Overview

“Number sense” is one of the most important academic skills a child ever learns. In fact, research has shown that a preschool child’s understanding of mathematics predicts his or her school success all the way through high school. Unfortunately, many children in the U.S. show up in Kindergarten without number sense and fail to develop it fully in the elementary school years. Without a solid foundation in number sense, children struggle with arithmetic and their challenges with math tend to accumulate from there.

Native Numbers is a mastery-based curriculum delivered via iPad that is informed by high-quality research on how children develop number sense. The scope and sequence of the curriculum is well-aligned with both the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in Mathematics (especially the K-1 focus on number). In addition to the iPad app, we have created a web-based instructor dashboard that teachers can use to monitor student progress in real-time and differentiate their instruction.

In this workshop, we will use Native Numbers as a case study to explore how the iPad plus the World Wide Web can create new options for learning, teaching, and assessing. In particular, we will discuss:

- How and why the app and dashboard were developed
- How to use the Native Numbers iPad app and the web-based dashboard
- What assessment data the app collects automatically
- Participants’ views on whether data collected by the app are helpful in improving student performance or teaching (and why or why not?)
- What additional data teachers would find helpful

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