop this conceptual understanding.

How Third Space Learning's AI tutoring stacks up

		
Carefully select students	Programs cover standards from 3rd-8th grade and schools are free to choose exactly which students they'd like to put on the program.	✓
Establish precise goals	After regular tutoring from Third Space Learning, schools see increased confidence, reduced learning gaps, accelerated progress and higher scores on assessments.	✓
Choose your schedule	Scheduling is fully flexible , including before, during and after school, and math tutoring with Third Space Learning is unlimited . Most schools choose 30-45 minute sessions 3x a week.	✓
Allocate your budget and resources	Third Space Learning is at least 3x cheaper than one-on-one tutoring from other providers. All students need is a laptop, desktop or iPad and a headset which we'll send out for free .	✓
Use math specialists	All programs have been developed by former teachers and math experts and built using the insights we've gained from delivering over 2.1 million math tutoring sessions in schools.	✓
Plan up-front how you'll measure success	Data reports are available every step of the way to ensure you're kept up to date with how your students are getting on.	✓
Use regular assessments	All sessions begin with a short diagnostic assessment , the ' Skill Check In ', to identify baseline knowledge and adapt the session in real-time. Sessions end with a summative assessment , the ' Skill Check Out ', to check understanding, track progress and personalize the student's learning pathway.	✓
Use consistent standards-aligned content	All Third Space Learning standards-aligned lessons have been specially created by expert math teachers and follow an ' I do, we do, you do ' approach to encourage conceptual understanding.	✓



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Looking to improve your district's math results without stretching your budget?

High-impact tutoring from our spoken AI math tutor, Skye, helps districts achieve equity at scale by providing a high-quality one-on-one experience for every student.

- ✓ On average, 90% cheaper than other tutoring providers
- ✓ State standard-aligned lessons designed by qualified teachers
- ✓ Differentiated instruction for each student

93% of teachers feel Third Space Learning lessons helped their students achieve higher state test scores.

Speak to us

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