



Teaching Fractions And Ratios For Understanding: Essential Content Knowledge And Instructional Strategies for Teachers - 2nd edition

Susan J. Lamon

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This popular text addresses the urgent need for curriculum materials that cross traditional boundaries to include many of the elements that are integrated in the teaching/learning enterprise: mathematics content, teacher understanding, student thinking, teaching methods, instructional activities, and assessment. The book pushes readers beyond the limits of their current understanding of rational numbers, challenging them to refine and explain their thinking--without falling back on rules and procedures they have relied on throughout their lives.

Written in a conversational and easy to understand style, this is not a textbook as much as it is a resource book. An underlying assumption is that facilitating teacher understanding using the same questions and activities that may be used with children is one way to help teachers build the comfort and confidence they need to begin talking to children about complex ideas. Unlike a textbook that is used to study formal theory and then discarded when it comes to putting ideas into practice, the many problems and activities included to facilitate teacher learning are valuable resources for use in elementary and middle school classrooms.

Changes in the **second edition** include:

- *even more student work incorporated in every chapter;
- *discussion of the connectivity between the topics addressed in the book and the elementary and middle school mathematics curricula;
- *an increased emphasis on measurement;
- *expansion of some topics, including number sense, percent, scale factors, similarity, and linear graphs;
- *clarification of the characteristics of ratio and proportions and how to use these to generate discussion with children; and
- *content-related interview questions for exploring children's thinking.

This book is a valuable resource for researchers and curriculum developers in mathematics education, pre-service and in-service teachers of mathematics, those involved in the mathematical and pedagogical preparation of mathematics teachers, and graduate students in mathematics education. The methods and activities it includes have been tested with students in grades 3-8 and with pre-service and in-service teachers and other adults.

This text is accompanied by MORE--a supplement that is not merely an answer key but a resource that includes in-depth discussions of all the problems in the text; develops and extends discussion of the issues, teaching problems, and other considerations raised in the chapters; and contains additional problems--with and without solutions--that instructors may find helpful for assessment purposes.

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Rosemarie Pickett:

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