

Making the Math Practice Standards Visible

The Daniels Farm students continue to visit the math lab with their classes to explore the math practice standards in action. These eight standards apply to the work of mathematicians at all levels.

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Attend to precision.
- Look for and make use of structure.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

The grade 1 students recently worked on a task of putting chocolates into Valentine boxes so that they fit an array. The students worked (for 45 minutes!) to **make sense of the problem and persevered in solving it**. Some students found **multiple answers and explained** which were better choices based on the context of the problem. Some students **chose to use a tool** to assist in their problem-solving. Others used the **structure of an array** to show that 3 rows of 8 equal 8 rows of 3.

Another recent example is a visit from grade 4 working on equivalent fractions. The students were tasked with making fruit salads following a recipe. They **attended to precision** to ensure that their salads were equal to one whole. Some groups used **repeated reasoning** by choosing the same denominator for their salads. They demonstrated how to be efficient and strategic problem solvers. They **critique the reasoning of others**, "I'm just not sure what you are showing me." When we debriefed the lesson, students identified the various **models** on the boards: rectangular and circular area models as well as number lines. The students know that providing a model goes a long way to proving one's answer!

Ask your student what they worked on the last time they visited the math lab. I would love to hear what they share with you: rtedesco@trumbullps.org