

What instructional strategies are effective in helping students with difficulties in mathematics?

Research points to several strategies that have been consistently effective in teaching students who experience difficulties in mathematics.

- The use of structured peer-assisted learning activities
- Systematic and explicit instruction using visual representations
- Modifying instruction based on data from formative assessment of students (such as classroom discussions or quizzes)
- Providing opportunities for students to think aloud while they work

What are the characteristics of students with learning difficulties in mathematics?

Students who struggle with mathematics learning regardless of their motivation, past instruction, and mathematical knowledge prior to starting school:

- demonstrate slow or inaccurate recall of basic arithmetic facts;
- answer problems impulsively, without inhibition;
- have difficulty representing mathematical concepts mentally;
- have poorly developed number sense; and
- have difficulty keeping information in their working memory.

Based on Effective Strategies for Teaching Students with Difficulties in Mathematics and What Are the Characteristics of Students with Learning Difficulties in Mathematics?

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