

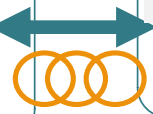
Developing understanding for procedures through mathematical connections

Design research for mathematics classrooms and
teacher professional development

Susanne Prediger

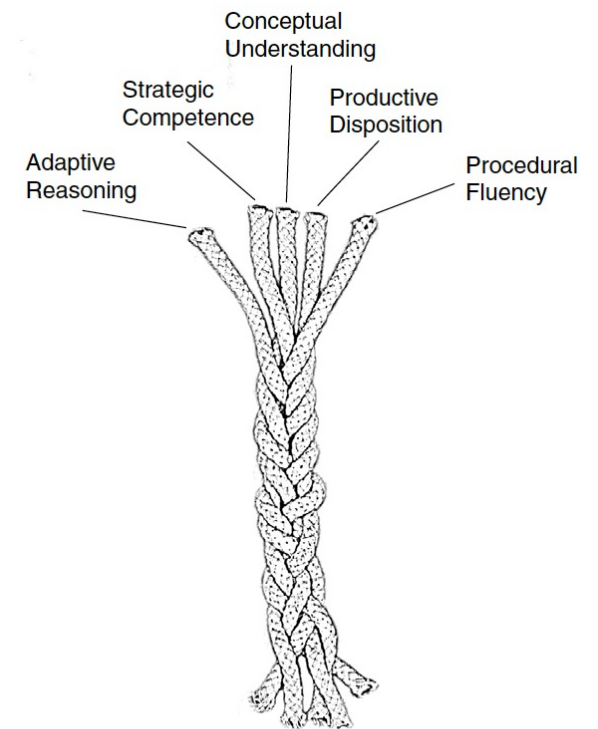
Math wars never end?

For low-performing students,
we should ~~concentrate to~~
develop procedural fluency



And an important learning goal
is the conceptual understanding
Also for procedures

*No contradiction, we must connect both,
in particular for low-performing students*



Intertwined Strands of Proficiency

(Kilpatrick, Swafford, Findel 2001)

Agenda for the talk

1. Two examples for introducing the idea of connecting procedures with understanding
2. Mastering Math - a design research project for fostering students' basic concepts in Grade 5-7
3. Mastering Math - a PD design research project for empowering teachers to foster students' basic concepts
4. Looking back on implementation strategies for bringing instructional innovations into classrooms

Introductory example: Multiply by 10

1. How do you speak about multiplying by 10 with your (struggling) students?

$$1329 \times 10$$

To multiply by 10, simply add a zero in the end

To multiply by 10, push the decimal point one to the right

To multiply by 10, shift all place values one to the left

Question 1: www.menti.com with code 6616 5183
or QR Code:



 Mentimeter

Introductory example: Multiply by 10

1. How do you speak about multiplying by 10 with your (struggling) students?
2. How would **your math teacher (students)** speak about it?

$$1329 \times 10$$

To multiply by 10, simply add a zero in the end

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Question 1: www.menti.com with code 6616 5183 or QR Code:



 Mentimeter

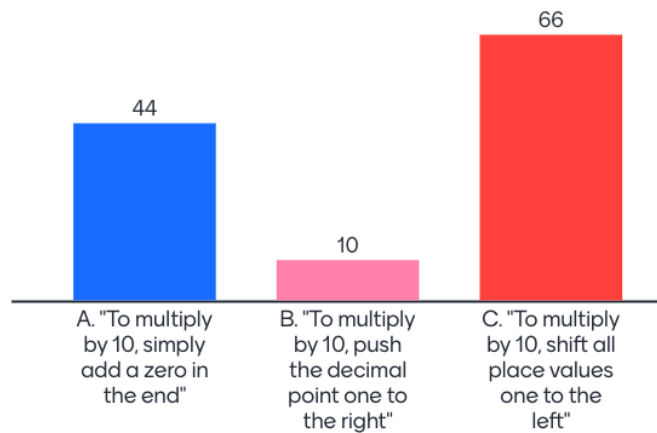
Question 2: www.menti.com with code 6862 2439 or QR Code:

 Mentimeter

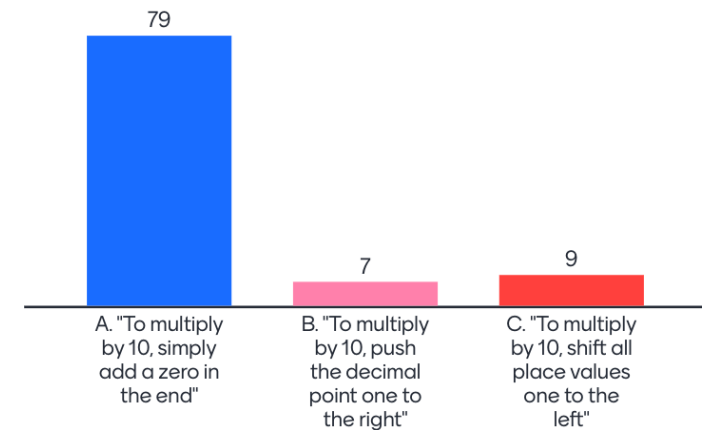


Introductory example: Multiply by 10 – Answers in Zeist at Panama Conference

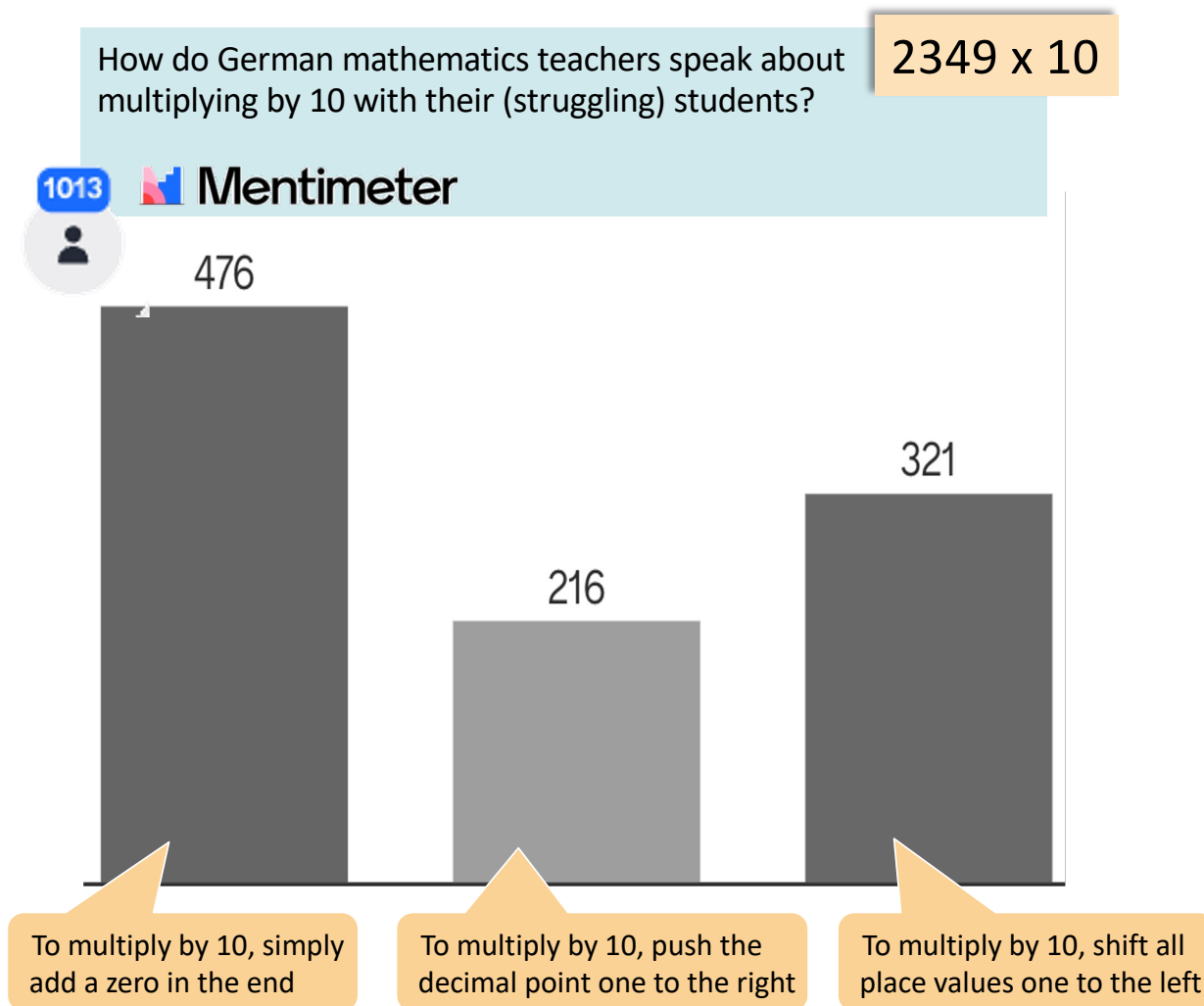
1. How do you speak about 1329×10 with your struggling students??



2. How would your math teacher (students) speak about 1329×10 ?

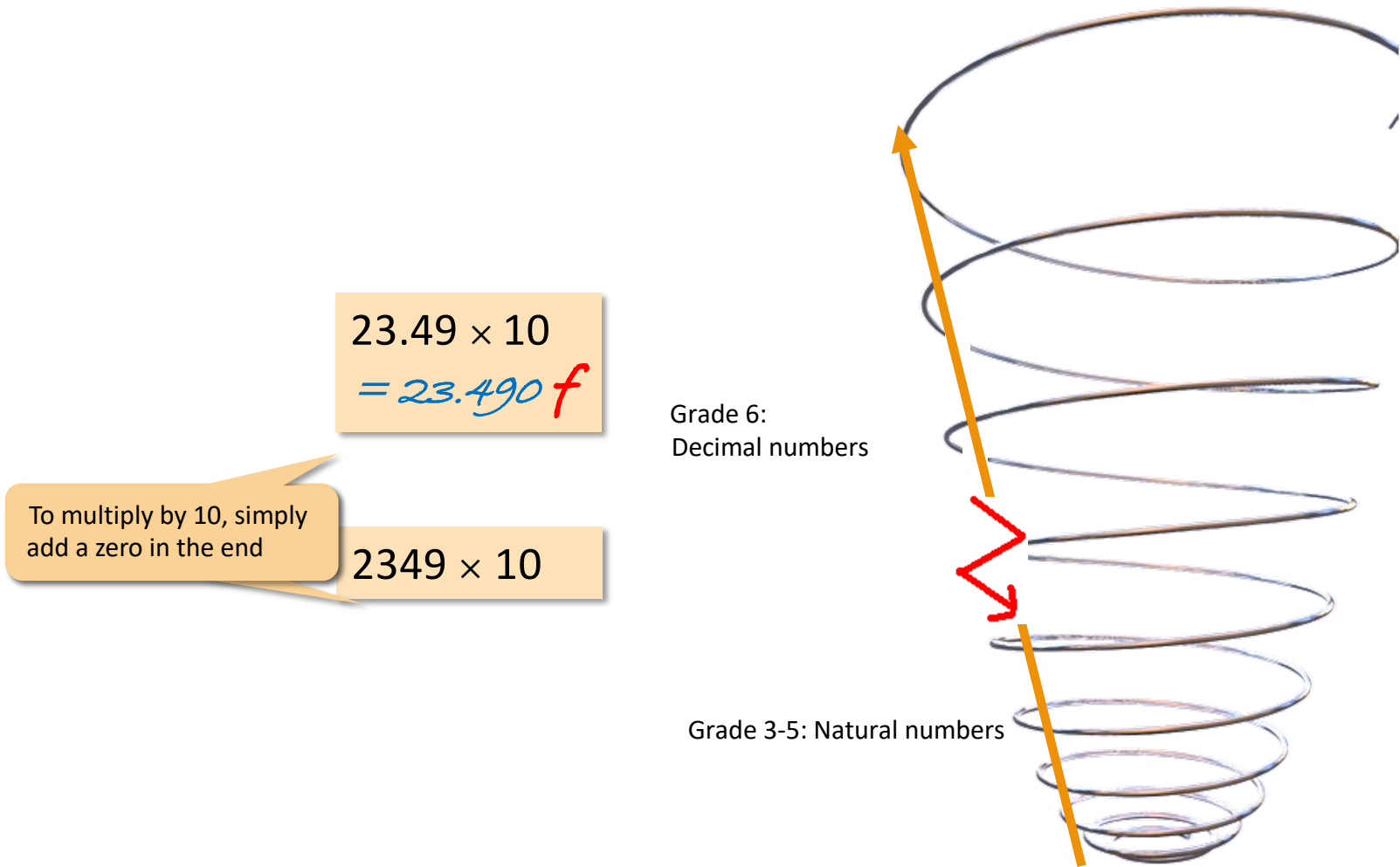


Introductory example: How do German teachers answer?



Longitudinal connections in the spiral curriculum

(Bruner 1966)



Teachers' short-term and long-term oriented practices

$$2349 \times 10$$

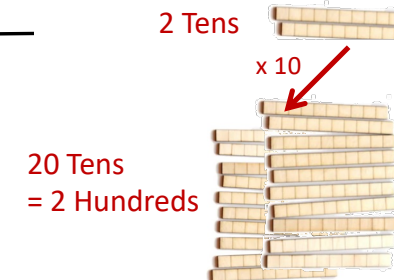
$$23.49 \times 10? \\ = 23.490$$

To multiply by 10, simply add a zero in the end

To multiply by 10, push the decimal point one to the right

H	T	O	t	h
	2	3.	4	9
x 10	2	3	4.	9

Explain the rule with base-ten blocks



To multiply by 10, shift all place values one to the left

I can understand what happens to the 2 tens

Superficial teaching optimized for immediate task completion in short-term orientation

Deep learning optimized for progress along a learning trajectory in long-term orientation

Simple procedure leads to quick solutions but is not usable for decimal numbers

Also a simple procedure, but usable for natural and decimal numbers

unconnected from underlying basic concepts

and connected to basic concepts, here:

- place value understanding with base-ten unitizing
- meaning of multiplication as counting in units

Longitudinal connections in the spiral curriculum **as a challenge for teachers**

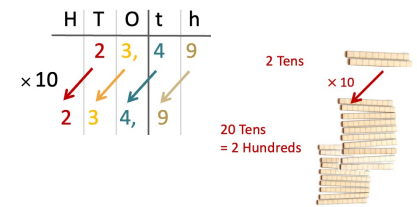
Understanding of basic concepts is crucial for long-term learning progressions



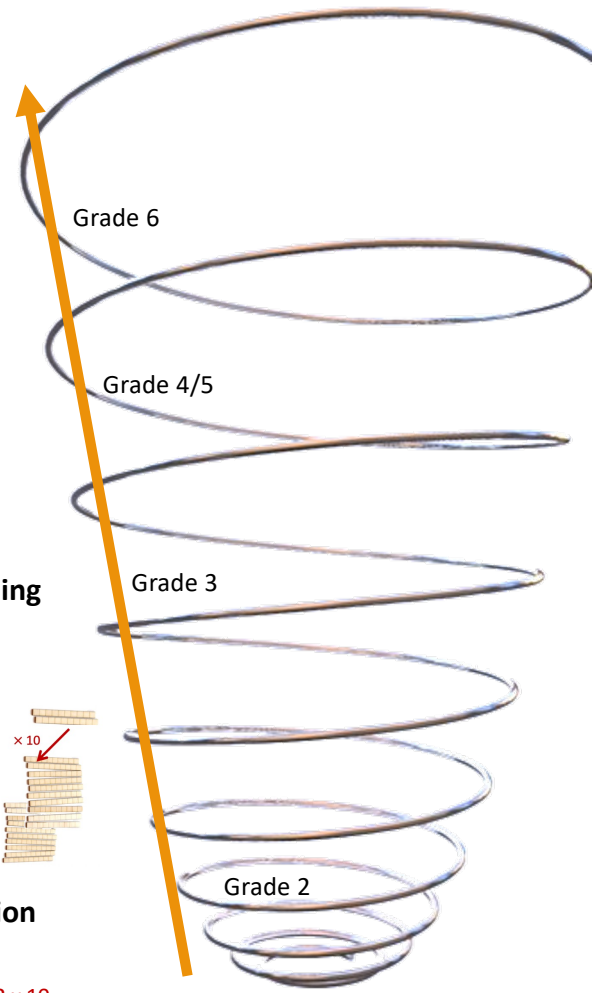
Multiply with decimal numbers
 23.49×10

Multiply by 10 in natural numbers
 2349×10

Place value understanding for multiplication



Meaning of multiplication as counting in units
 2 Tens are 2×10



Second example: Algebraic transformation error

Activity for teachers:

This is a typical error of my former student Lea (15 year old):

$$10n + 3 = 13n$$

f

To what would **you** refer for working with Lea on her error in transforming expressions?

I would explain that we always add 'like terms' or same terms together and $10n$ and 3 are not the same.

Yes, absolutely! But to what do you connect to explain why?

Second example: Algebraic transformation error

This is a typical error of my former student Lea (15 year old):

$$10n + 3 = 13n \quad f$$

Collection of answers in a German PD

To what would **you** refer for working with Lea on her error in transforming expressions?



Teachers' padlet entries

Arbeit mit Symbolen

versteckte Rechenzeichen einfärben

Bei "Mal" ist es doch anders.

gleichartige/ungleichartige Terme

Gleiches zu Gleichem: Zahl zu Zahl; Variable zu Variable

Unterschiedliche Einheiten

Vergleich... Bananen zu Bananen und Äpfel zu Äpfel. z.B.

Äpfel und Birnen

Äpfel und Birnen

Was bedeuten eigentlich die Variablen, warum gehören $10n$ und 3 nicht zusammen?

Was bedeutet n ?

was bedeutet $10n$?

$n+n+n+n+n+n+n+n+n+n+3= \dots$

Die Frage ist wozu sie es im Leben/Alltag wirklich übertragen können/sollen

mangelnde Grundvorstellungen einer Variablen. begreifen Variable nicht als Platzhalter.

Am Verständnis von Termen. Oft verwirren die Buchstaben, sie werden nicht als Platzhalter verstanden

Platzhalter durch etwas Reales ersetzen

Terme so veranschaulichen, dass der Unterschied zwischen Variable und Zahlenwert klar wird. Mit Anschauung arbeiten

Verstehenslücken aufarbeiten im Alltag ist auch wegen dem breiten Spektrum der Schüler oft schwierig. Vier Niveaus in einer Klasse bis zum Lernbehinderten

Work on making expressions understandable. Often, the letters are confusing, as not yet understood as place holders

Teachers' short-term and long-term oriented practices

Superficial learning optimized for immediate task completion in short-term orientation

Deep learning optimized for progress along a learning trajectory in long-term orientation



Vergleich... Bananen zu Bananen und Äpfel zu Äpfel. z.B.

Äpfel und Birnen

Äpfel und Birnen

Why not apple and bananas?

$$10 \text{ 🍏} + 3 \text{ 🍌} = 13 \text{ ???}$$

Well-known source of typical misconceptions in the fruit salad algebra:

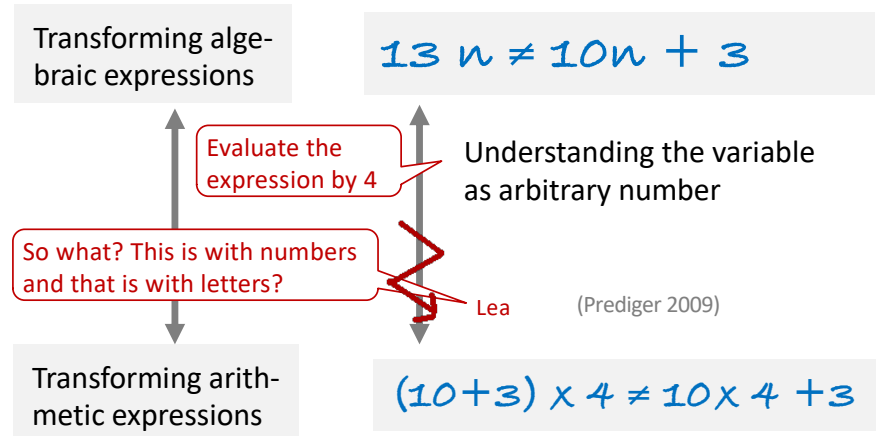
For each apple, we have 3 bananas $1 \text{ 🍏} = 3 \text{ 🍌}$

$$1A = 3B \text{ Or}$$

$$3A = 1B \text{ ?????}$$

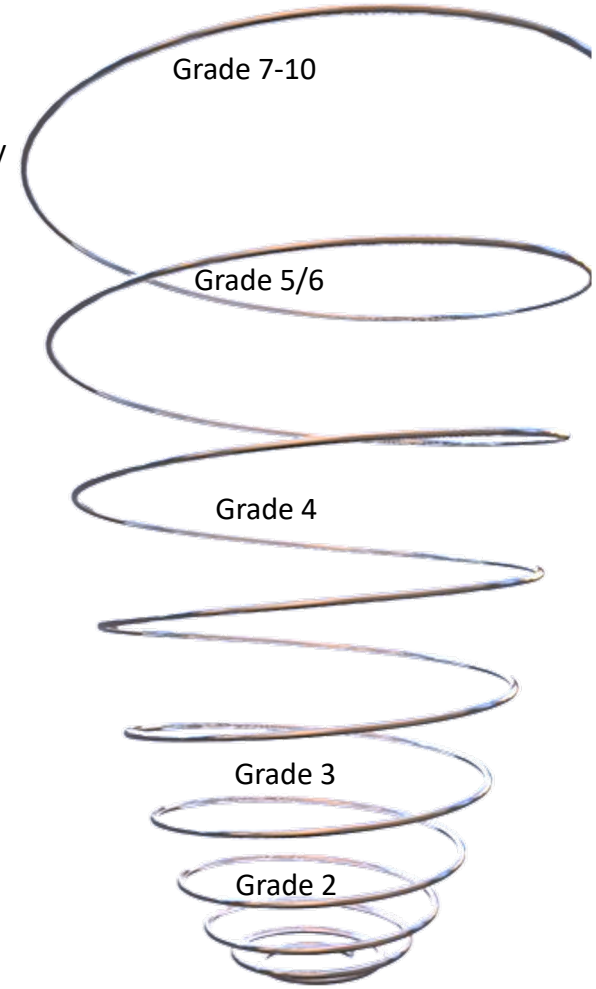
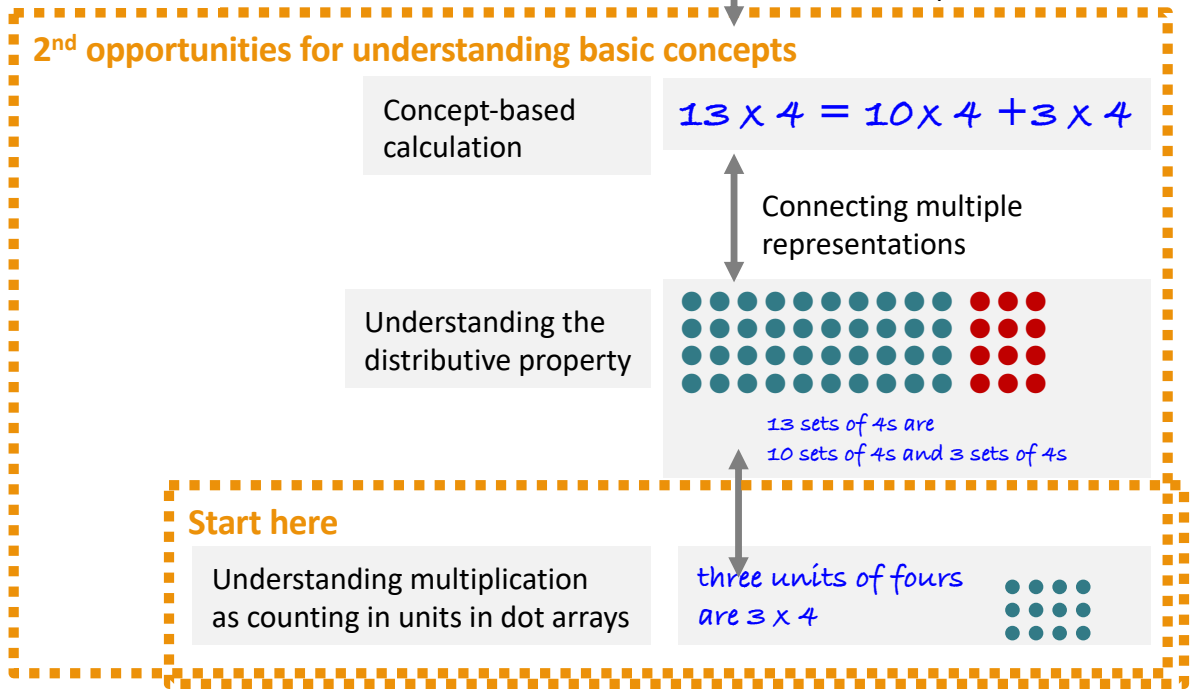
Unfaithful analogies not reflecting the mathematical structures destroy more than they help

I would ask them to substitute values for n to check if the right hand side is the same as the left hand side



Developing sustainable understanding requires basic concepts

Mastering Math 



Longitudinal connections in the spiral curriculum as a challenge for teachers

General phenomenon well-known, e.g., in South Africa:
 “requirements of the high school curriculum make it virtually impossible for learners who have been disadvantaged by their early schooling to ‘catch-up’ later sufficiently”
 (Taylor, Muller & Vinjevold, 2003, p. 129)

I do not have the time to thoroughly work on these basic concepts

Mastering Math



Start here

Just, because time is always short, let us not waste time and invest time wisely!



Understanding of basic concepts is crucial for long-term learning progress

Multiply with decimal numbers

$$23,49 \times 10$$

Multiply by 10 in natural numbers

$$2349 \times 10$$

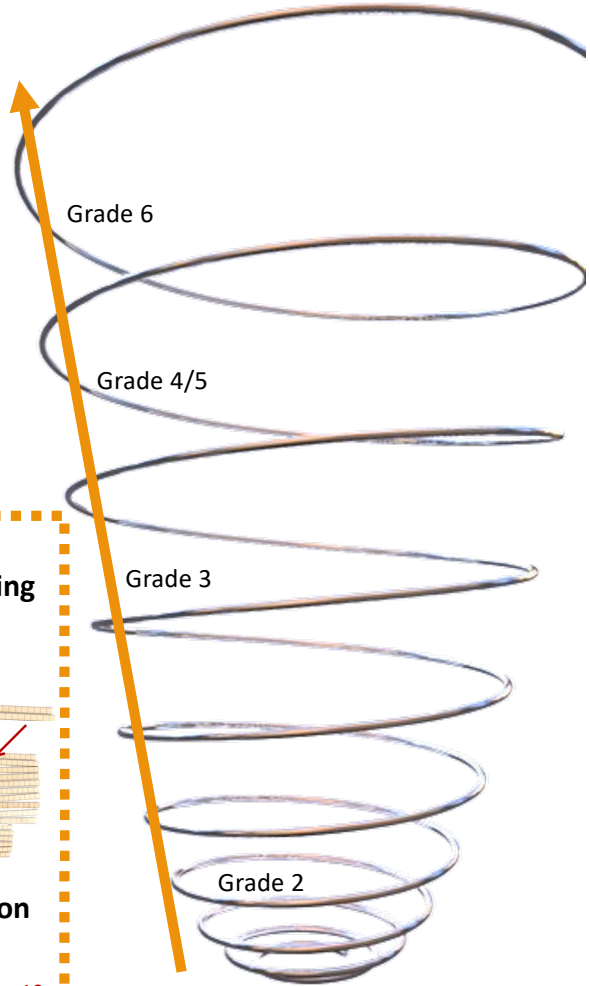
Place value understanding

	H	T	O	t	h
		2	3	4	9
$\times 10$		20	30	40	90
	2	3	4	9	

2 Tens = 20
 20 Tens = 2 Hundreds

Meaning of multiplication as counting in units

2 Tens are 2×10



What do we learn from the two examples?

And others have found, too

van den Heuvel Panhuizen 2003
Kilpatrick et al. 2001
Spaull 2013 “vertically demarcated”

Kilpatrick et al. 2001
Baroody, Fell, Johnson 2007
Glade & Prediger 2017

Hiebert & Carpenter 1992

Askew 2019
Prediger & Buró 2021

Moser Opitz 2007,
Maccini et al. 2007
Taylor, Muller, Vinjevold 2003

Slavin & Madden 1989
Moser Opitz et al. 2017
Prediger et al. 2019

Boaler 2002
Wilhelm et al. 2007

Herbst 2003
Watson & de Geest 2005
Prediger & Buró 2021

Karsenty 2010
Prediger et al. 2022

Mathematics

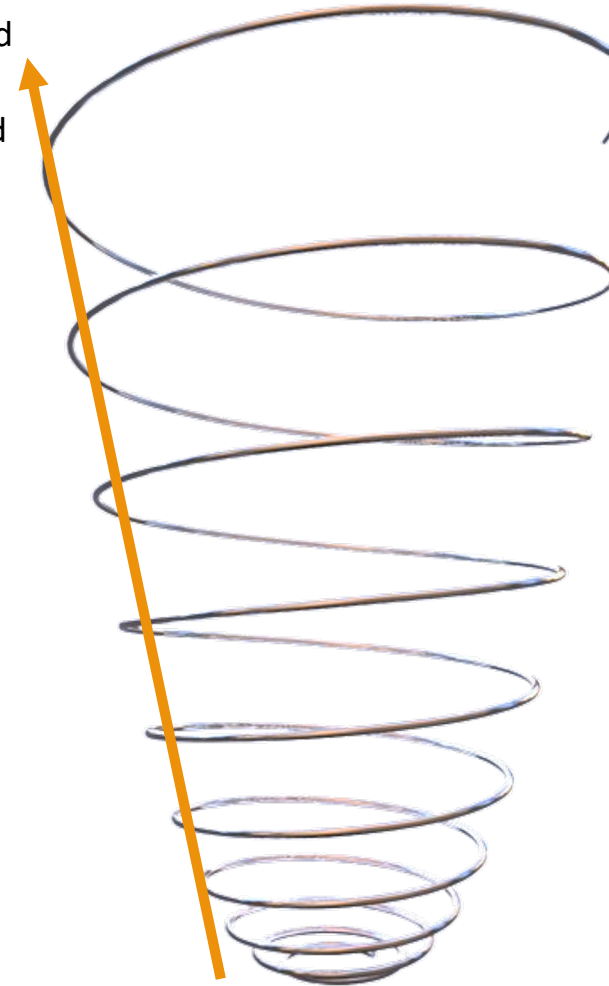
- is highly cumulative as higher learning contents are grounded on basic concepts in longitudinal learning trajectories
- in particular, procedures in higher grades need to be justified and grounded in basic concepts of earlier grades

Mathematics learning of at-risk students

- learning with understanding means connecting to already known ideas
- is necessarily reduced to superficial procedural learning if the basic concepts are not sufficiently acquired
- at-risk students often had too limited learning opportunities for basic concepts in earlier grades
- need second chances for learning basic concepts in later grades

Mathematics teaching of many teachers

- in particular for at-risk students, teaching practices are often mainly procedural with too low cognitive demands
- often shaped by superficial teaching practices optimized for immediate task completion in short-term orientation
- **but:** teachers' practices and orientations **can** be promoted and supported for developing long-term oriented practices



Agenda for the talk

1. Two examples for introducing the idea of connecting procedures with understanding
2. Mastering Math - a design research project for fostering students' basic concepts in Grade 5-7
3. Mastering Math - a PD design research project for empowering teachers to foster students' basic concepts
4. Looking back on implementation strategies for bringing instructional innovations into classrooms



Big questions for design researchers



Overall aim of the Mastering Math project (ongoing since 2010)

Provide productive learning opportunities for students and teachers for basic arithmetic concepts to be understood in Grade 5-7 (some of them from Grade 2-4)

Classroom level

Design Research questions on the classroom level

- What do students have to learn?
- How can they learn it in an intervention, and what hinders them to learn it?
- Is the instruction really effective for students' learning gains?

Curriculum Material in 45 modules in 20 topics

Natural
numbers



Fractions
and decimal
numbers



Word problems
measurement
percentages



	N1 Place value understanding with base-ten blocks and place value table
	N2 Place value understanding on the number line
	N3 Understanding addition and subtraction in multiple representations and self-written word problems
	N4 Understanding multiplication and division in multiple representations and self-written word problems
	N5/6 Concept-based calculation strategies based on number sense
	N7/8 Written algorithms
	B1 Understanding fractions in part-whole-relationship (simple fractions and shares of sets)
	B2 Understanding equivalence of fractions
	B3 Understanding order of fractions
	B4 Calculation with fractions
	D1 Place value understanding for decimal numbers
	D2 Understanding order of decimal numbers
	D3 Understanding addition and subtraction of decimal numbers
	D4 Understanding multiplication and division of decimal numbers
	DB Understanding the connection of decimal numbers and fractions
	S3 Understanding and calculating percentages
	S5 Cracking word problems with comprehension strategies
...	



Selter, C., Prediger, S., Nührenböcker, M., & Hußmann, S. (Eds.). (2014). Mathe sicher können – Natürliche Zahlen. Förderbausteine und Handreichungen für ein Diagnose- und Förderkonzept zur Sicherung mathematischer Basiskompetenzen. Cornelsen. Open Educational Resource. <http://mathe-sicher-koennen.dzlm.de/002>.

Curriculum Material in 45 modules with three parts, each



N1 Place value understanding



Formative Assessment
(10 min, 2-3 diagnostic tasks)

Teacher guide for interpretation
(including backgrounds)

Teaching material
(2-3 pages for every diagnostic task)

Standortbestimmung – Baustein N1 A

Name: _____ Datum: _____

Kann ich Zahlen mit Material lesen und darstellen?

1 Zahlen mit Material darstellen
Zeichne das Bild zu der Zahl.

Zahl	Bild
2 178	
1 164	
2 086	
3 003	

2 Stellenwerte darstellen

a) Trage die Zahl in die Stellentafel ein und schreibe sie auf.

Bild	Stellentafel	Zahl								
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E	3	7	5		375
T	H	Z	E							
3	7	5								
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E					
T	H	Z	E							
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E					
T	H	Z	E							
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E					
T	H	Z	E							

b) Zu der Zahl 223 kommen 3 Zehner dazu. Welche Zahl ist es jetzt?
Zeichne sie, trage sie in die Stellentafel ein und schreibe sie auf.

Bild	Stellentafel	Zahl								
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E					
T	H	Z	E							

Item in the formative assessment

Trage in die Stellentafel ein und schreibe die Zahl auf.

	Stellentafel	Zahl								
3 Tausender, 1 Zehner, 10 Einer	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>10</td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E	3	0	1	10	3 020
T	H	Z	E							
3	0	1	10							
20 Hunderter, 4 Zehner	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>4</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E	2	0	4	0	2 040
T	H	Z	E							
2	0	4	0							
6 Tausender, 2 Hunderter, 42 Zehner, 5 Einer	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>2</td><td>42</td><td>5</td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E	6	2	42	5	6 625
T	H	Z	E							
6	2	42	5							

Translation from German:
Fill in the place value table and write the number.
3 thousands, 1 ten, 10 ones
20 hundreds, 4 tens
6 thousands, 2 hundreds, 42 tens, 5 ones

Analytic support provided in the teacher guide (translated from German)

Typical answers for (c)	Interpretation	Suggested starting point
62425, e.g., "There are 6 T, 2 H, 42 Z, 5 E, thus 62425"	Place value of digits not considered	Discuss place values of digits, connect to enactive representation in Task 2.1
6607, e.g., "You have to pay attention to the hundreds and the tens"	Recognized the difficult aspect but does not yet know how to solve it.	Revise dealing with bundles of tens, see Task 2.2a
6247, e.g., "Well, the 6 to T, the 2 to H, the 42 must be split, the 4 to Z (tens), and the 2 + 5 to E (ones)"	Decomposition of 42 tens into 4 tens and 2 ones	Decompose with enactive material, in Task 2.2b
6620, e.g., "42 Z are 420"	Got the main point but overlooked the 5 ones	Just focus on forgotten ones, system is most probably understood

2 Stellenwerte darstellen

2.1 Zahlen verschieden dargestellt

Die Kinder stellen die Zahl 435 unterschiedlich dar. Beschreibe, wie sie das tun.

Leonie

Rico

T	H	Z	E
4	3	5	

Maurice

Baustein N1 A
Ich kann Zahlen mit Material lesen und darstellen

2.2 Zahlen darstellen

Bild	Stellentafel	Aufgabe	Zahl								
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E	3	1	2		$300 + 10 + 2$	312
T	H	Z	E								
3	1	2									
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E					$400 + 9$	
T	H	Z	E								
	<table border="1"> <tr><td>T</td><td>H</td><td>Z</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>8</td><td>6</td></tr> </table>	T	H	Z	E	1	0	8	6		2002
T	H	Z	E								
1	0	8	6								

2.3 Stellenwerte-Quartett

a) Lies die Spielregeln durch und spiele Quartett mit 3 oder 4 Spielern.

Spielregeln „Quartett“

- Die Karten werden gemischt und komplett an die Mitspielenden verteilt.
- Die Spielerin, die links vom Kartengeber sitzt, beginnt und fragt einen Spieler ihrer Wahl nach einer Karte, die ihr zu einem Quartett fehlt:
 - ⇒ „Hast du die 386 als Würfelbild?“ oder
 - ⇒ „Hast du die 216 in der Stellentafel?“ oder
 - ⇒ „Hast du die 1016 als Aufgabe?“ oder
 - ⇒ „Hast du die 218 als Zahl?“
- Hat der Spieler die Karte, muss er sie der Fragerin geben. Dieser ist nun an der Reihe. Hat ein Spieler ein vollständiges Quartett, legt er es offen vor sich auf dem Tisch ab. Wer am Ende keine Karten mehr auf der Hand hat, gewinnt.

b) Erstelle eigene Quartett-Karten und spiele damit.

Methodology: Topic-specific Design Research

Dual Aims

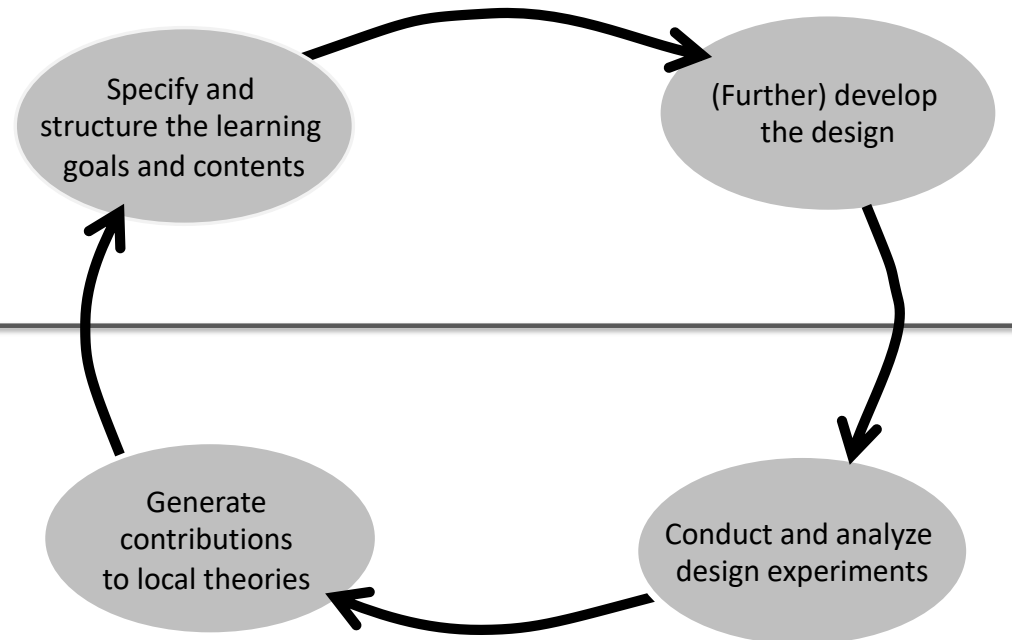
Research-based design

Develop and optimize learning environments, in which at-risk students in Grade 5-7 can develop understanding for basic arithmetics

Empirical insights into typical learning pathways and obstacles as well as functioning of the design elements

Design-based research

Working Areas of topic-specific Design Research



Design Research on the classroom level for Mastering Math



Conceptual focus

Students should learn to...

... understand basic concepts such as the place value system or meaning of multiplication & division

... explain & justify procedures by connecting them to basic concepts

Design principles

Conceptual focus

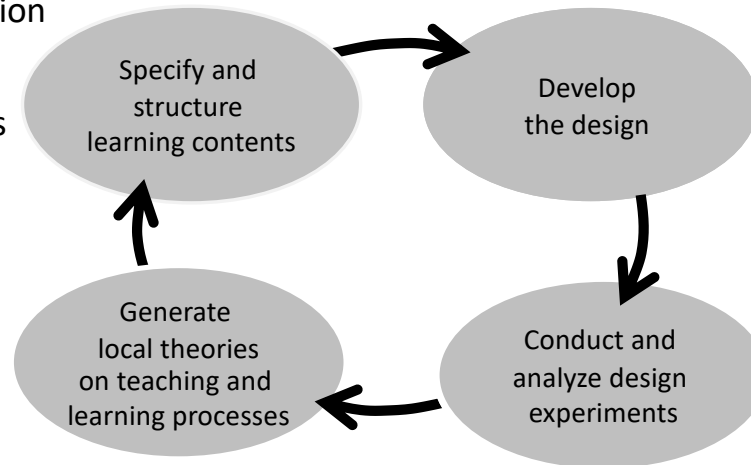
Student focus

Realization in design elements

Connect multiple representations

~~Open inquiry based learning~~

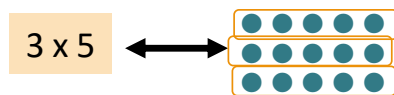
Deep learning building upon students' ideas



Design Research Cycles on Meaning of Multiplication



Understand meaning of multiplication
~~in dot arrays~~
 as counting in units in dot arrays



Conceptual focus

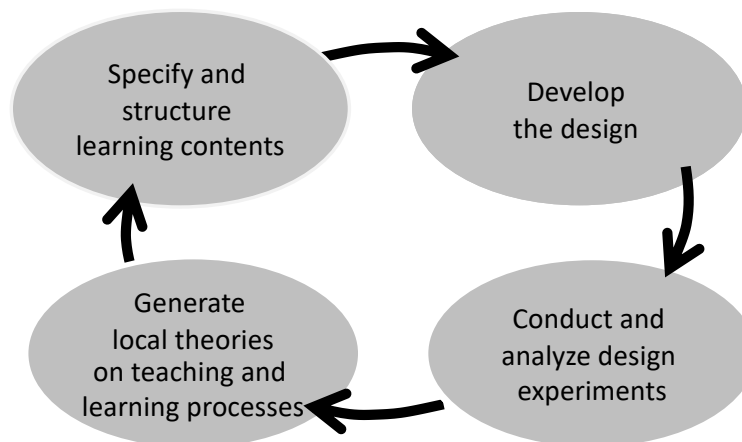
Connect multiple representations

Student focus

Deep learning building upon students' ideas

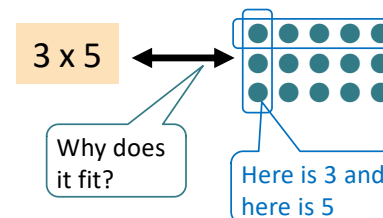
Enhance communication

Engage students in rich discourse practices in teacher-led small groups



Connecting representations and explaining meanings requires to make the mathematical structure explicit (here, multiplicative unit) but also, e.g.,

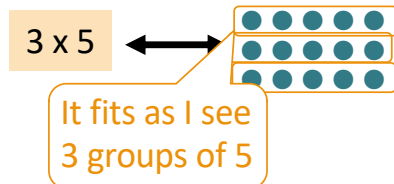
- part-whole structure for fractions (Prediger 2022), percentages (Pöhler & Prediger 2015) and conditional probability (Post & Prediger 2022)
- structure of functional relationships (Prediger & Zindel 2017) and different of amount and change (Prediger & Şahin-Gür 2020)
- structure of variables as unknowns and generalizers (Prediger & Krägeloh 2015)



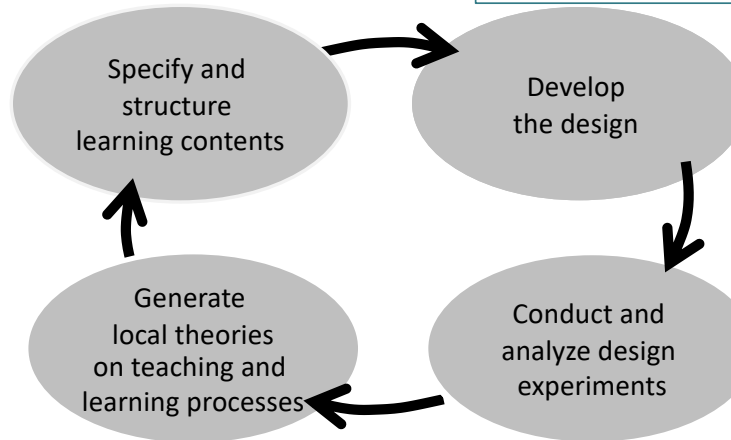
Design Research Cycles on Meaning of Multiplication



Understand meaning of multiplication as counting in units in dot arrays



Topic-specific academic language in meaning-related phrases



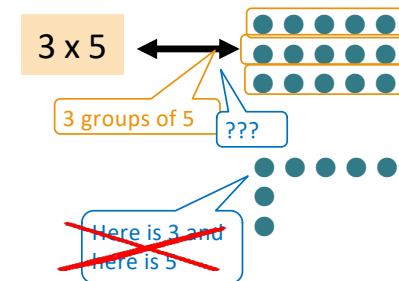
Connecting representations requires to make mathematical structures

Articulating structures is hard for some students as they do not have the meaning-related phrases

- Conceptual focus
- Student focus
- Enhance communication

Challenge: How to support teachers to avoid superficial learning?

- Connect multiple representations with a focus on structures
- Allow deep insights into student thinking by rich diagnostic tasks
- Engage students in rich discourse practices
- and provide language support for their articulation by meaning-related phrases



Design Research Cycles on Meaning of Multiplication



Conceptual focus

Students should learn to...

... understand of basic concepts such as place value understanding meaning of multiplication & division, ...

... explain & justify procedures by connecting them to basic concepts

... use meaning-related language needed to explain & justify

Conceptual focus

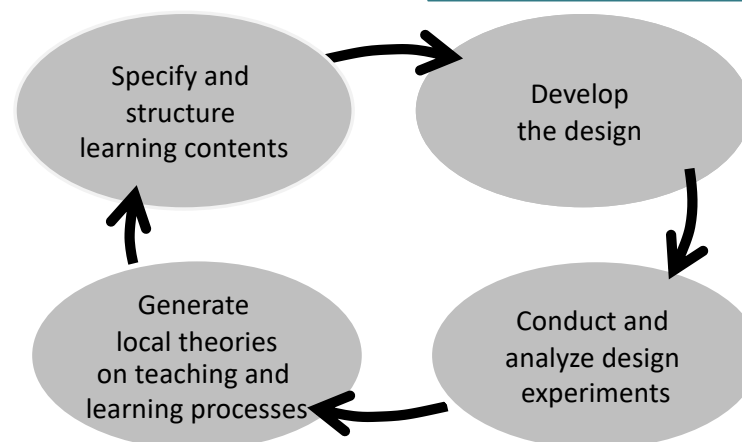
Connect multiple representations with a focus on structures

Student focus

Allow deep insights into student thinking by rich diagnostic tasks

Enhance communication

Engage students in rich discourse practices and provide language support for their articulation by meaning-related phrases



Connecting requires to make the mathematical structures explicit
Articulating structures is hard for some students as they do not have the meaning-related phrases

Practical outcomes of Design Research

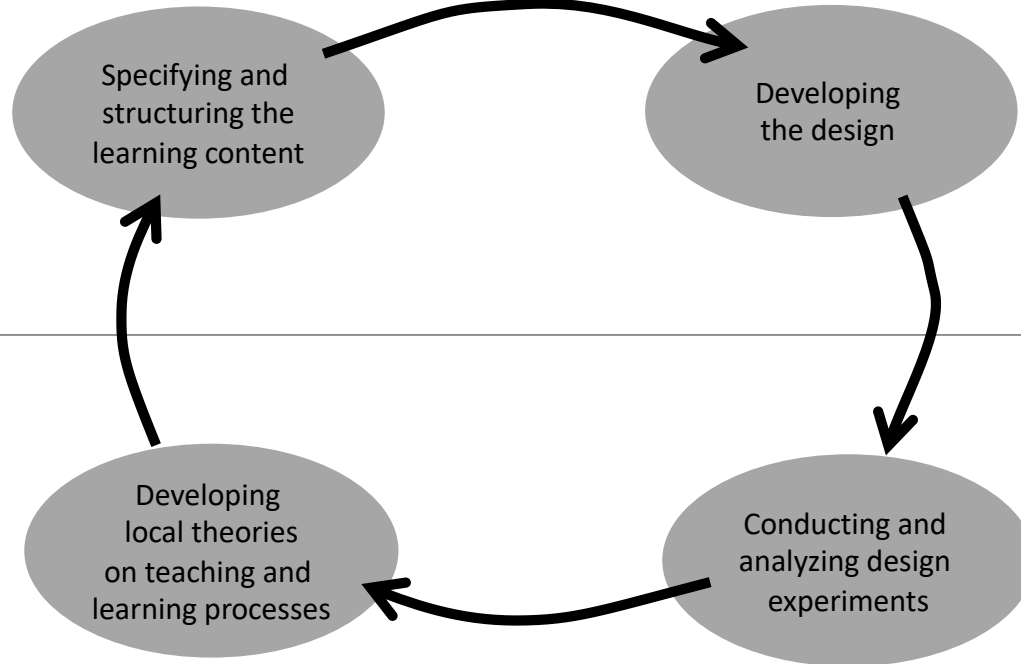
Design Process

21 years of work, 7x 3 years

Design Outcomes

What-Questions?

How-Questions?



Specified and structured learning content
(here, for understanding basic concepts
and underlying language requirements)

Teaching-learning arrangement
(here, 45 modules for concept-focused
interventions)

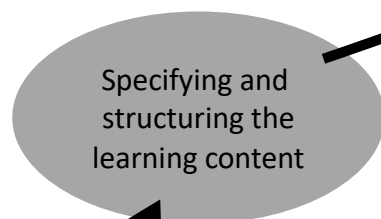


Typical dual outcomes of Design Research

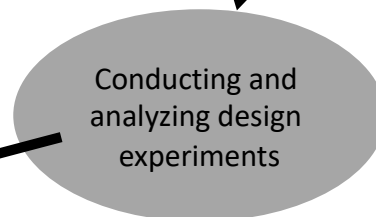
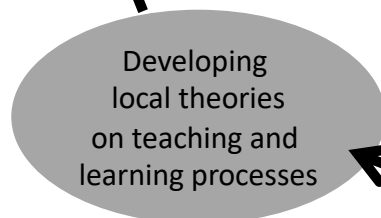
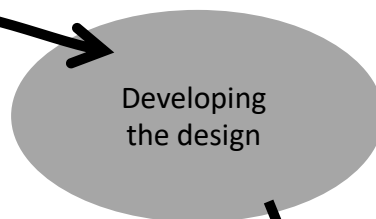
Research-based Design Process



What-Questions?



How-Questions?



Design Outcomes

Specified and structured learning content
(here, for understanding basic concepts
and underlying language requirements)

Teaching-learning arrangement
(here, 45 modules for concept-focused
interventions)

Refined design principles
(applicable also for other contents)

Theory elements on typical topic-
specific learning pathways and obstacles
(here, on the role of meaning-related
language as epistemic catalyst)

Theory elements on topic-specific
teaching processes
(with typical effects and conditions)

Design-based Research Process



Research Outcomes

Empirical evidence for effectiveness in a quasi-experimental field trial (2016)

Research Question: Can we implement the **Mastering Math intervention** in real classrooms with regular teachers?

Initial sample

61 schools, ~ 120 mathematics teachers
N = 5785 fifth graders (all achievement ranges)

Sample of the field trial

881 at-risk students selected by low pretest score and fostered in small group sessions (~ 30 times, 40 min each)

Results

Yes, we can!

Mastering Math Intervention Group has significantly higher learning gains in understanding of basic concept and skills than **Control Group**

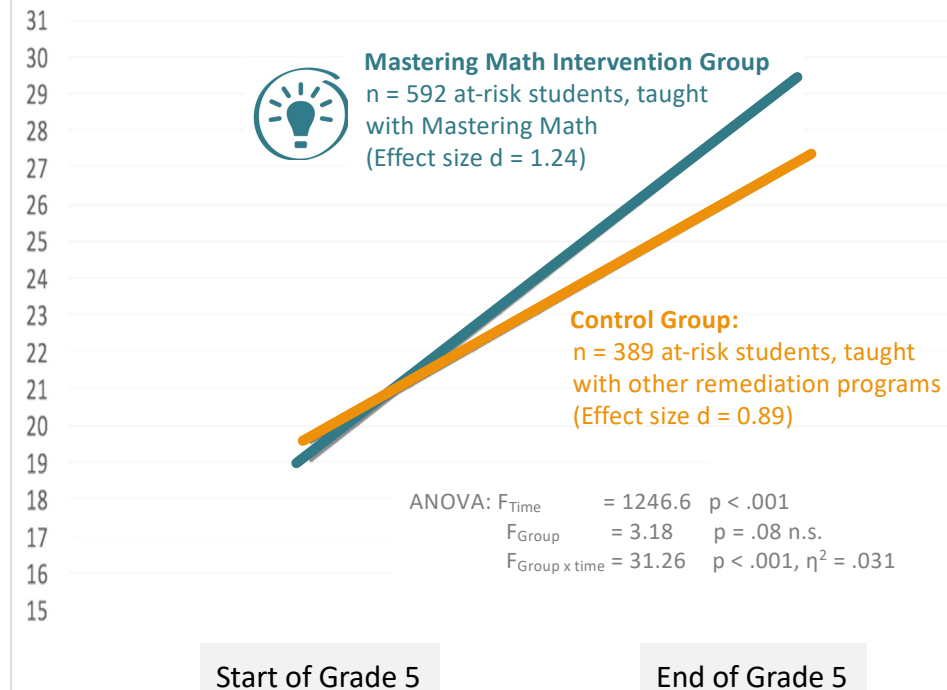
But: substantial differences between teachers
→ further PD research needed to improve targetedness of teachers' PD program

Classroom level

Teacher PD level

Dependent variable

Scores in basic arithmetics (understanding & skills)



Agenda for the talk

1. Two examples for introducing the idea of connecting procedures with understanding
2. Mastering Math - a design research project for fostering students' basic concepts in Grade 5-7
3. Mastering Math - a PD design research project for empowering teachers to foster students' basic concepts
4. Looking back on implementation strategies for bringing instructional innovations into classrooms



Big questions for design researchers



Overall aim of the Mastering Math project (ongoing since 2010)

Provide productive learning opportunities for students and teachers for basic arithmetic concepts to be understood in Grade 5-7 (some of them from Grade 2-4)

Classroom level

Design Research questions on the classroom level

- What do students have to learn?
- How can they learn it in an intervention, and what hinders them to learn it?
- Is the instruction really effective for students' learning gains?

Teacher PD level

Design Research questions on the teacher PD level

- What do teachers have to learn?
- How can they learn it in PD programs and what hinders them to learn it?
- Is the learning really effective for teachers' professional growth?

Working areas for content-related Design Research on the PD level

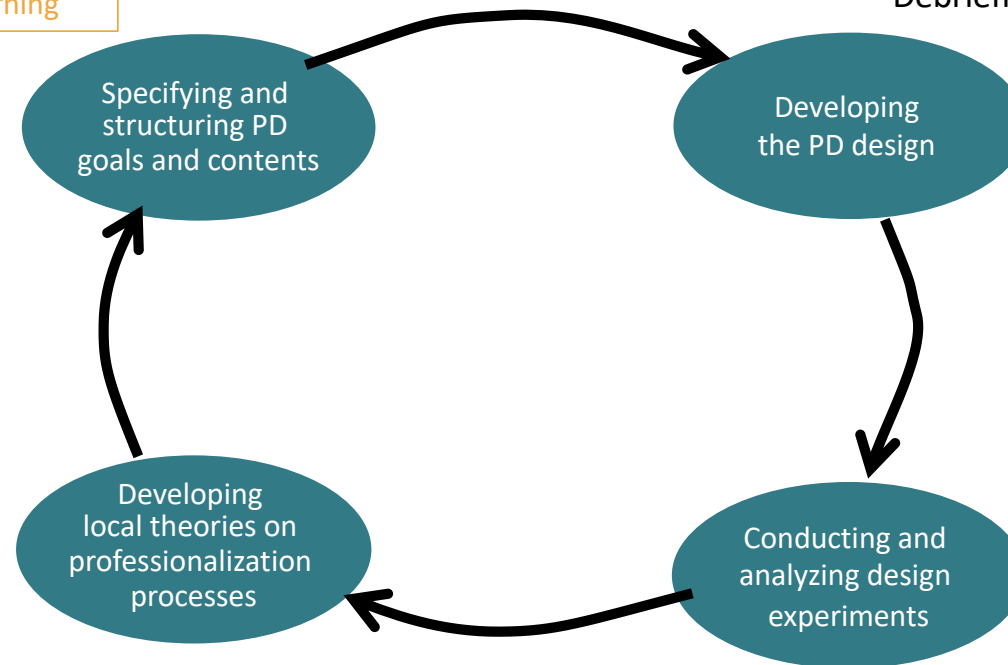
Design

Monitor students' learning

Enhance students' learning



Preparatory PD activities
Teacher's experiments with Mastering Math
Debriefing after experiments



Research

Prediger, S. (2019). Investigating and promoting teachers' pathways towards expertise for language-responsive mathematics teaching. *Mathematics Education Research Journal*, 31(4), 367–392. doi:10.1007/s13394-019-00258-1

Design Experiment Cycle 1

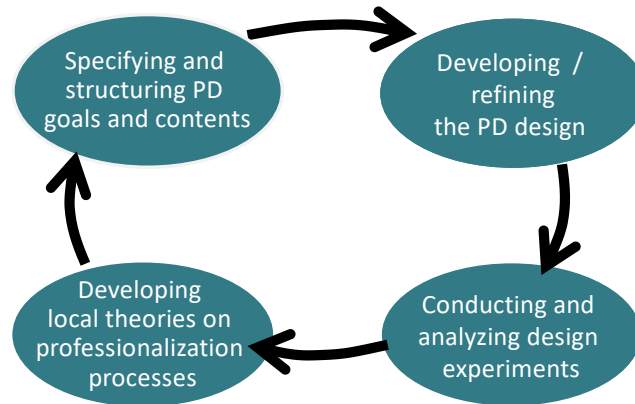
Monitor students' learning

Enhance students' learning



3 x 5

Meanings of multiplication



Preparatory PD activities: (Brodie 2013; Karsenty 2010)

- introduce / revise basic concepts
- analyze student's ideas captured in given formative assessment tasks
- try and reflect the tasks and visuals in the Mastering Math materials

Teachers' experiments with students



PD settings



Design Experiment Cycle 1

Monitor students' learning

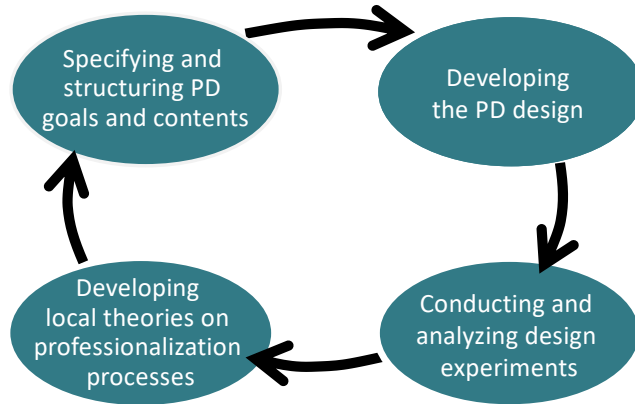
Enhance students' learning

Meanings of multiplication

3 x 5



PCK categories about basic concepts



Teacher expertise for monitoring and enhance students' understanding requires PCK categories for deeply focusing mathematical structures

Preparatory PD activities:

- introduce / revise basic concepts
- analyze student's ideas captured in given formative assessment tasks
- try and reflect the tasks and visuals in the materials

Teachers like using dot arrays (as other visuals), but reflection about multiplication does not reach depth (Venkat & Askew 2018)

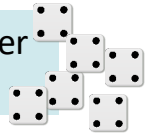
both correct?

3 x 5

unitizing structure rarely articulated

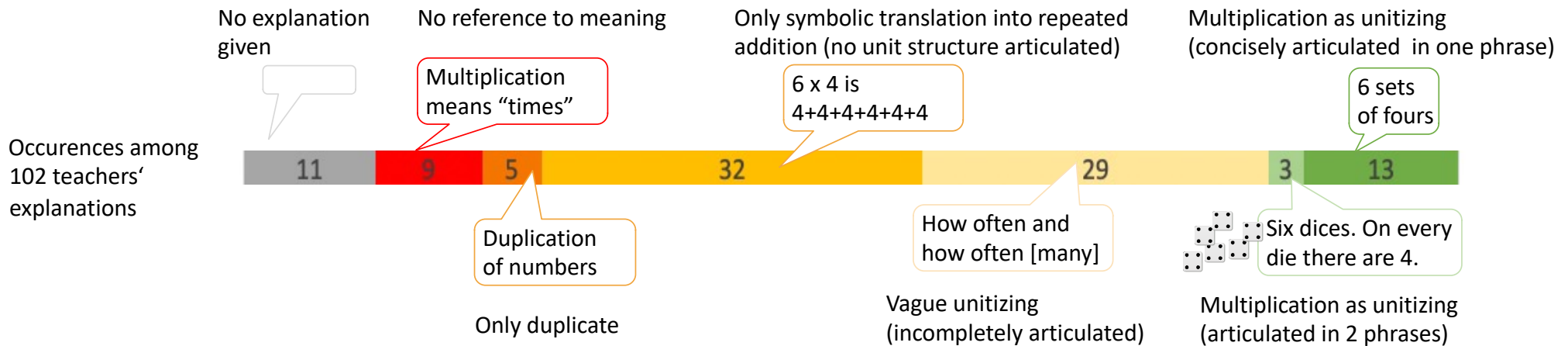
Teachers' PCK categories while explaining meanings

How would you explain to a fifth grader what multiplication means?



(later quantitative evidence in Cycle 5 for qualitative observations from Cycle 1-4)

Written answers of 102 highly motivated mathematics teachers volunteering at the beginning of an online PD in Cycle 5 (May/Sep 2022)

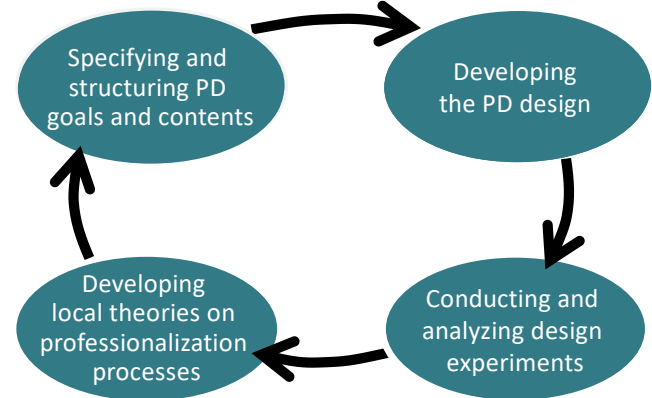
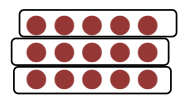


Summary: German mathematics teachers do a better job than the teachers observed by Mholo, Venkat, Schäfer (2012) in using and explaining the connection of representations but still, we want them to be more explicit

Design Experiment Cycle 2

- Specify learning content in basic concepts
 - Monitor students' learning in basic concepts
 - Enhance students' understanding in basic concepts
- PCK categories about basic concepts

Meaning of multiplication as counting in units



Teacher need stronger focus on mathematical structures and more reflection about meaning-related language as an informal but concise language about structures

- Preparatory PD activities to
- unpack basic concepts with their structures and articulations
 - analyze student's ideas captured in given formative assessment tasks
 - relate tasks and visuals to students' ideas

Torben has drawn this figure for explaining the meaning of 3×5 .
 How would you continue working with him?
 How can the tasks in the material help?

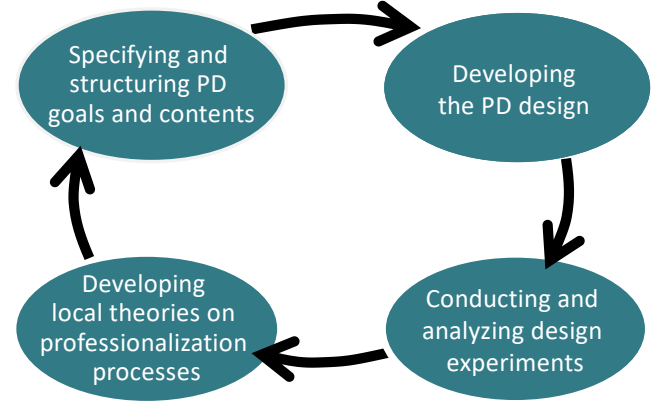
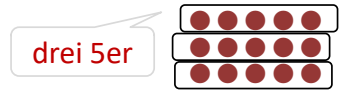
Often not explicitly articulated

- Repeated addition in dot array: Make him see the repeated addition of rows
- Enhance unitizing with explicit language means: I ask him "Draw the three rows of fives"
- You have to draw all dots, because we want to see also 15: Complete dot array without explicit focus on unit structures
- I want him to see the 3 rows of 5 each: Enhance unitizing in the dot array

Design Experiment Cycle 3

- Specify learning content in basic concepts
- Monitor students' learning in basic concepts
- Enhance students' understanding in basic concepts

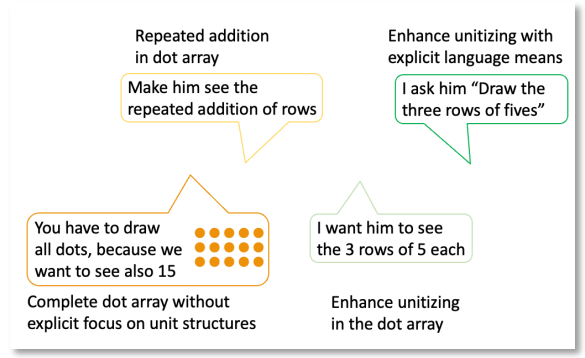
Meaning of multiplication as counting in units



Teacher need stronger focus on mathematical structures and more reflection about meaning-related language as an informal but concise language about structures

- Preparatory PD activities to
- unpack basic concepts with their structures and articulations
 - analyze student's ideas captured in given formative assessment tasks
 - relate tasks and visuals to students' ideas and discuss relevant language means

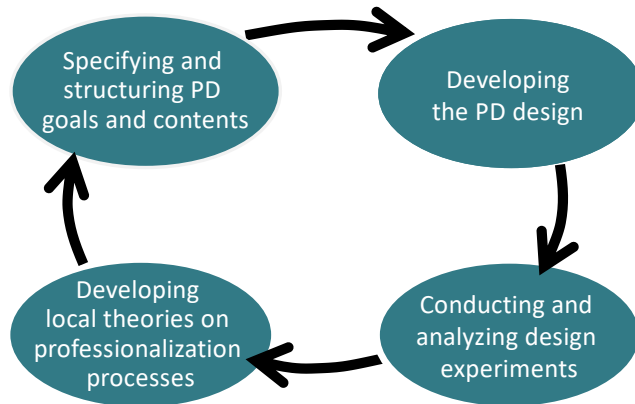
Offered language was only partially adopted in teachers' enhancement practices



Design Experiment Cycle 4

- Specify learning content in basic concepts
- Monitor students' learning in basic concepts
- Enhance students' understanding in basic concepts

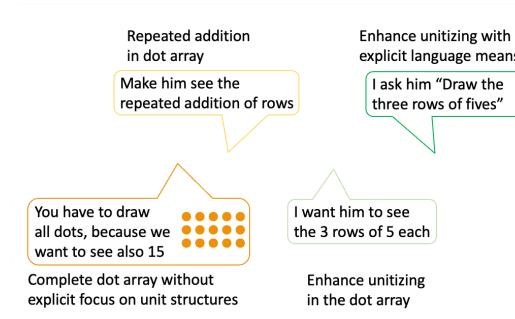
Meaning of multiplication as counting in units



- Preparatory PD activities to
- unpack basic concepts with their structures and articulations
 - analyze student's ideas captured in given formative assessment tasks
 - relate tasks and visuals to students' ideas
- discuss videos of enhancement practices also w.r.t. relevant language means



Teacher need stronger focus on mathematical structures and more explicit video models for using meaning-related language



Design Experiment Cycle 4: Include very explicit video model

Tanya

Rayan



Task: Find an operation for this chocolate image

Rayan: 5 times 5

Teacher: Show me where you see the fives?

Rayan: Here

Teacher: But there is one field in both fives?

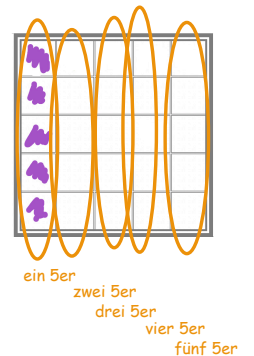
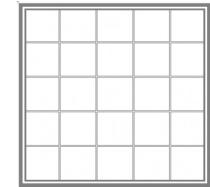
Rayan: Then, I must put it here

How would you react?

Teacher: Let us count the sets of fives

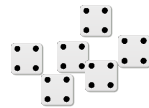
How does the teacher enhance students' deep understanding?

- supports mental unitizing in fives („5er“)
- meaning-related language supported by drawing and gestures as well as phrases

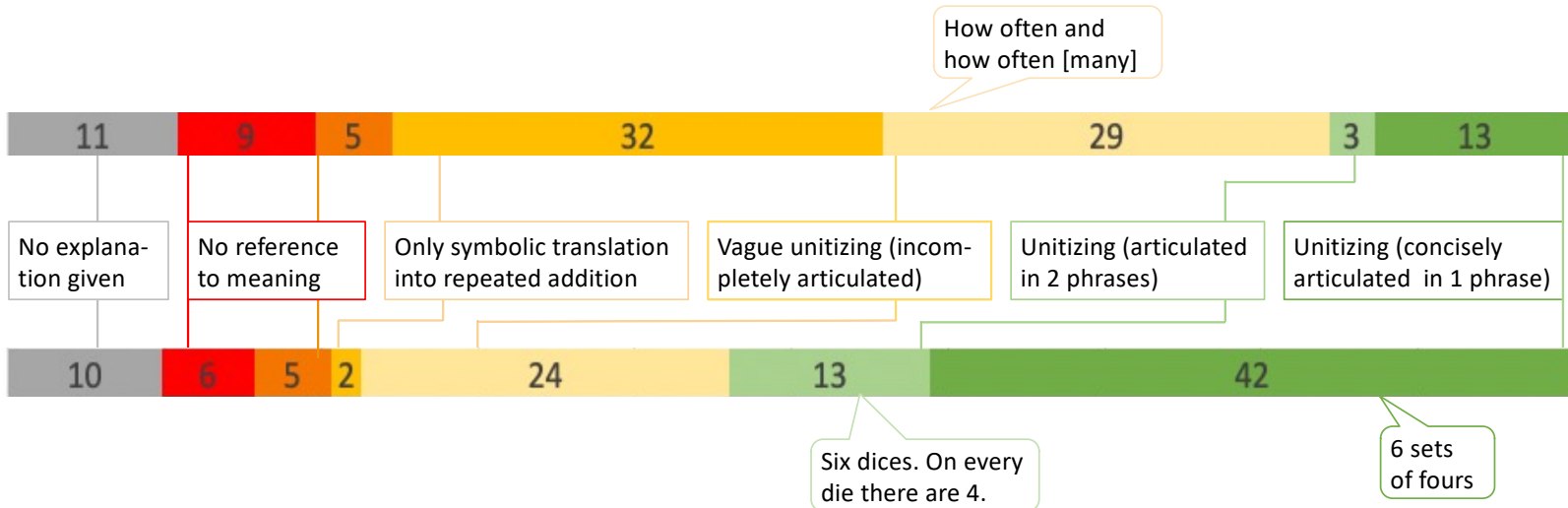


Changes in teachers' explanations of meanings (in Cycle 5)

How would teachers explain to a fifth grader what multiplication means?



In the beginning of the PD

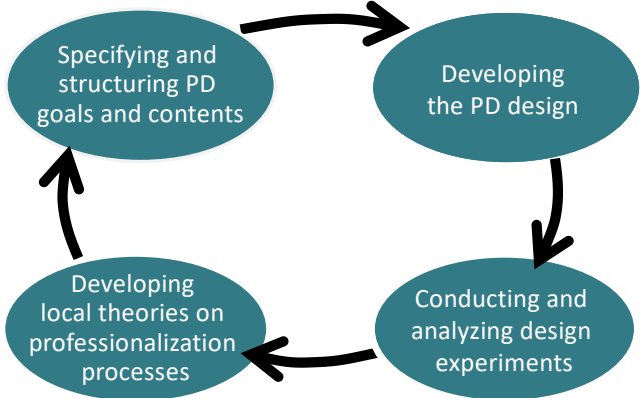
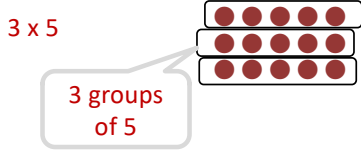


In the end of the PD

Design Experiment Cycle 5

- Specify learning content in basic concepts
- Monitor students' learning in basic concepts
- Enhance students' understanding in basic concepts

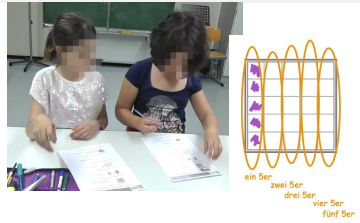
Meaning of multiplication as counting in units



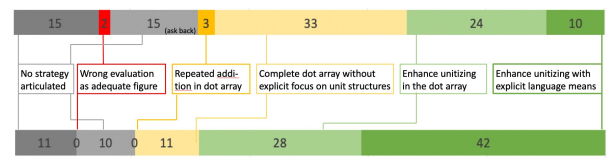
Video cases can be highly valuable for deepening teachers' content-related and language-related experiences and changing their practices

(Blomberg et al. 2013)

- Preparatory PD activities to
- unpack basic concepts with their structures and articulations
 - analyze student's ideas captured in given formative assessment tasks
 - relate tasks and visuals in the written enhancement materials to students' ideas
 - discuss videos of enhancement practices also w.r.t. relevant language means



Offered language was substantially adopted

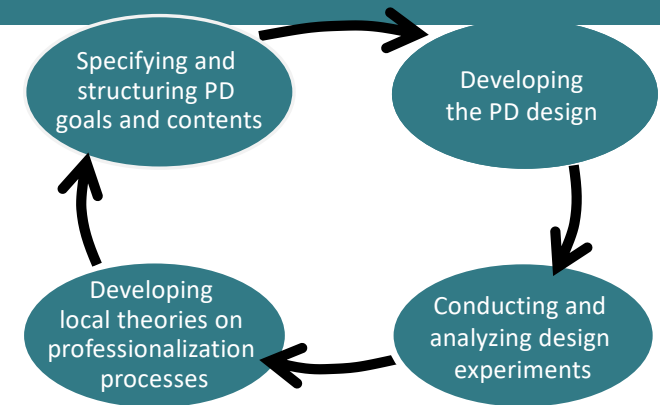


Main contribution of this project to generating theory

Unpacking the PD content in a model of content-related teacher expertise

Several practices for mastering the three jobs in different orientations

	Specify learning content (in basic concepts)	Monitor students' learning progress (in basic concepts)	Enhance students' understanding (of basic concepts)
Orientations			
Compass	Diagnostic orientation	Adaptive goal-setting practice	(Takes monitoring seriously)
	Syllabus-bound orientation	Syllabus-bound goal-setting practice	(Monitoring not necessary)
Content	Conceptual orientation	Conceptual goal-setting practice	Conceptual diagnostic practices
	Procedural orientation	Procedural goal-setting practice	Procedural diagnostic practices
Goal	Long-term orientation	Long-term foundation practices	Diagnostic practices with focus on foundations
	Short-term orientation	Short-term repair practices (focus current content)	Diagnostic practices with focus on current content
Pedagogy	Communicative orientation	(Required for conceptual learning content)	(Oral formative assessment in talk)
	Individualized orientation	(Realizable only for procedural learning content)	(Only written formative assessment)
Focus	Depth and correctness of addressed categories	Unpacking practices to varying degrees	Targeted diagnostic practices (with varying degrees of correctness)



Only after some PD design research cycles, the PD content is concisely specified, so that we can construct good pre and post tests on teachers' PCK and practices for an evaluation study

Prediger, S. (in press). Using and developing content-related theory elements for explaining and promoting teachers' professional growth in collaborative groups. In H. Borko & D. Potari (Eds.), *Teachers of mathematics working and learning in collaborative groups. ICMI study*. Dordrecht: Springer.

Prediger, S., Dröse, J., Stahnke, R., & Ademmer, C. (2022, online first). Teacher expertise for fostering at-risk students' understanding of basic concepts: Conceptual model and evidence for growth. *Journal of Mathematics Teacher Education*. doi:10.1007/s10857-022-09538-3

Quantitative evidence for professional growth in a PD evaluation study (2019/20)

Teacher PD level



Research Question: Can we initiate professional growth by the **Mastering Math PD program?**

Sample

124 mathematics teachers
(no control group, yet)
in the Mastering Math PD program
over a year 6 session,
parallel to experiments with students

Results

Yes, partially

Significant growth in seven self-reported practices

but one challenge is left:
Overcoming short-term orientations

Changes in captured practices

with effect size d

Jobs



Specify learning content



Monitor students' learning progress



Enhance students' understanding

Orientations



Compass:
Diagnostic orientation OR
Syllabus-bound orientation

Adaptive goal-setting practices -0.11



Content:
Conceptual orientation OR
Procedural orientation

Conceptual goal-setting practices 0.05

Procedural goal-setting practices -0.27

Conceptual diagnostic practices-in-action 0.33

Conceptual enhancement practices 0.00



Goal:
Long-term orientation OR
Short-term orientation

Long-term foundation practices 0.02

Short-term repair practices -0.64

Enhancement practices aiming at learning progress 0.13

Compensation practices aiming at task completion 0.34



Pedagogy:
Communicative orientation OR
Individualized orientation

Individualized pedagogies -0.82



Categories
Categories for adequate mathematical focus

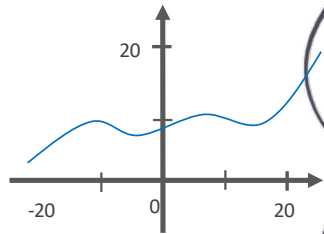
Unpacking practices-in-action 0.38

Targeted diagnostic practices-in-action 0.12

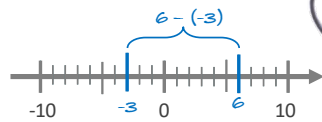
Representations with long-term coherence

Number line

Coordinate system \uparrow
with function graphs



Negative numbers on
the number line also < 0



Decimal numbers zooming
into the number line



Place value understanding
zooming out
of the number line



Concept-based calculation
on the empty number line



Simply scaled number line



Lines of numbers



Place value table

Milliarden			Millionen			Tausend			Einer			Tausendstel		
10^{11}	10^{10}	10^9	10^8	10^7	10^6	10^5	10^4	10^3	10^2	10^1	10^0	10^{-1}	10^{-2}	10^{-3}
1	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			

Scientific notations
with powers

km	m	dm	cm	mm		
	1	6	0	2	3	5

$$160235 \text{ mm} = 160,235 \text{ m}$$

Converting unit measures

ZT	T	H	Z	E	z	h
	1	6	0	2	3	5

Representing and calculating
with decimal numbers in
extended place value table

T	H	Z	E
	$\times 10$	1	6
		1	6

Calculating in the
place value table

H	Z	E
	1	6

Representing numbers
in the place value table

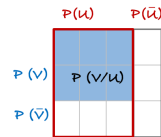
$$10 + 6$$

Understanding place values

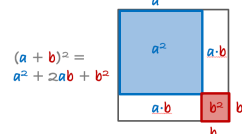
Representations with long-term coherence

Dot arrays and area models

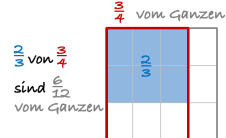
Conditional probabilities in the area model



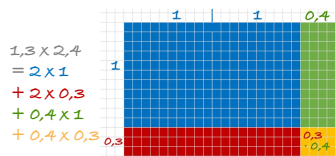
Factoring expressions in the area model



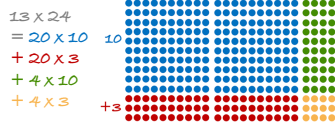
Meaning of multiplication of fractions as part of part in the area model



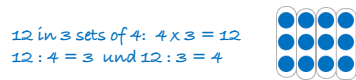
Meaning of multiplication of decimals in the area model



Double distributivity in dot array



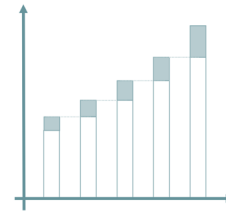
Meaning of multiplication as counting in units in dot arrays



Meaning of addition and subtraction in array of 20



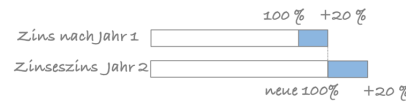
Bars



Exponential growth

Grade 10-13

Grade 8



Interest of interests

Grade 7



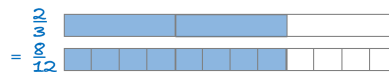
Determining percentages

Grade 6



Determining relative parts

Grade 4/5



Comparing fractions

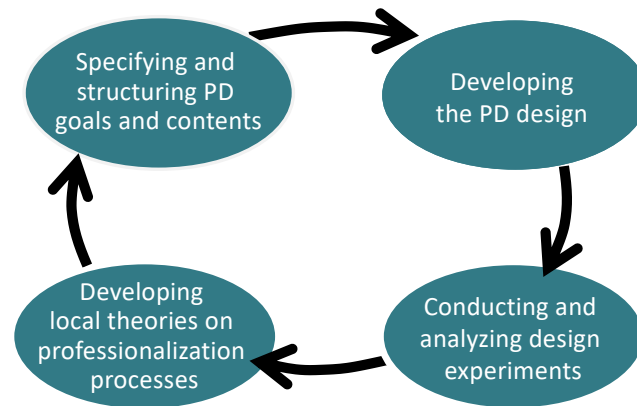
Grade 2/3



Representing fractions

Consequences for the next design cycle

Longitudinal coherence
as a major PD content



Further work is needed
to consolidate these
first observations!

With the longitudinal as explicit PD content
teachers seem to better move to the
long-term orientation
(so far without new quantitative evidence)

Changes in captured practices with effect size d

	Specify learning content	Monitor students' learning progress	Enhance students' understanding
Orientations			
Compass:	Algebra goal setting practice: -0.11		
Diagnostic orientation OR Syllabus-bound orientation	Algebra-based proof writing practice: -0.29		
Content:			
Conceptual orientation OR Procedural orientation	Conceptual diagrams writing practice: 0.05	Conceptual diagrams practice: -0.13	Conceptual enhancement practice: 0.00
Procedural goal setting practice: -0.27	Procedural diagrams practice: -0.13	Procedural enhancement practice: 0.09	
Goal:			
Long-term orientation OR Short-term orientation	Long-term knowledge practices: -0.02	Long-term diagnostic practices: -0.03	Enhancement practice including learning progress: 0.13
	Short-term repair practices: -0.14	Short-term diagnostic practices: -0.13	Compassion practice including final coherence: 0.06
Pedagogy:			
Communicative orientation OR Individualized orientation		Communicative pedagogy: 0.26	Individualized pedagogy: 0.02
Categories			
Categories for adequate mathematical focus	Unpacking practices: 0.08	Targeted diagnostic practices: -0.12	

Agenda for the talk

1. Two examples for introducing our challenges
2. Mastering Math – a design research project for fostering students' basic concepts in Grade 5-7
3. Mastering Math – a PD design research project for empowering teachers to foster students' basic concepts
4. Looking back on implementation strategies for bringing instructional innovations into classrooms



DZLM 

The logo for DZLM, consisting of the letters 'DZLM' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by a square icon composed of four smaller squares in teal, orange, and teal colors.

Looking back onto a 16-year design research journey

Classroom level

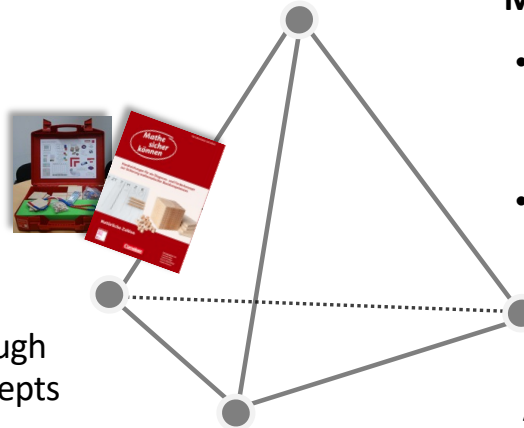
How can we as DZLM influence this unproductive instructional triangles?

By its fourth component!

N1	Place value understanding with same ten blocks and place value tasks
N2	Place value understanding in the number line
N3	Understanding addition and subtraction in multiple representations and self-written word problems
N4	Understanding multiplication and division in multiple representations and self-written word problems
N5/6	Concept-based calculation strategies based on number sense
N7/8	Written algorithms
B1	Understanding fractions in part-whole-relationship (simple fractions and share of all)
B2	Understanding equivalence of fractions
B3	Understanding order of fractions
B4	Calculation with fractions
D1	Place value understanding for decimal numbers
D2	Understanding order of decimal numbers
D3	Understanding addition and subtraction of decimal numbers
D4	Understanding multiplication and division of decimal numbers
D5	Understanding the connection of decimal numbers and fractions
S3	Understanding and calculating percentages
S5	Working word problems with comprehension strategies

Curriculum resources

- can support teachers in changing teaching practices
- can help to work through all relevant basic concepts



Mathematics teachers

- often use superficial teaching practices optimized for immediate task completion in short-term orientation
- should adopt long-term orientations

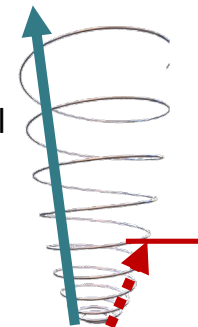


At-risk students

- often have insufficient learning opportunities for basic concepts
- cannot learn successfully in Grade 5-10 without understanding the basic concepts

Mathematical content

- is highly cumulative with many longitudinal connections
- also procedures rely upon understanding basic concepts



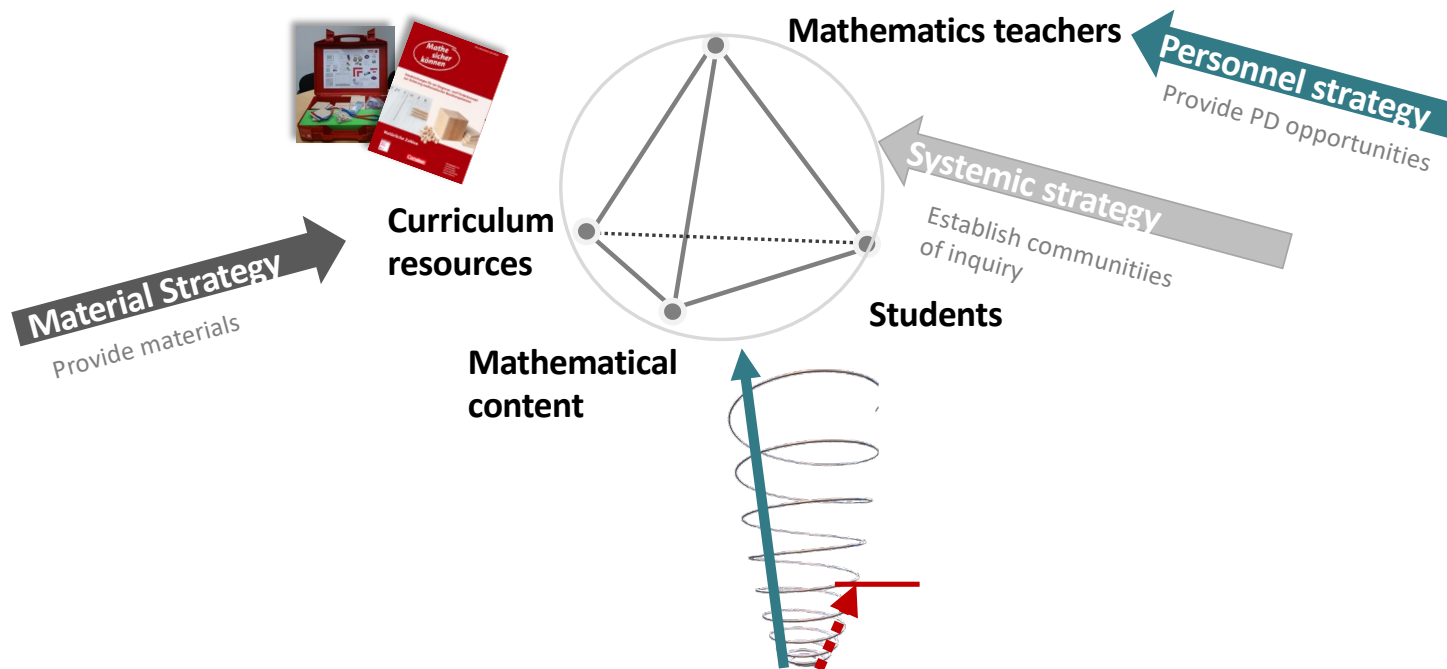
To multiply by 10, simply add a zero in the end

How can we as DZLM support high-quality teaching and implement instructional innovations?

Curriculum resources alone do not do good teaching

Focus on mathematics teachers is crucial (Cohen, Raudenbush, Ball 2003; Desimone 2009)

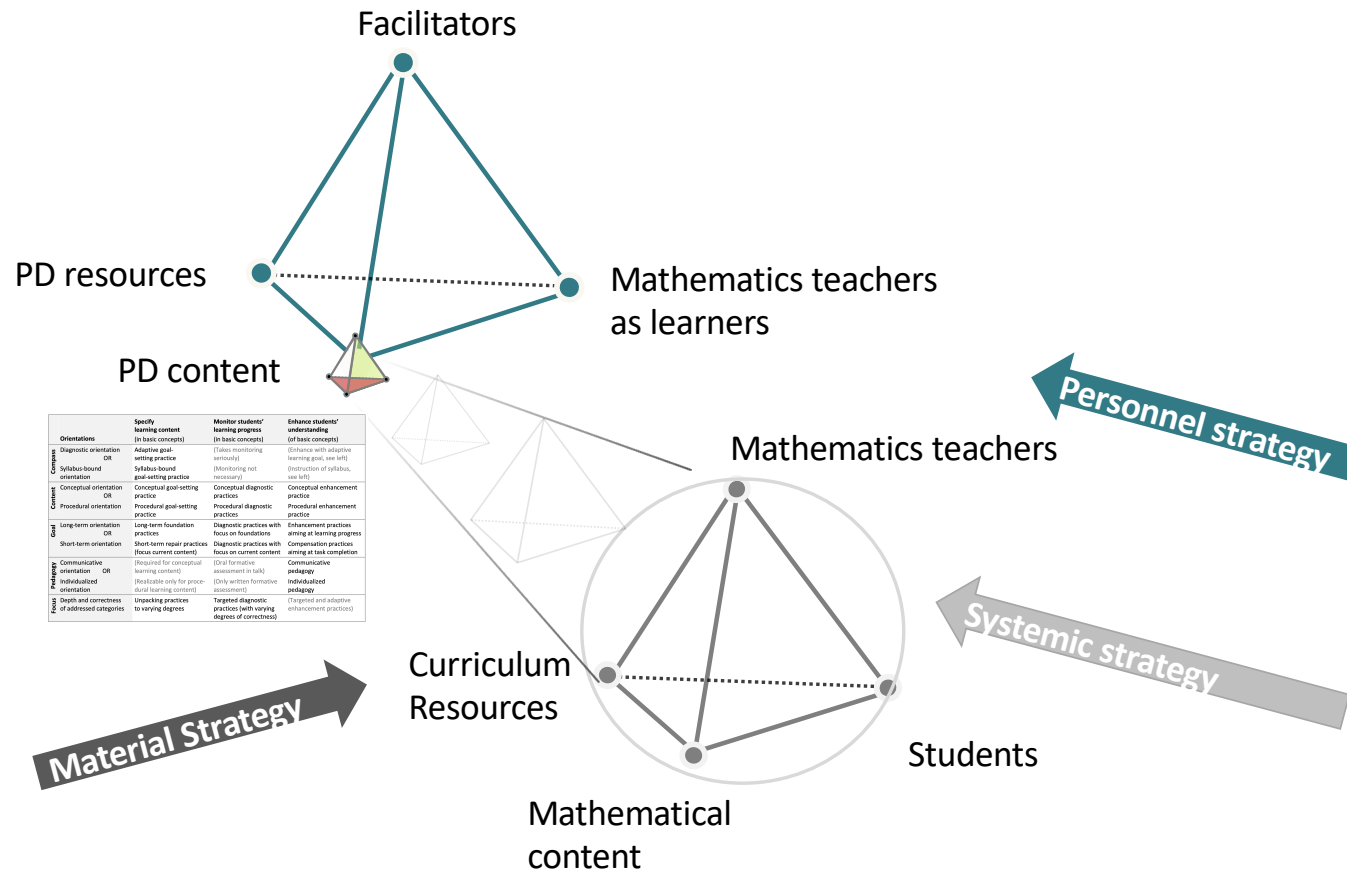
Classroom level



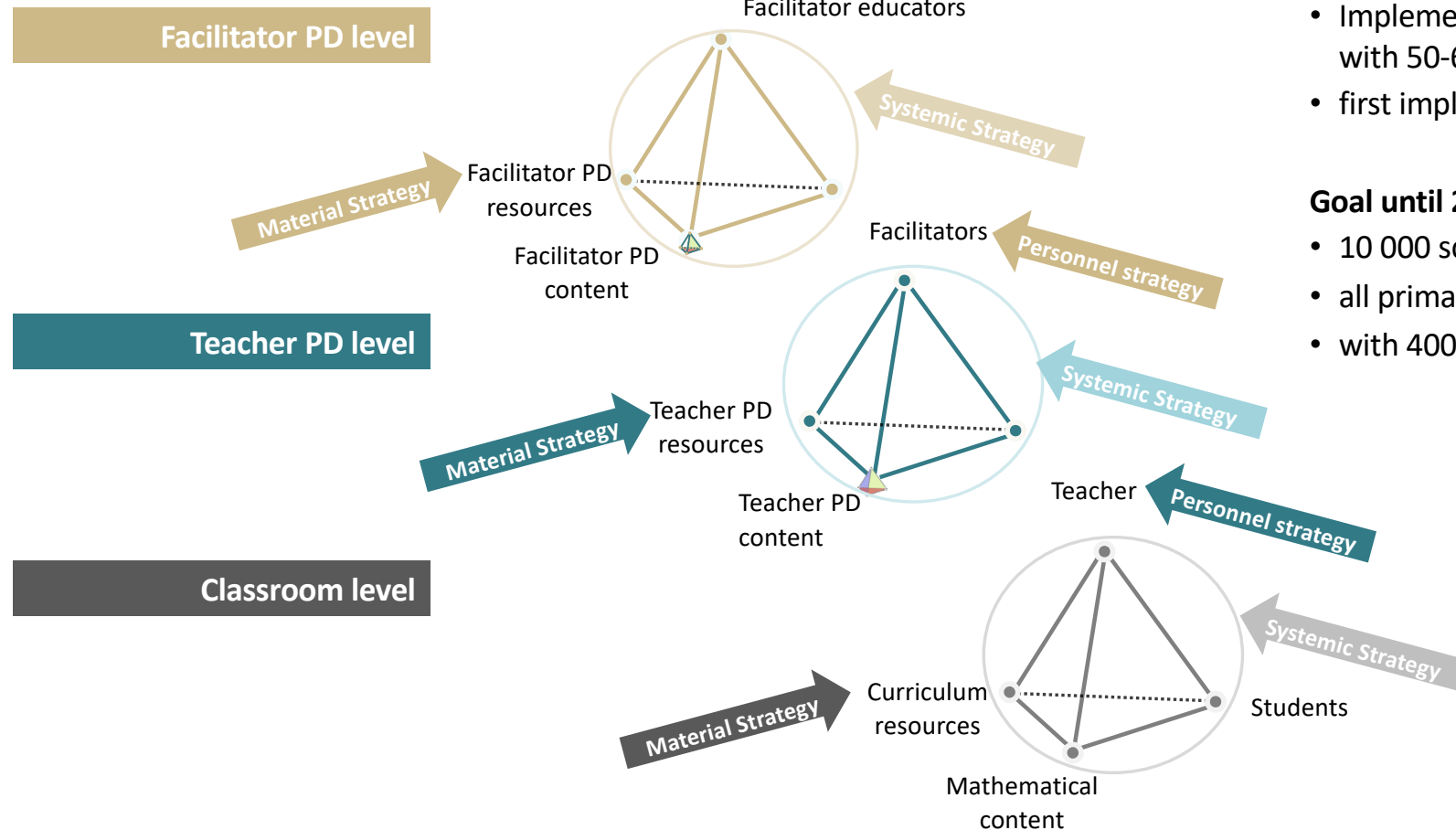
How can we as DZLM support high-quality teaching and implement instructional innovations?

Teacher PD level

Classroom level



Three implementation strategies in the 3 Tetrahedron Model



Current state of implementing Mastering Math:

- Implementation in 5 federal states with 50-60 schools each
- first implementation steps into 14 states

Goal until 2033:

- 10 000 schools until 2033
- all primary schools in some states
- with 400 facilitators nationwide

There is still a lot to investigate and design in the future

Thanks for your attention!

*Huge programs
require great teams*

DZLM research network from 12 universities



Susanne Prediger
Director of the DZLM (since 2021)



Jürg Kramer
Founding director (2010-2020)



Thomas Lange
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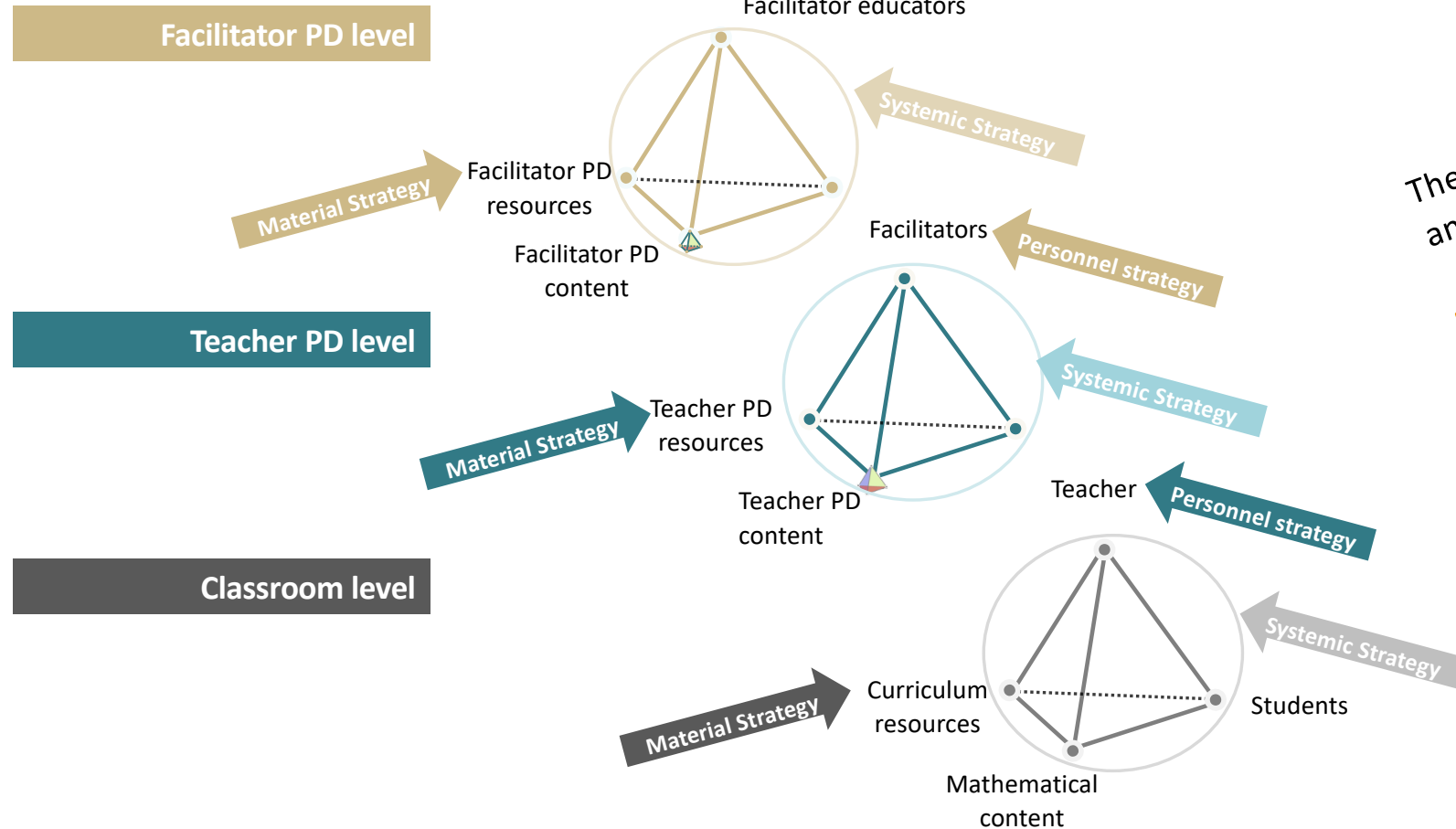


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2 x N. N.

Three implementation strategies in the 3 Tetrahedron Model



There is still a lot to investigate and design in the future

Let us tackle it together!

Thanks for your attention!