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Acknowledgements

I would like to express my appreciation to all the wonderful teachers I've known through the years. The Internet has opened my doors to a world of great classrooms filled with inspiring teachers. Thanks for all you have given me!



Classroom Goal Setting

Power Pack Suggestions

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Goal Setting - The Key to Success!

Examine the lives of 100 highly successful people, and undoubtedly you'll find that they have something in common. They dream big, and they create action plans to ensure their success. When they experience setbacks, successful people consider those obstacles to be mere stumbling blocks on their road to success. They never see themselves as failures because they have goals and plans to guide them through difficult times. They visualize themselves as already having achieved their dreams, and as a result, those dreams become a reality.

So why aren't we teaching these secrets of success to our students? Sure, many of us teach them to set goals for themselves. But do we guide them in writing clear and specific action plans? Do we give them the tools to track their progress? More importantly, do we teach them to examine data and reflect on where they have been and where they still need to go? Do we encourage them to visualize themselves as successful students on their way to making their dreams come true? If not, perhaps it's because we never had the tools to do so.

Within the pages of this Classroom Goal Setting pack, you'll find those tools. They are simple yet powerful strategies to motivate your students and ensure their success. From inspirational quotes to charts and graphs, this Power Pack has everything you need! By teaching them to set goals, create action plans, and reflect on their progress, you are giving them a precious gift. You are giving them the key to unlocking their true potential! Who knows what doors that key might open?

Classroom Mission Statements

Teaching Suggestions

Discuss Mission Statements

A great way to start the year is to work together to create a classroom mission statement. Start by finding several examples of school mission statements, including your own school's if possible. You can usually find them on school web pages. Read a few



aloud or write them on the board. Ask students what they think a mission statement is, and have them discuss their ideas with a Talking Buddy.

Brainstorm Ideas

Next, ask your students to consider the following questions:

- What is our mission as a class?
- Why are we here?
- What do we hope to accomplish together this year?

Have students brainstorm ideas while you list them on the board. Then have everyone read over all the ideas and vote on the ones that they think are the most important and that should be included in your class mission statement.

Write Drafts of Mission Statements

Remind students that mission statements are generally brief and to the point. They should be stated in a positive manner and affirm what we think is important in the classroom. Ask everyone to write a class mission statement on a piece of paper. Collect their drafts to review, and share a few of the best ideas with the class. Sometimes the class will want to combine parts of several different mission statements to create one that really represents the important ideas brainstormed earlier.

Record Mission Statements

Make copies of the blackline master on the next page, or have students use their own paper. Ask everyone to copy the Class Mission Statement on their paper. They can make up a Personal Mission Statement and write it on the bottom of the paper, or just draw a picture in that area.



Creating Goals and Action Plans

Teaching Suggestions

Introduce the Importance of Goal Setting

One way to introduce the importance of goal setting is to use the Inspirational Quotes found on page 10. Choose one quotation each day to share with the class. Write it on chart paper or on the board, and start your day by having the students pair with a Talking Buddy



to discuss what they think the words mean. Then let some students share their ideas with the whole class. Another way to introduce this concept is to share some of your own personal goals with your class. You might even have an "individual growth plan" or other goal-setting document in your professional portfolio that would be appropriate to share with students.

Writing Powerful Goals

Give each student a copy of the <u>Goals and Action Plan</u> form on page 8 or the "I Can Do It" form on page 9. Before having them write their own goals, share the guidelines and examples on page 11. Then have a class brainstorming session in which everyone writes ideas for possible goals on sticky notes and posts them on the board. Review all the ideas and help them revise their wording according to the guidelines. Let students work together, and circulate among them to help as needed.

Creating Action Plans

Follow the same procedure when teaching them to write action plans. Students tend to write very general action plans, so they will probably need a lot of guidance during this step.

Dream It and Do It Activity

Share Walt Disney's famous quote with the class, "If you can dream it, you can do it." Have students discuss what that means to them personally. Then have them choose one of the goals and visualize themselves as having accomplished that goal already. Duplicate copies of page 13 and ask students to sketch a picture of themselves as they will look when they have accomplished their goal. This can serve as a powerful motivator!

My Goals

Grading Period 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

Think about the goals you would like to set for yourself this grading period. List your top five goals on the left side. Next to each goal, write an action plan telling how you plan to reach that goal.

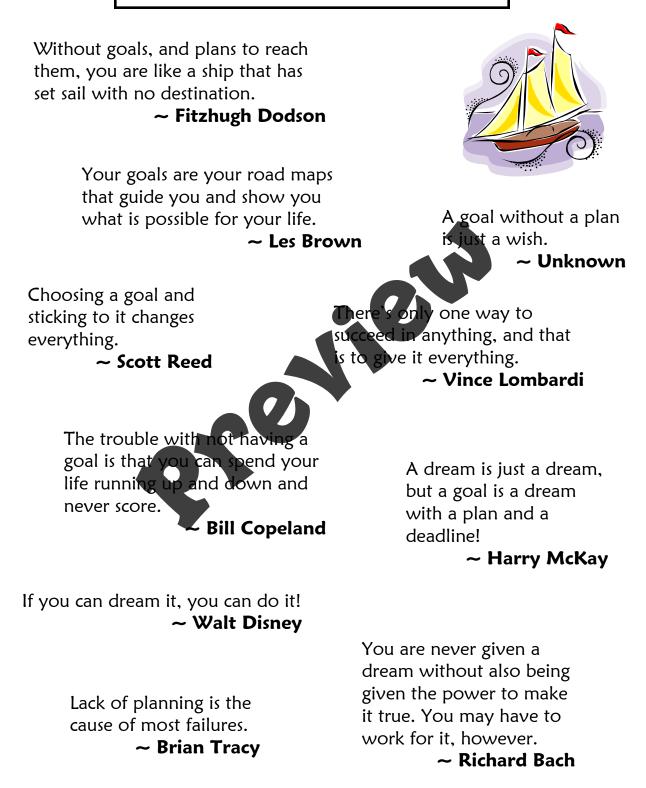
Name

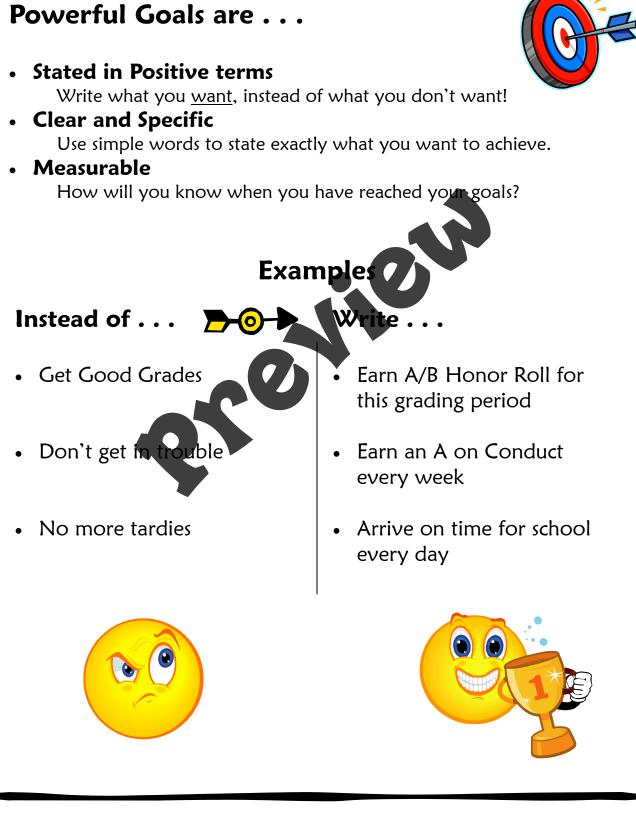
Goals	Action Plan



Inspirational Quotes

Goals and Notivation





Setting Powerful Goals

Guidelines and Examples

Writing Action Plans

Guidelines and Examples

Strong Action Plans ...

- Tell HOW you are going to reach your goal Explain <u>what</u> you plan to do, not <u>why</u> you are doing it
- Use Clear and Specific words
 Use simple words to say exactly what steps you plan to take
- Often include more than one step or strategy Try to think of at least 2 steps you can take to reach each goal

Examples

Instead of ... 👝 🧿

• Study more

Don't be late!

 Write down my homework and check my planner at home
 Study at least 15 minutes a day

- 1. Set my alarm clock every night
- 2. Help mom get my brother ready for school
- 3. Go to bed before 9 p.m.







Progress Portfolios

Teaching Suggestions

Progress Portfolios are an easy way for students to track their progress toward their goals. These can be organized in folders or in a 3-ring binder. Ask parents or local businesses to donate binders for this project. You might want to divide the portfolios into sections and separate them with title pages (pages 17 - 19). The three sections below work well for me. Update the charts once a week, on Friday or Monday.

1. Mission Statement and Goals

This section comes first and contains just two paper behind the title page: Class Mission Statement and Goals/Action Plans for the grading period.

2. Tracking Progress

We use this section for the charts and graphs we create to track our progress. Students also place other kinds of test reports and data in this section.

3. Portfolio Selections

Allow students to select examples of their schoolwork to display in this section. Math samples, writing samples, and personal reflections work well here.

Reviewing Progress

At the end of each grading period, have students reflect on the goals they met or didn't meet. Give them a sticker to place on all the goals they met. Use this information to guide them in setting new goals and action plans for the grading period. Halfway through the year, send home the Mid-year Progress Review form along with the portfolio so parents can review their child's progress.

Portfolio Selections



Progress Portfolio for

Mission Statement and Personal Goals

> Tracking Progress

Mid-Year Progress Portfolio Review

Dear Parent,

Please allow your child to share his or her Progress Portfolio with you. As your child shares each area, check it off on the list. You'll find some questions below to prompt your discussion. Please sign this form and write a comment if you would like. Congratulate your child on meeting goals for the first half of the year! Is your child on target to complete the year successfully?

Ask your child to explain . . .

□ Class Mission Statement



Goals - What do the stickers mean?

- □ 1st Nine Weeks Which goals were met during the first grading period?
- □ 2nd Nine Weeks Which goals were met during the second grading period?
- □ 3rd Nine Weeks Are the *new goals and action plans* clear and specific?

Charts and Graphs

- Attendance Graph How many days have you been absent or tardy?
- Reading Graph What progress are you making? What do you need to work on this nine weeks? Points? Improving test scores?
- Quarterly Test Results Are you showing growth? What can you do to improve?

Other

Portfolio Selections

- Progress Reflections
- □ Math Selections
- □ Writing Selections
- Other

Parent Comments:

Parent Signature

Review Date

Progress Portfolio for







Tracking Student Progress

Teaching Suggestions

Line Graphs or Bar Graphs?

Graphs are an excellent way to track progress toward measurable goals, but be sure to consider the type of graph that's most appropriate for your students. Bar graphs are used by primary students because they are easier to construct. However, line graphs are more mathematically



appropriate for data that changes over time. You may want to use both types just to provide a little variety.

Graphing Test Scores

This Power Pack contains a variety of graphing tools for tracking progress on tests. Make an overhead transparency of each tool as you introduce it, and duplicate copies of the graphs for each student. Introduce just one or two new graphs each week, and allow plenty of time for students to become comfortable using them. In particular, the homework graph is a more advanced tool since it involves figuring percents.

Tracking Attendance

You'll find a bar graph for tracking attendance, but you might want to experiment with using other methods. The easiest method is to give each student a copy of a monthly calendar page. Have them draw a smiley face on each day they are present, or give them stickers to use. Older students can handle the more complex system described on page 22. This system is excellent for helping students see patterns in their absences and tardies. When I used this system in my classroom, I noticed kids were more likely to bring an excuse note because they hated coloring any block red!

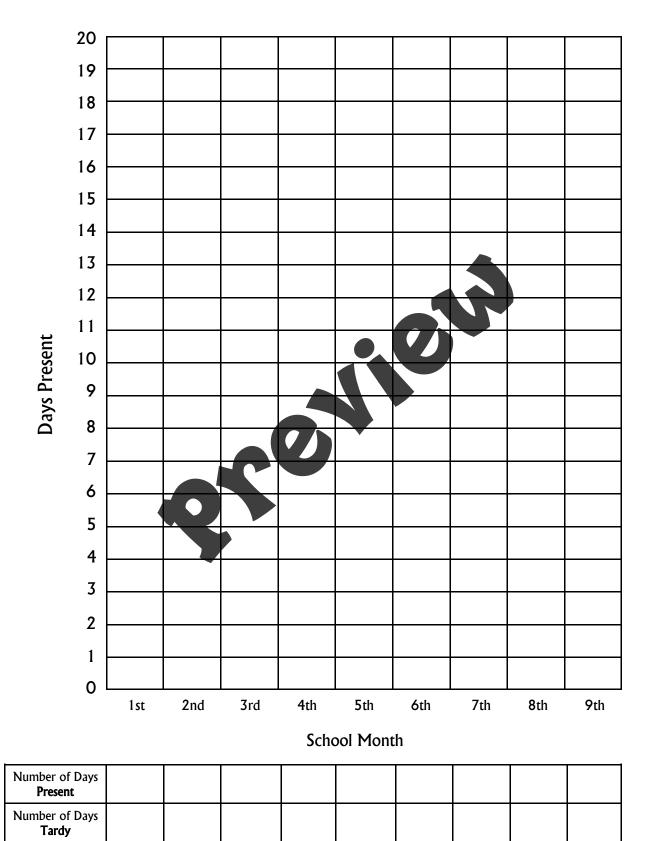
Monitoring Accelerated Reader[™] Progress

Many schools use the Accelerated Reader[™] (AR) program to encourage students to read and to monitor their progress. However, like most programs, effective classroom management and record-keeping methods are critical to the program's success. You can print a variety of AR reports for students to track their progress, and you can use those reports to complete the point chart and graphs in this Power Pack.



My Attendance Graph





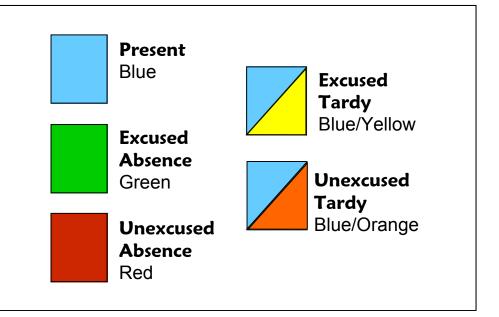
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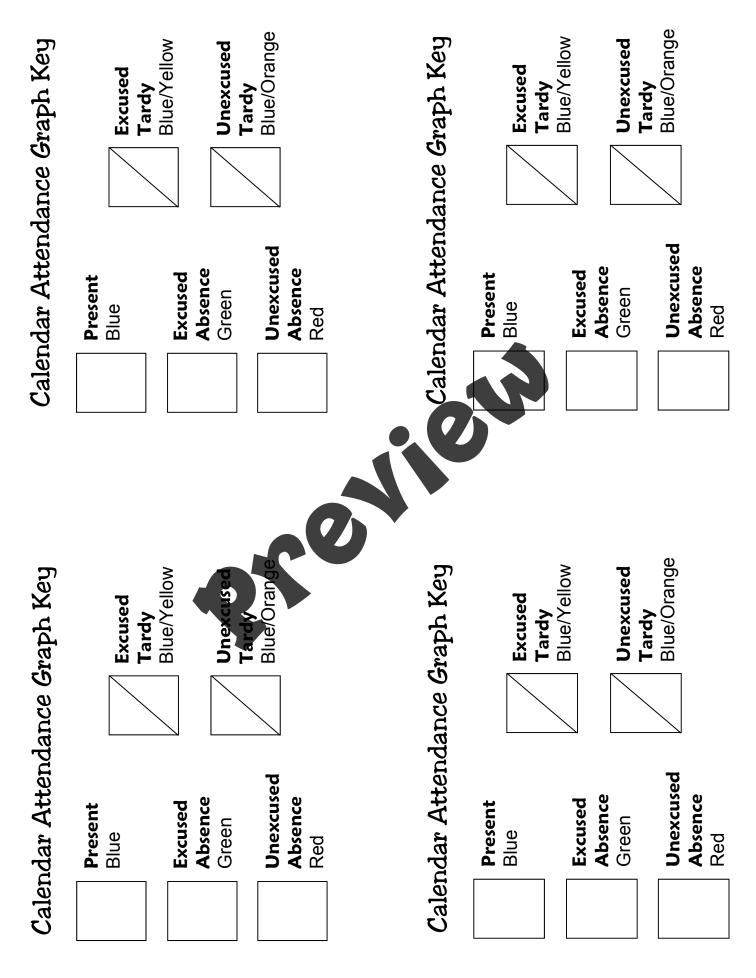


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	C	21	22
23	24	25	24	27	28	29
30						

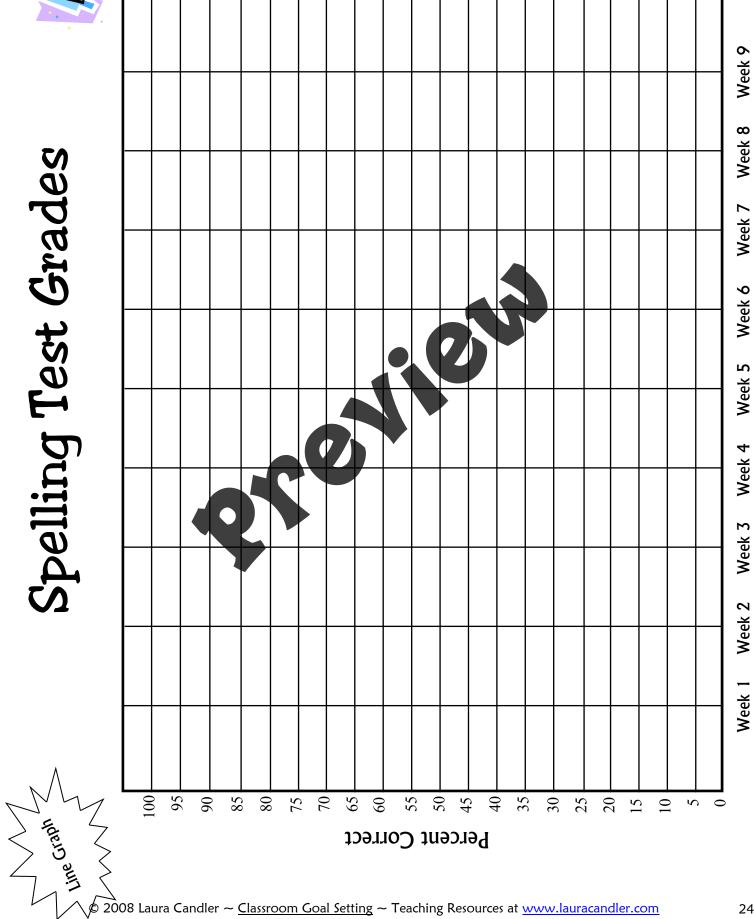
Attendance Calendar Directions

Duplicate one Key for each student to place in the front of their portfolios. Have them color the key as shown. Duplicate a blank calendar page for each student to place inside the portfolio. Each day or at the end of each week, have students record their attendance as shown.

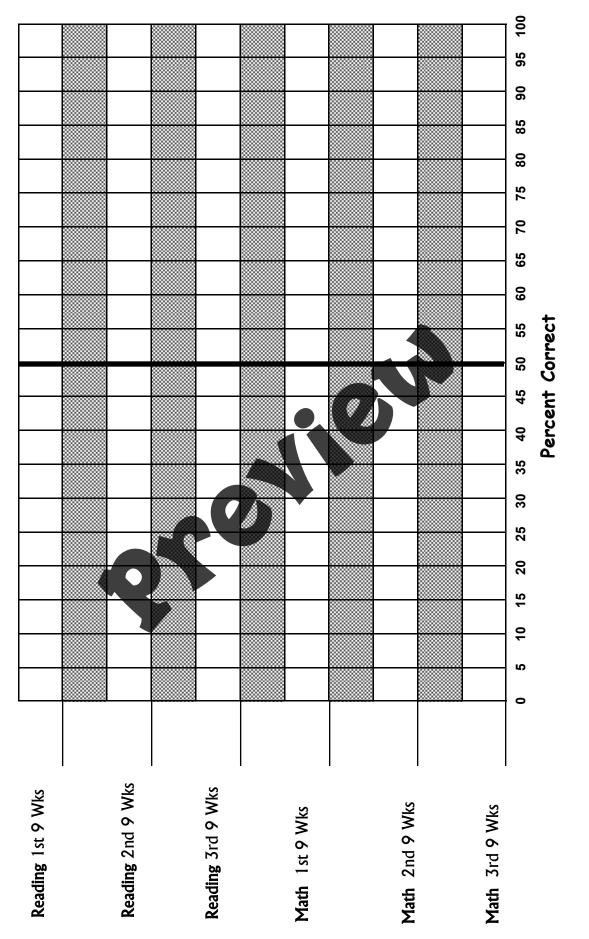








Quarterly Test Results



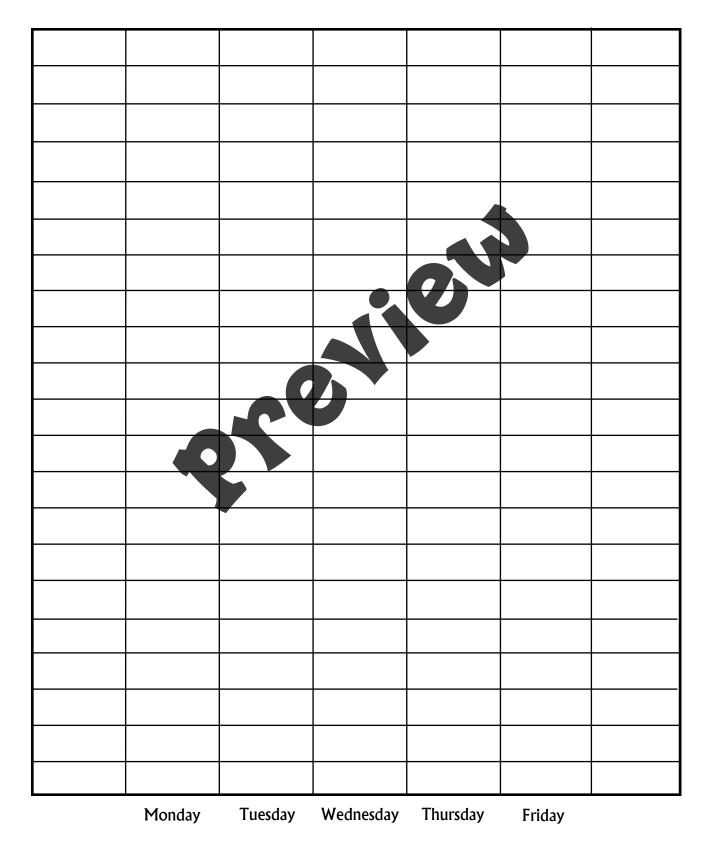
Directions: Write your current score on the line for this grading period and color your bar to show that percent. Then think about your goal for next time and create an action plan to make it happen!



Weekly Goal Tracking for



Week of _____

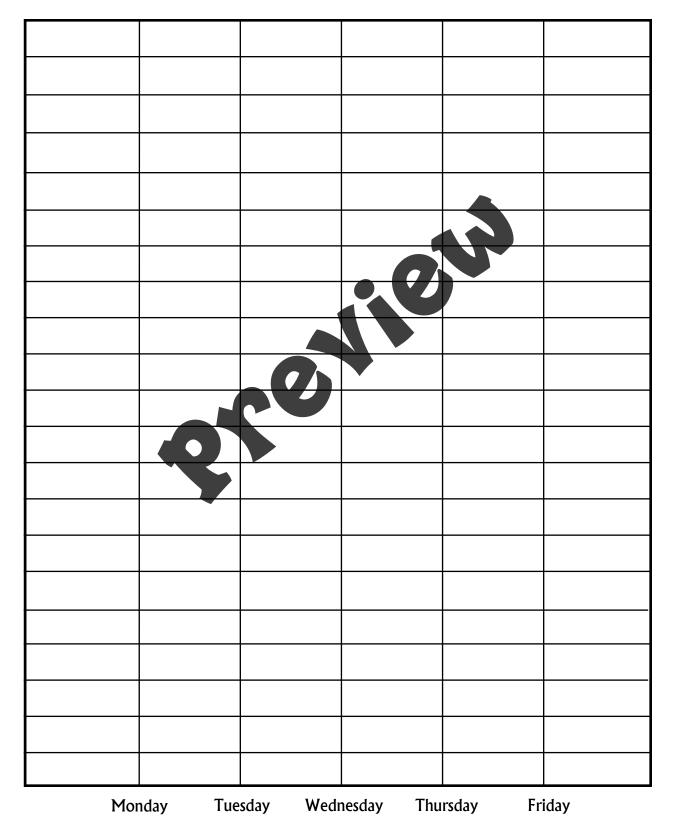


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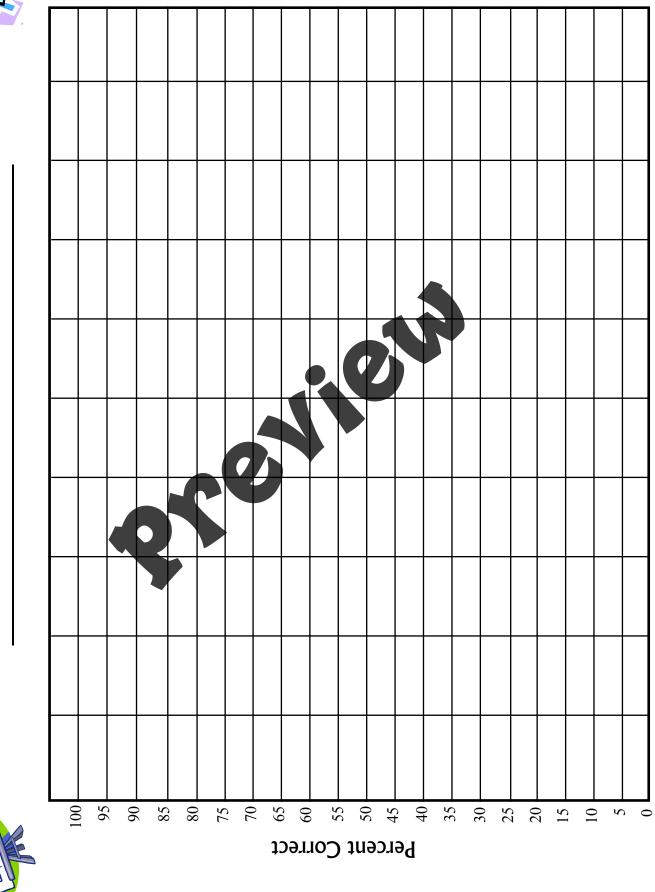




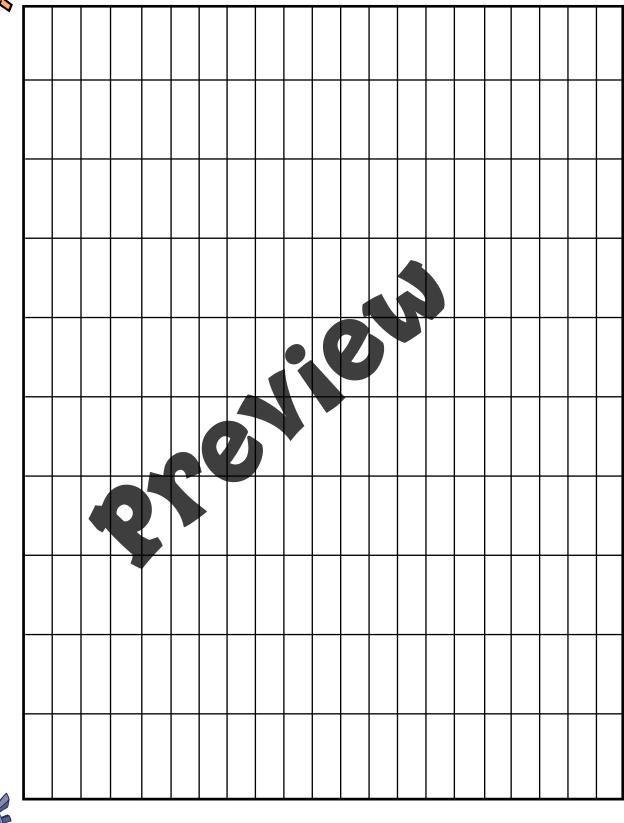
Week of _____







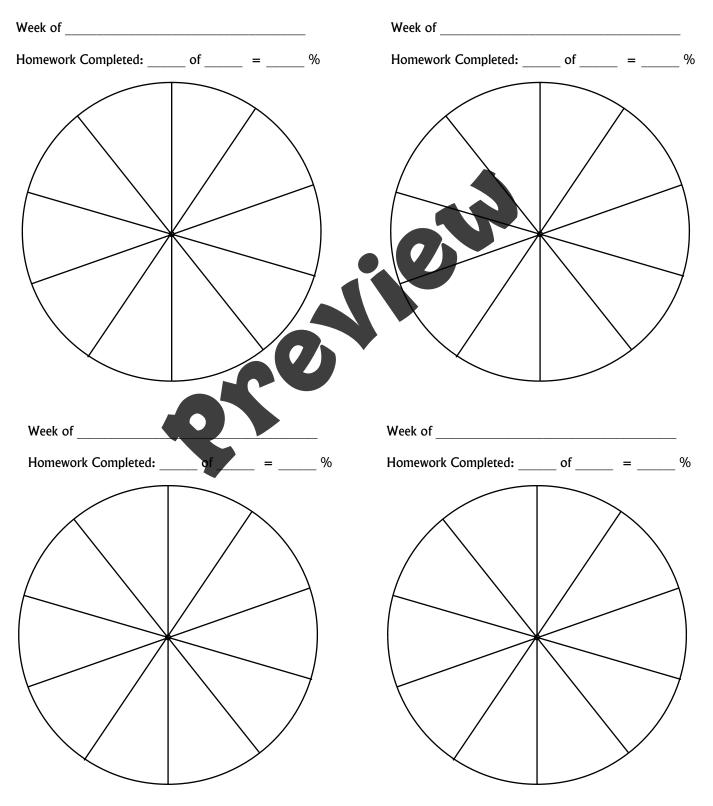




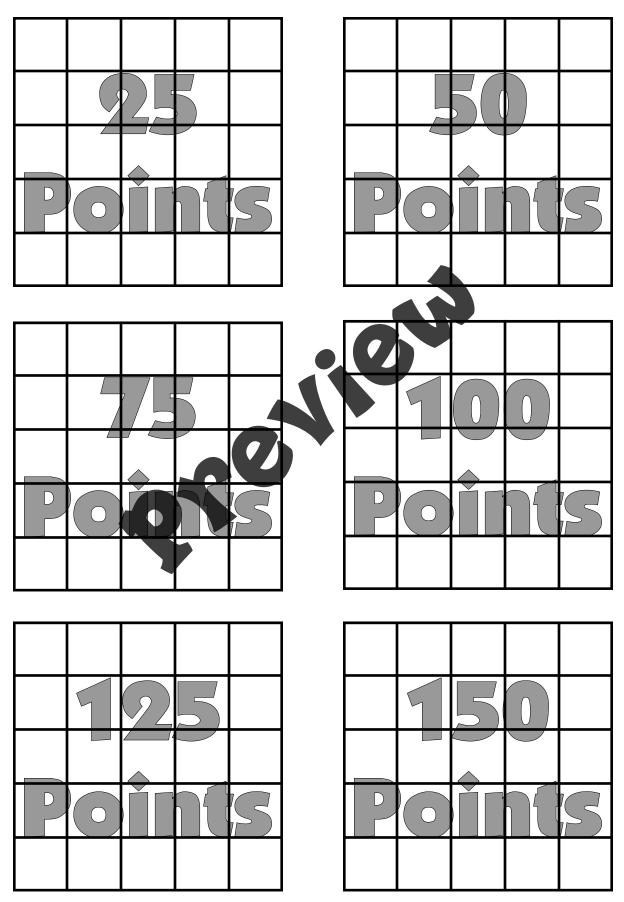


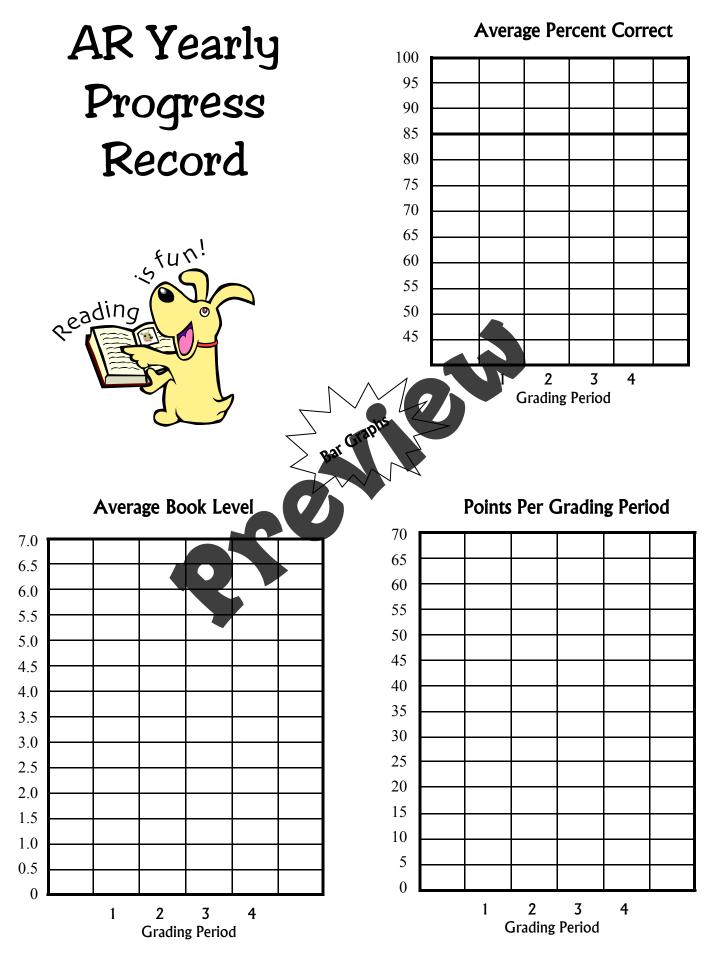
Homework Progress Wheels

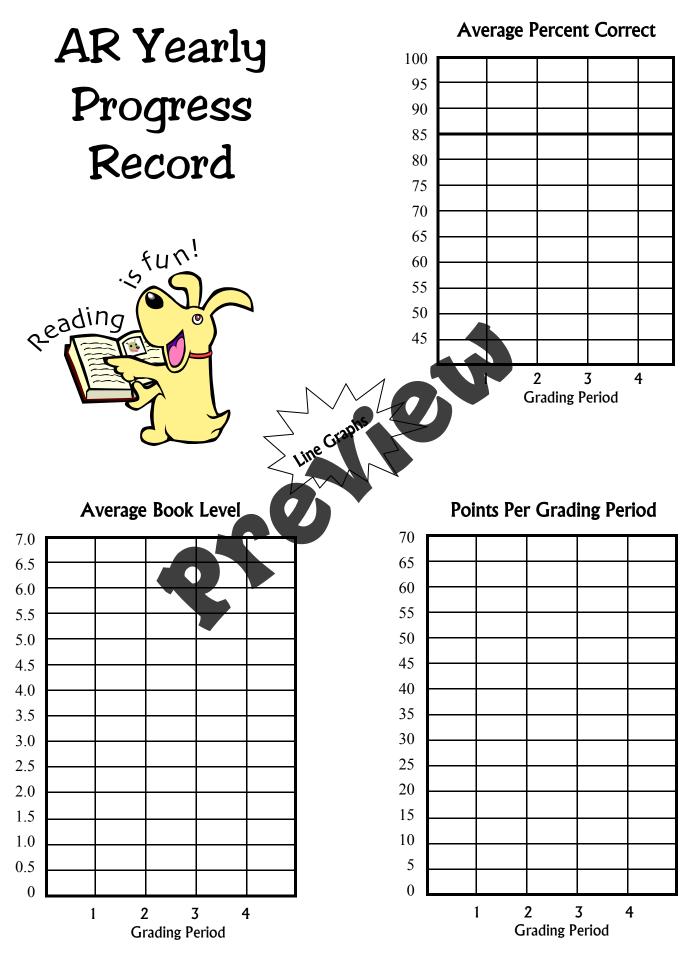
Directions: At the end of the week, check with your teacher to find out how many homework assignments were assigned and how many you completed. Record those numbers above the wheel. Congratulations if those two numbers are the same! You completed 100% of your homework and can color the whole wheel! If not, figure the percent you completed and color one section of the wheel for each 10% completed.



AR Point Record







Minute Math

Teaching Suggestions

Math Speed Drill Readiness

To drill, or not to drill? That is the question! Many educators don't believe in timed math drills, but I have found that students improve drastically in all areas of math when they master their math facts. However, I would never attempt to



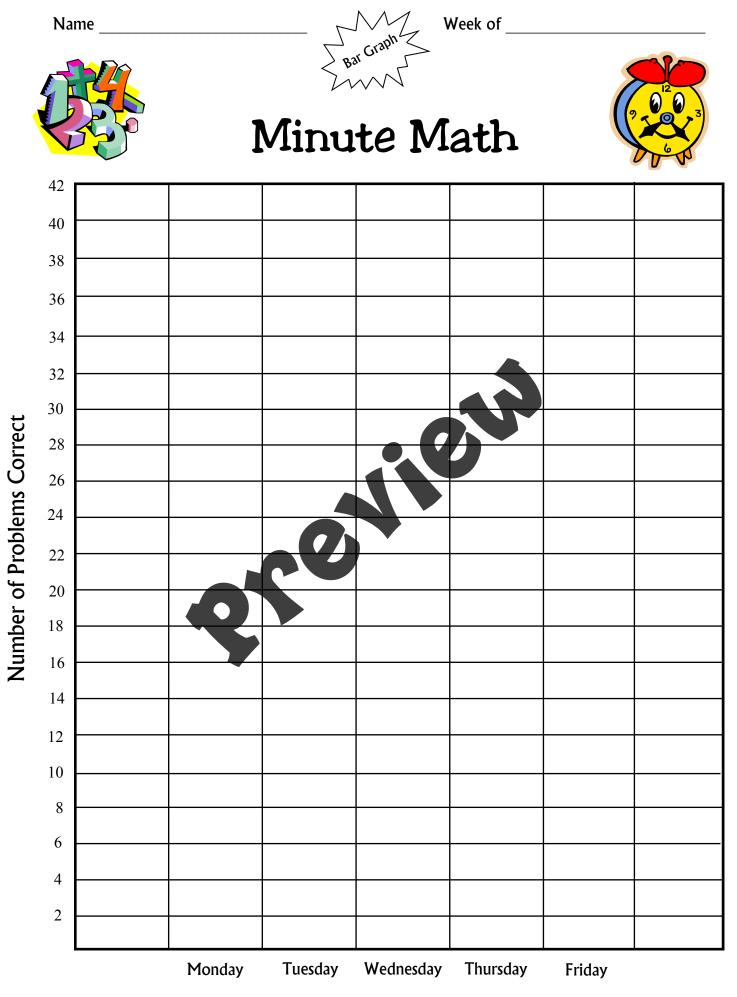
use timed speed drills until students have a thorough understanding of what those math facts mean. For example, a child is not ready for times table drills until he or she understands that 3 x 5 is a way of representing 3 groups of 5, 3 rows with 5 in each row, or some other visual model. After students know how to arrive at the math facts by drawing models or skip counting, they are ready to commit those facts to memory.

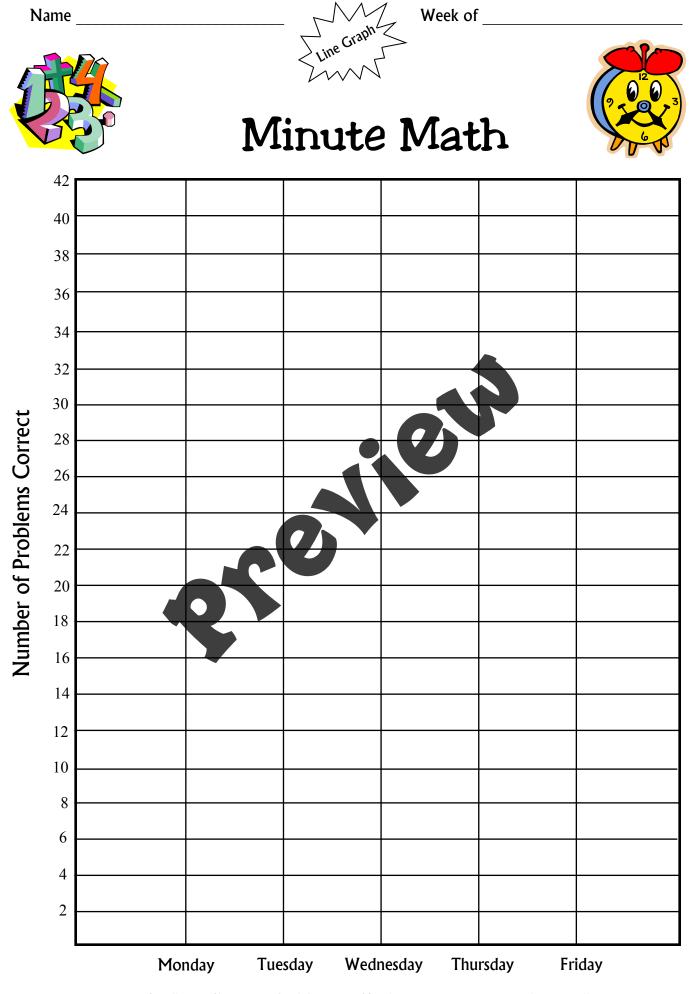
Strategies for Memorizing Math Facts

Flashcards aren't the only way for students to memorize math facts! There are a variety of different games, activities, and electronic toys that can assist them with rote memory. Go to the Teaching Resources website (<u>www.lauracandler.com</u>) for math games and the "Here's the Scoop on Multiplication" motivation system. You can also use a great online flashcard program at <u>www.mathfactcafe.com</u>.

Tracking Math Drill Progress

Minute Math is a fun way to drill basic math facts and track improvements in speed. Make copies of the Addition or Multiplication Speed Drill forms as needed. Depending on the ages and abilities of your students, set a timer for one, two, or three minutes. Have them complete as many as possible before the timer goes off, but don't let them skip around and do all the easy ones! Depending on your school's policies, you can have students score their own or trade papers and score each others as you call out the answers. Use one of the two weekly Minute Math graphs to track progress. Bar graphs are a little easier for students to use, but the most appropriate graph for this kind of data is a line graph since it involves change over time. Make sure they know they can only count the number they have gotten *correct*. So if they stopped on problem 38, but skipped 2 and missed 3, their score would be 33. Celebrate improvements in speed and accuracy!

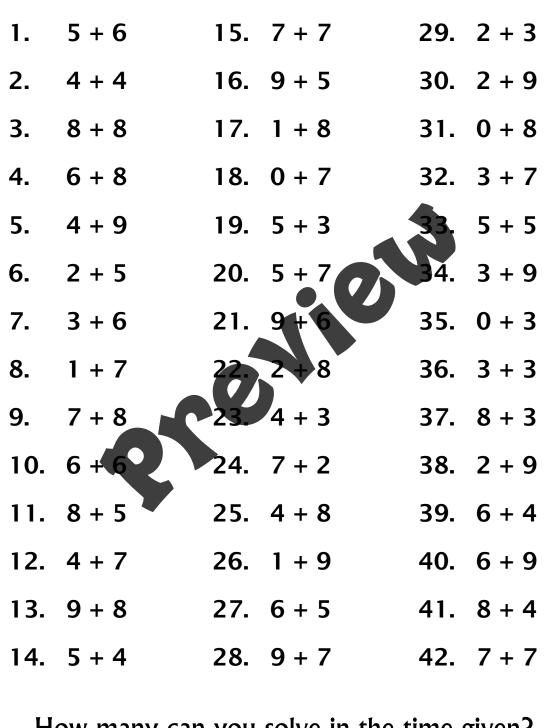




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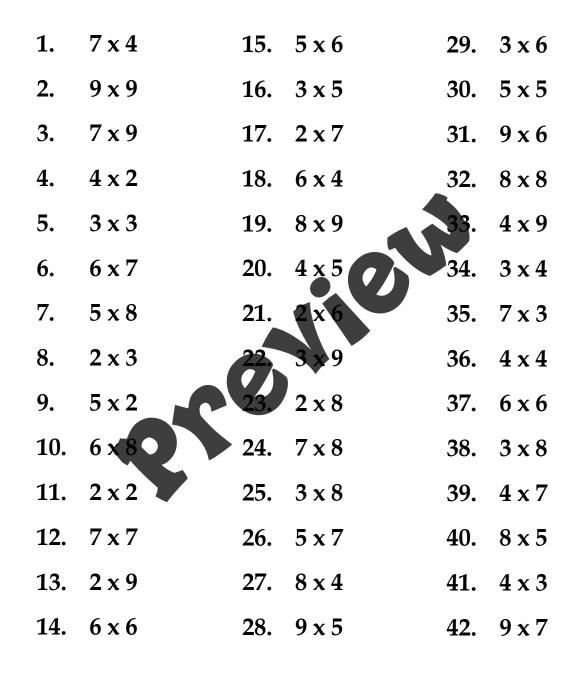
Name

Addition Speed Drill



How many can you solve in the time given? Don't skip any problems!





How many can you solve in time given? Don't skip any problems!

More Teaching Resources from Laura Candler

Daily Math Puzzler Program (Levels A - D)

I just implemented Laura's Math Puzzlers, and after two weeks I can already see changes in my class. They are picking up good habits like underlining key words, and writing complete answers already! Each day when we take out the sheet, they know what to do and enjoy doing it. I think part of the fun comes from the program's title "Math Puzzlers". Somehow, they seem to think puzzles are way more fun than math word problems. I also have to say that the breadth of topics and strategies covered in just one weekly sheet is impressive. It is a great way to keep math topics fresh, and have kids apply them to real situations. Each problem could be solved using different strategies, so it has been great for my kids to see all the different ways they could have approached the problem.

~ Dawn, Minnesota





Math Stations for Middle Grades

I just downloaded your Math Stations for Middle Grades, and it is EXACTLY what I was looking for! This is my second year teaching math, after eleven years as a communications teacher. I don't feel I made math fun or interesting for my students last year, which means they didn't learn the things I wanted them to learn about setting goals for themselves and enjoying the challenge for its own sake. Now I finally know how to do that, and I will be able to not only use your activities but build from them and tailor them to my own students' specific needs. Your math stations provide exactly that element of fun practice and social sharing that I hoped to add this year. I can't wait to get started! ~ Shari Miller, Texas

Classroom Goal Setting

WOW! Thank you so MUCH! I just downloaded your Goal Setting Power Pack and I LOVE it! I was most pleasantly surprised because I teach a combination class of grades 6-7-8, and wasn't sure if your pack would be "old" enough for my students! No need to worry....it's perfect! Thank you for a wonderful, quality product! ~ Nancy Berner, Pennsylvania



Visit <u>www.lauracandler.com</u> to learn more!

Teaching Resources Website classroom www.lauracandler.com Free Resources for Teachers! Blackline masters and activity sheets Lesson plans and teaching strategies problem solving Cooperative learning methods Assessment Classroom management and motivation Literacy and Literature Circle strategies Mathematics instructional resources **Bi-weekly Newsletters** Daily mat evel B Receive the Classroom Economy Problem Solving Assessment Power Pack for FREE when yo sign up for veekh Laura Candler's binewsletters at .lauracandler.com! **Workshop Information** Invite Laura to your school or district to energize your teachers with powerful strategies! Workshops available:

- * The Dynamic Duo:
 - Putting the Punch in Math Instruction
 - * <u>Innovative Approaches to</u> <u>Literacy Instruction</u>
- Teachers walk away with specific strategies to implement in their classrooms the next day.

Contact Laura for more information: lauracandler@att.net

