
NCSM Great Tasks for Mathematics (K-5 and 6-12)

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Teaching and Learning: Book

DESCRIPTION

The “great tasks” are designed to provide opportunities for all students to explore meaningful mathematics while being challenged in their thinking about essential concepts and ideas. The tasks provide unique contexts for promoting problem solving with each activity aligned to the Common Core content standards, including specific attention to the standards for mathematical practice.



Each activity includes:

- Teacher Notes that provide an overview of the task, the Common Core State Standards Content and Practices standards that the task requires
- Activity Launch that addresses key prerequisite understandings and that assesses student readiness for the task
- Core Task with which students are expected, individually and collaboratively, to wrestle
- Extension Activities
- Samples of student work

The tasks are relevant, thought-provoking, teacher-tested explorations designed to promote mathematical reasoning and active student engagement.

STAGE 2 LEADERSHIP

The *Great Tasks* books support **PRIME Principle 2: Teaching and Learning** - Ensuring high expectations and access to meaningful mathematics every day. *Great Tasks* support the development of specialists and coaches working with teachers to implement instructional practices to support all learners. Coaches and specialists, with their teacher teams, will find this book provides opportunities for discussion regarding the implementation of high-level tasks, the importance of the launch of such tasks and the mathematical discourse that arises through the discussion of student work samples. These tasks provide rich examples at each grade level, allowing for discourse focused on intentional planning and the examination of student work.

As teachers and coaches implement the ideas and practices outlined in the *Great Tasks* books, they should carefully observe and reflect on the changes in themselves and their students, particularly how they think about and approach their mathematics teaching and learning.