



Making Math Relevant Planning Guide

1. Connecting “purposeful activities” and “meaningful contexts”

Purposeful Activities	Meaningful Contexts
Planning an event	Classroom

2. Planning an “experientially real” cycle

Component	Questions to Consider	Planning Notes
<i>Exploring</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What situation or curiosity should students consider? • What objective will the exploration lead them to discover? 	
<i>Explaining</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will you guide or prompt students to talk about what they did and what they found? 	
<i>Reflecting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what ways will students try to connect their exploration to prior knowledge or experiences? 	
<i>Recording</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What modality(s) will students use to record their findings? 	

3. Creating a survey to assess student interests for use in math problems

Questions to consider:

- What do you already know about your individual students?
- For what contexts (e.g. extracurricular activities, music/movies) do you need the most information?
- How can you ask the questions in a way that will get information you can use in designing mathematical problems?

4. Integrating other subject areas

Questions to consider:

- In your current or upcoming math units, is there another subject (e.g. art, science) that lends itself well to blending with the math? What mathematical objectives could be accomplished via the other subject?
- Are there other teachers with whom you could collaborate on a cross-subject unit in order to share the workload?
- What topic(s) from those other subjects are of particular interest to your students?