

Big Picture of Mathematics  
Excerpt from Branford Public Schools, CT

<b>Transfer Goals</b> <i>Long term goals of math education</i>	<b>MP #s</b> <i>Related Standard</i>	<b>Student-Friendly Transfer Goals</b>
1. Based on an understanding of any problem: initiate a plan (using a variety of methods/strategies appropriately), execute it and evaluate the reasonableness and accuracy of the solution.	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● K-12: I can use what I know to solve new problems.</li> <li>● K-4: After working carefully to solve the problem, I can check my answer to see if it makes sense</li> <li>● 5-12: After working carefully to solve the problem, I can verify that my calculations are accurate and my solutions are reasonable.</li> </ul>
2. Demonstrate perseverance by attempting the problem, monitor and evaluate the progress and change course if necessary.	1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● K-4: I don't give up if I get stuck. I can change my thinking when my strategy isn't working.</li> <li>● 5-12: I can demonstrate perseverance as I work to overcome difficulties and obstacles.</li> </ul>
3. Justify reasoning or understanding by using appropriate, precise math language. (your own solution or someone else's).	3, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● K-4: I can explain/show my work using words, symbols, pictures, charts, graphs, and units of measure.</li> <li>● 5-12: I can support my ideas clearly and concisely using proper mathematical language/notation.</li> <li>● K-4: I can agree or disagree with different ideas and strategies, and explain why.</li> <li>● 5-12: I can justify the reasonableness and accuracy of someone else's solution/attempt using accurate and precise mathematical language.</li> </ul>
4. Investigate and explain how mathematical structures or patterns relate to one another in the context of a problem or in a broader sense.	2, 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● K-4: I can solve problems by thinking about patterns and my experience with similar problems.</li> <li>● 5-12: I can solve problems by looking for and using rules, patterns, and my experience with similar problems.</li> </ul>
5. Demonstrate automaticity in basic computation and critical vocabulary so they can focus on the more sophisticated aspects of the problem.	6, 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● K-4: I can consistently use my math facts and words efficiently.</li> <li>● 5-12: I can accurately and efficiently recall basic math facts, formulas, and critical vocabulary.</li> </ul>

<b>Essential Questions</b>	<b>Related Transfer Goals</b>	<b>Understandings</b>
<i>Q1: What do I “see” when I look at this problem?</i>	<b>1, 4, 5</b>	Effective problem solvers work to understand the problem by picturing what is happening and figuring out relevant information and unknowns.
<i>Q2: Have I solved a problem like this before?</i>	<b>1, 4, 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every problem can be categorized based on a similar structure and set of characteristics.</li> <li>• Recognition of patterns and structures fosters efficiency in solving problems.</li> </ul>
<i>Q3: What’s my plan to solve the problem? Does the plan make sense? Is there another way?</i>	<b>1, 2</b>	Mathematicians determine a plan, while remaining open to alternate approaches and revising as necessary, to efficiently and effectively solve problems.
<i>Q4: How does my answer/solution compare to others?</i>	<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective justifications are based on logical mathematical thinking and appropriate representations/vocabulary.</li> <li>• Analyzing someone else’s mathematical thinking creates clarity about a problem, its model, and the viability of a solution.</li> </ul>
<i>Q5: What am I learning? How can I get better at this?</i>	<b>2</b>	Mathematicians grow from their experiences, becoming more skillful and flexible in how they approach problem-solving, and more committed to seeing the problem through.

<b>Content Thread and Related Transfer Goals</b>	<b>Understandings</b>	<b>Essential Questions</b>
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<p><i>Operations and Algebraic Thinking</i> (Gr. K-5)</p> <p><i>Expressions and Equations</i> (Gr. 6-8)</p> <p><i>Algebra</i> (Gr. 9-12)</p> <p><i>Functions</i> (Gr. 8-12)</p> <p><b>Compose and decompose numbers to establish relationships, perform operations, and solve problems.</b></p> <p><b>Describe and/or solve problems using algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, and functions.</b></p> <p><b>Use operations, functions or equations to model relationships.</b></p> <p><b>Classify, interpret, or compare functions/equations.</b></p>	<p>U13: Numbers, objects, or elements may repeat in predictable ways (patterns).</p> <p>U14: The same value/expression/equations can be expressed/represented in multiple ways.</p> <p>U15: The relationship among operations and their properties can be used to understand and solve problems.</p> <p>U16: Properties of operations promote computational automaticity.</p> <p>U17: Expressions, equations, inequalities, functions and graphs use symbols to represent quantities, operations, and their relationships.</p> <p>U18: (Gr. 8+) A function can represent how quantities relate to one another.</p> <p>U19: The application of properties and order of operations can simplify expressions, solve equations, and combine functions.</p> <p>U20: Trigonometric functions can be composed and decomposed to model a cyclical pattern and to solve problems.</p>	<p>Q9: How can I use rules or patterns to make sense of operations or relationships?</p> <p>Q10: How can I represent numbers/relationships in different ways?</p> <p>Q11: How can I best represent the given information?</p> <p>Q12: How can I apply the properties of math to solve problems?</p> <p>Q13: How can I classify/evaluate functions?</p> <p>Q14: What is the relationship between these values/expressions/operations/functions?</p>
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