



How to thrive in

Math

**in Mrs. Angie's
class**

Math - the subject it seems most everybody hates. "I was never good at math," I hear people say. Usually the case is "I never really understood math." At least that's the case in 5th and 6th grade. I love remedying this problem. Math can be understood - it takes some work. What you, my student, need to know is that if you work hard, you'll be able to succeed in my math class. Also know that, if you love math, I'll challenge you to understand it even better and we'll have even more fun than you've had so far.

Let me tell you how to make your efforts in my class most effective. First of all, you'll need [math forms](#) which I'll provide for you in class. I also make them available [online](#) in case you need to print some out at home. I recommend that while you're in class you pick up some extras in case you forget to pick one up someday. This is extremely important: ***all problem sets have to include the work, the check, and the answer*** in the appropriate boxes. Each problem will be graded giving one point for each of the 3 aspects.

1. **THE WORK** must be shown - all of it. If it happens in your head, it must happen on paper...including the answer. This helps me understand WHY you got the answers you did - which is the only way I can help if you don't understand (or if you think you understand, but you don't). There are usually many ways to get to an answer, and I have to check to be sure you're using one that will always work. Otherwise, you may get the right answer, but not understand it. That won't be a problem until we're down the road and unable to figure out why you don't understand. To fix a problem at that point means extra tutoring, perhaps Saturday school, and a lot of extra work that you want to avoid. Also, if you don't show your

work, I have to count *all the sections for that problem wrong (work, check, and answer - minus THREE points!)*. So, show your work.

2. **THE CHECK** should be all the inverse functions of the work section. The idea is to be sure that your work was correct. For example, if your work section shows " $12 \times 12 = 156$ ", your check section should show $156/12 = 13$. At this point, you should realize that the work section was wrong, and go back to redo it. This section is worth one third of the math grade on any homework assignment.
3. **THE ANSWER** should be copied from the work section to the answer section so that I understand which part you thought was the answer.

Grades will be given based on performance in ***homework, tests, and times tables.***

Tests will often be multiple choice tests. I HIGHLY recommend that students keep ALL their tests even after the test is over. It's like a study guide for your next test. Also, any problems you got wrong can be discussed in exact detail so that you can understand how to do that problem next time. Times tables tests will be timed and graded about 2-3 times per week. Nailing those times table is VITAL to further progress in math...they *must* be second nature.

...and if that's not enough, we can set up special tutoring times to get together and work out ***ANY AND ALL PROBLEMS*** you still have with math. I'd love to help you!!!