

FCPS - Big Rocks for Middle Grades Mathematics

This document is a list of “big ideas” that are essential to mastery of grade-level content and is not to be interpreted as a complete list of all topics to be taught. Content vocabulary should be an emphasis at ALL grades. In addition, the Math Practice Standards should be embedded throughout.

6th Grade:

- 1) Extend understanding of fractions, decimals, and percents.
- 2) Understand and use ratios, ratio reasoning and unit rates.
- 3) Solve algebraic expressions.
- 4) Solve and interpret 1-step equations and 1-step inequalities.
- 5) Construct, analyze and interpret data in a variety of graphical manners (number line, line plot, dot plot, histogram, box plot (box and whiskers)); compute mean, median, mode and range.
- 6) Find the area of complex 2-D figures (including composing or decomposing figures), review volume of 3-D figures with fractional side lengths, and calculate the surface area of 3-D figures.
- 7) Represent and understand integers and position on both horizontal and vertical number lines including ordering, comparing, and absolute value.
- 8) Extend understanding of the coordinate plane to all four quadrants.

7th Grade:

- 1) Analyze and use proportions and proportional reasoning including scale drawings.
- 2) Represent proportional relationships with the constant of proportionality in tables, graphs, equations and verbal descriptions.
- 3) Solve and apply percent problems including tax, gratuities, discount, simple interest and percent of change.
- 4) Perform operations on rational numbers including integers and positive/negative fractions & decimals.
- 5) Determine and analyze probabilities by constructing sample space and conducting sample and conducting experiments.
- 6) Solve problems involving area and circumference of circles.
- 7) Solve equations for unknown angle measures including complementary, supplementary, vertical and adjacent angles.
- 8) Use central tendency and variability to compare two sets of data.
- 9) Solve and interpret multi-step equations and inequalities.

8th Grade:

- 1) Work with irrational numbers, radicals and integer exponents.
- 2) Graph linear equations and extend understanding of slope as the rate of change.
- 3) Solve multi-step equations including those with variables on both sides, the distributive property, and combining like terms.
- 4) Solve systems of two linear equations in two variables algebraically and estimate solutions graphically (both by hand and on a graphing calculator).
- 5) Investigate and interpret patterns of association in bivariate data using scatterplots and lines of fit.
- 6) Define, evaluate and compare functions using tables, graphs, equations, and verbal descriptions.
- 7) Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
- 8) Work with transformations in a coordinate plane.
- 9) Work with parallel lines cut by a transversal.