Archived Information

Research on Mathematics Education

Grover J. (Russ) Whitehurst, Ph.D.

Director

Institute of Education Sciences

United States Department of Education

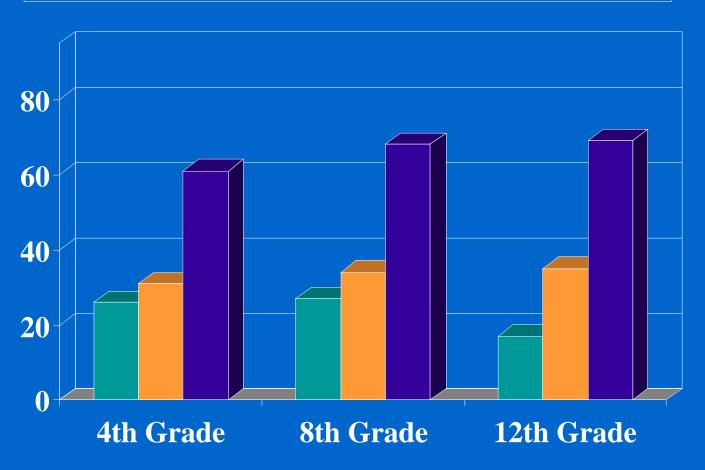


Achievement



NAEP 2000 Proficiency

■ Proficient ■ Below Basic ■ Below Basic Af Am

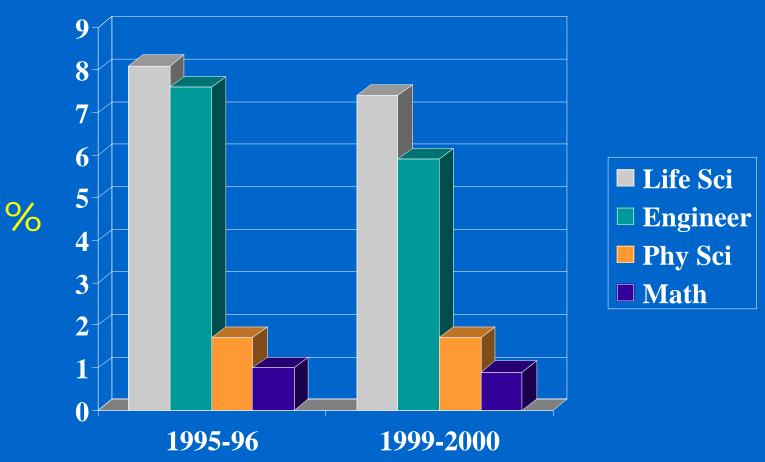


TIMSS Math 1995





Declared Major 4-year colleges



Tracking and Grouping



Assessment for Instruction



Structured Peer Feedback



The Math Wars

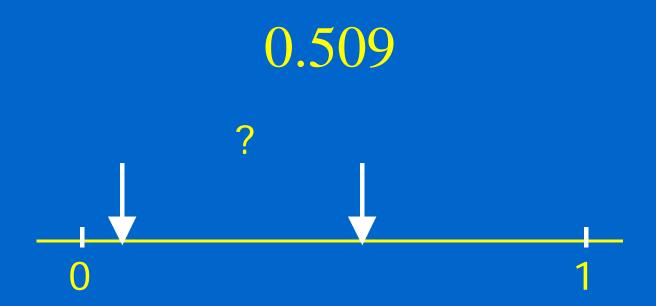
Constructivist Approaches	Skills-based Approaches
Knowledge is constructed	Knowledge is imparted
Children should develop their own understanding	Children should master standard facts & concepts
Authentic problems	Skill-relevant problems
Intrinsically motivated	Extrinsically motivated

Conceptual Understanding



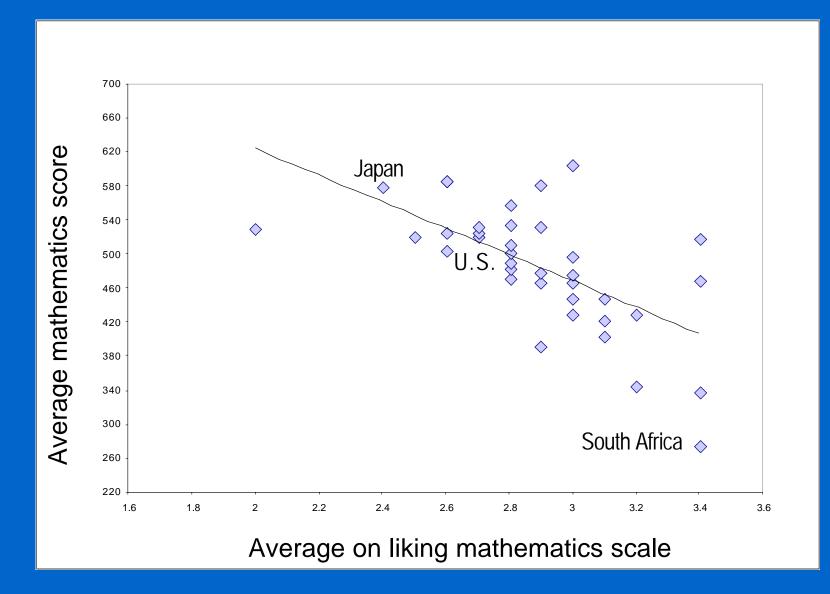
Decimal Fractions

Decimal Fractions



Checks on Constructivism

- Many routes to understanding
- Limits on working memory
- Inefficiency of discovery
- Role of work in learning



Curriculum



Constructivist Math – 3 States





Implementation

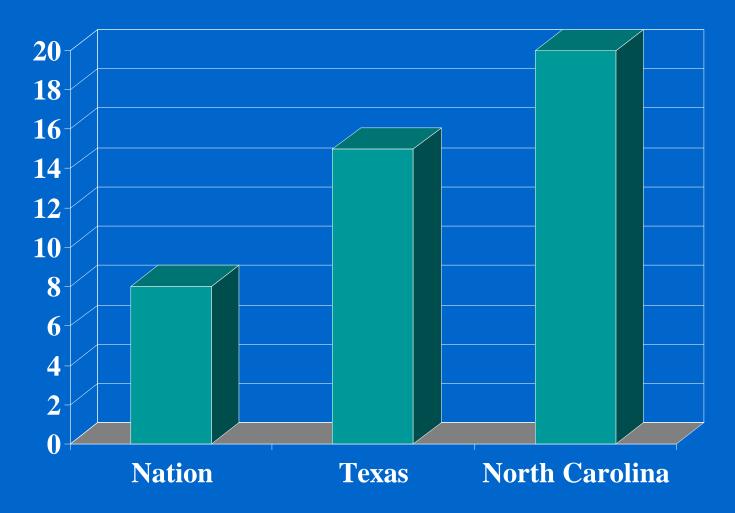




Alignment



NAEP



4th Grade Math Gains: 1992 to 2000

Elements of State Math Reforms

- State-wide standards
- Linked state-wide assessments
- Accountability for results

Putting It Together



Classroom-based assessment	+
Structured peer feedback	+
Tracking	-
Understanding	+
Direct instruction	+-?
Discovery	+-?
Authentic problems	+-?
Work and practice	+
Curriculum	?
Implementation	+
System alignment	+