

Effective Teaching Decimals Planning Guide

Suggested Best Practices	How I can use in my classroom?
 Have students write the decimal in the form of fractional addition – so, 0.808 become 8/10 + 8/1000. 	
• Show students the holistic relationship between the place values – so, in a drawing of ten ones, you might circle a single unit and then draw an arrow to ten tenths, then circle a single unit and draw an arrow to ten hundredths, etc.	
• Don't rely on procedures or tricks to help students with comparison/ordering of decimals	
• Only give students grids for one or two of the place values you're asking them to represent	
• Use follow-up activities such as subdivisions with real object (packages into boxes into crates, e.g.) to continue building conceptual understanding.	

Adapted from work by from D'Ambrosio, B. & Katsberg, S. "Building Understanding of Decimal Fractions."