



# Effective Teaching of Foundational Concepts

Classroom teachers are at the forefront of helping students grasp core topics. Ideas and understanding come to light when effective instruction empowers students to master foundational concepts.

Students with a strong foundation are better able to use key concepts to solve problems, apply more nuanced methods, and build structures for more advanced topics.

The Editorial Panel of *Mathematics Teacher* is looking for articles to highlight effective ways to engage students with topics that are challenging to teach and learn. Focus on strategies and activities that help students master big ideas and key concepts. Foundational topics may address, but are not limited to, the following:

- Using multiple representations
- Solving equations and inequalities
- Developing proportional reasoning
- Understanding linearity
- Understanding functions
- Establishing properties of geometric figures
- Strengthening computational fluency (e.g., operations with fractions, decimals, radicals, and exponents)

We particularly encourage submission of manuscripts from classroom math teachers. Procedures and approaches that seem routine to you may be a great find for your colleagues. Share your successful experiences with *MT* readers!

Submit manuscripts at [mt.msubmit.net](http://mt.msubmit.net). Be sure to enter “Foundational Concepts” in the Calls field. No author identification should appear in the text of the manuscript. Manuscript guidelines are available at [www.nctm.org/mtcalls](http://www.nctm.org/mtcalls). If you have ideas related to this topic and wish to discuss them before sending a manuscript, contact the *MT* journal editor ([mt@nctm.org](mailto:mt@nctm.org)).