Research on Math Their Way

Over the years we receive inquiries as to available research on Mathematics Their Way. The Center for Innovation in Education has not conducted any formal research studies on Mathematics Their Way. However, you may wish to contact the following people who have completed postgraduate research on the topic. Two of the papers listed below were completed by Center instructors. Jane Douglas is a Math Their Way instructor from Wisconsin whose email address is: jmdouglas@charter.net. Mary Griffith is a Math a Way of Thinking instructor from Washington whose email address is: craiger7@ix.netcom.com. Please note that Karen Hutchinson and Terry Bayard Joyner completed the most recent research on this list.


Teachers who use *Mathematics Their Way* and *Mathematics a Way of Thinking* in their classrooms are able to see growth in understanding take place, which cannot be adequately measured by standardized tests. Teachers see attitudinal changes in students about the subject of math. It is not uncommon for teachers and parents to express their own personal discomfort with mathematics and rely more on procedural memorization. Once teachers have taken our courses, they often come away with a better understanding of mathematics and belief in the Center’s philosophy of teaching the way children learn. The Center sees its role as that of supporting and encouraging teachers who are looking for alternatives to traditional teaching methods. We schedule hands-on (30 hour) teacher training workshops in Mathematics Their Way for grades K-2, Mathematics a Way of Thinking for grades 3-6, Building Mathematical Understanding for grades 6-9, and Making Science a Verb for grades 1-6. The workshops are held across the U.S., Canada, and selected international locations throughout the year.

On the Center’s website, there is a place you may wish to visit called the FORUM. Teachers-at-large and Math Their Way instructors post messages and continue discussions on various topics. You can use the search button and type in key words too see which discussions come up. You can also post your own questions and get responses from other teachers and instructors. The forum can be an excellent resource throughout the year. See http://www.center.edu.

The NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) has a revised edition (1997) of its publication entitled *Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs*. It focuses on developmentally appropriate practice in programs serving children from birth through age 8. Of special note are its sections where it outlines appropriate and inappropriate practice. Many of the examples of appropriate practice sound like they were designed with Math Their Way in mind. See http://www.naeyc.org.

The Center respects not only the research on brain compatible teaching practice, but also the standards developed by the NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) in its publication, *Principles and Standards for School Mathematics* (2000 edition). See http://www.nctm.org.