

Chapter 1 Application Guide

Use the application guide to connect these ideas and tools to your classroom practices.

Chapter 1 Topics	Connect to Your Classroom
Overcoming your mathematics anxiety	Set aside negative past experiences in favor of a growth mindset for yourself as a teacher and doer of mathematics. Rather than speed, reinforce students' resourceful problem solving, use of patterns, and visual representations.
Gaining confidence teaching mathematics	Co-plan with and get constructive feedback from like-minded colleagues. Use student work to reflect and make instructional decisions. Attend professional development and read journal articles and books. Take advantage of an instructional coach or math instructional specialist. Get involved in professional organizations for math teaching.
Handling mistakes in mathematics	Recognize that effort, persistence, and appropriate challenges—rather than natural talent—lead to success in math, and reward such behaviors. Regard mistakes and struggles as the substance of learning. Encourage a growth mindset by reinforcing students' effort, persistence, focus, strategies, and improvement.
Leveraging culture in mathematics	Integrate culture with math learning to develop students' positive math identities. Help them see the relevance and importance of math to their lives by accessing their lived experiences and funds of knowledge. Set up experiences, such as Three Act Tasks, where students can view themselves as authentically connected to math and mathematically powerful.