

The Power and Purpose of



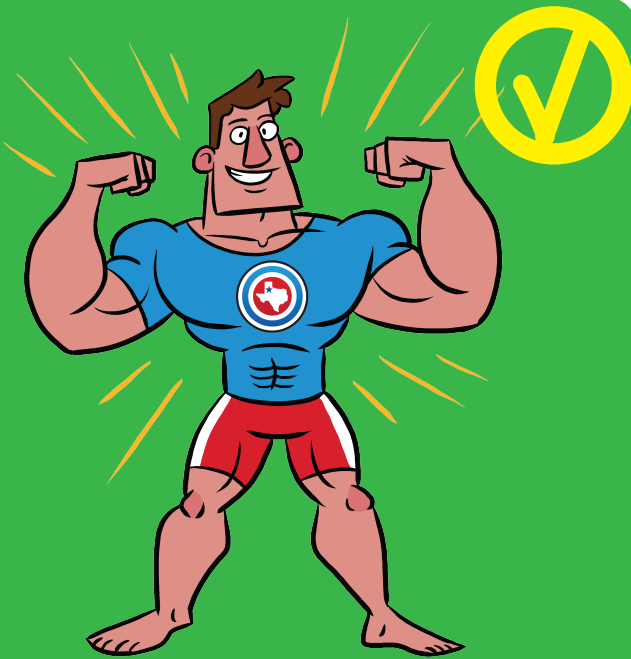
TEKSas Target Practice is built on the science of learning. This one program taps into the powerful teaching tools of:

Spiraling Practice- Every 10 days, students see every TEKS for their grade level. This ensures that students don't forget what you have taught! Spiraling strengthens long-term learning and decreases forgetting.

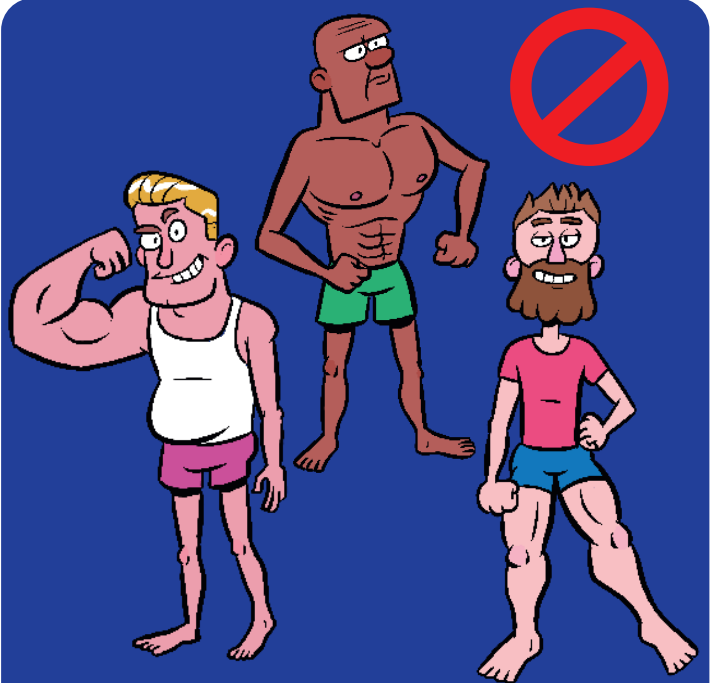
Retrieval- As students come back to content every two weeks, they are given the opportunity to retrieve what they know. We often focus on getting information into students' heads but students need the opportunity to pull information out. Studies show this no-stakes practice increases student performance.

Interleaving- By mixing up TEKS within a typical day, students can no longer plug and chug answers! They have to choose and retrieve the strategy, algorithm, process, etc. needed to successfully come to the answer.

Feedback- The daily feedback through progress monitoring gives students a realistic picture of their progress.



Students who use this consistent practice of **SPIRALING, RETRIEVING, INTERLEAVING, and FEEDBACK** are well-formed mathematicians because they are consistently working all of their math muscles through the two-week cycle. (Just like a healthy workout program!)



Students who only practice the current content are only strengthening that one math muscle, leaving the rest weak and unfit!

****Remember, TEKSas Target Practice is intended to take 10-15 minutes a day. It is the perfect support to the great teaching already taking place in your classroom!**

One of the things we hear the most is, “But how I am supposed to do the full spiral if I haven’t taught all of the TEKS yet?” We encourage you to trust the process and stick with it. The science behind **TEKSas Target Practice** has been proven to work. Teachers who consistently use this tool as it is designed to be used have results that get attention!

TEKSas Target Practice is designed to be a:

- **PREVIEW** of what students will learn
- **PRACTICE** of what they are learning
- **REVIEW** of what they have learned

The tendency in most classrooms is to focus on practicing what we are currently learning and then throw in a panicky review before assessments. You can find a beautiful balance with the implementation **TEKSas Target Practice**.

So why spend time on TEKS you haven’t formally taught?

Research shows that preview activities:

- help students recognize gaps in knowledge
- make the students aware of the direction they are headed
- help students make valuable mathematical connections instead of content being so compartmentalized
- lay a foundation for deeper learning
- show the teacher where students are in their prior knowledge, saving time and informing instruction
- allow for productive/healthy struggle which teaches students to
 - persist
 - develop a growth mindset
 - enjoy challenges
 - see growth

**TIME SPENT ALLOWING STUDENTS TO PREVIEW TEKS
WILL BE TIME SAVED LATER!**

What do I do when the TEKS is new?

Model:

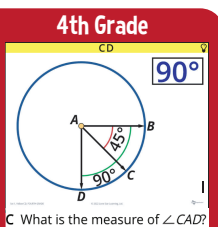
The teacher simply demonstrates the new concept and students listen and observe. Use related vocabulary students need to be familiar with. This builds the foundation for future learning. REMEMBER- you are just modeling! Mastery is not expected at this point!

- Use teaching tips included in your printables
- Use digital tools built into the program
- Access the vocabulary list
- Use manipulatives

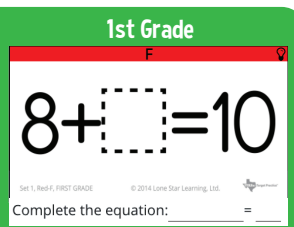
Make Connections:

MOST TEKS can be connected to something your mathematicians already know. These may be things you've taught during the year or things they were taught in previous grade levels.

Example-
4th grade. Finding a missing angle is new to students.



Is it really new?
Take mathematicians back to 1st grade and make the connection that you are finding a missing part!



- Let your students try to make connections by helping them retrieve concepts they already know.
- Use the last 6 weeks review of the previous grade built in your program.
- Access the correlation chart from previous grade.
- Talk to other teachers.

Give a BRIEF Mini Lesson:

As you work through the sets and approach the TEKS in your Scope and Sequence give a **brief** lesson pulling all the pieces together allowing students to move toward independence.

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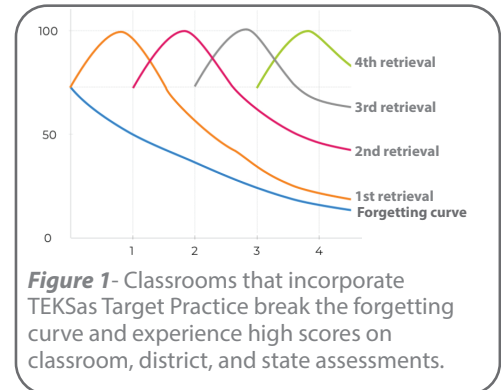
TEKSas Target Practice is built on the science of learning. The research behind the tools used in TEKSas Target Practice supports the effectiveness of using it daily in your classrooms.

Retrieval-

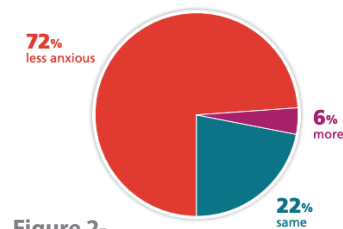
There are 3 stages to learning.

1. Encoding, where we get information into students heads
2. Storage, where we HOPE information is kept
3. Retrieval, where we pull information out

We often focus on encoding and neglect retrieval. Research shows that after 48 hours students forget 80% of what they have learned if they are not given the opportunity to retrieve the new information. Ouch, they only remember 20% of what we have taught. Wait! It gets worse. After 30 days students will have forgotten 97% - 98% of what they have learned, if they have not retrieved that information. (Figure 1) You work too hard to settle for students only remembering 2% - 3% of what you've taught. TEKSas Target Practice ensures your students are given opportunities to retrieve learning daily.

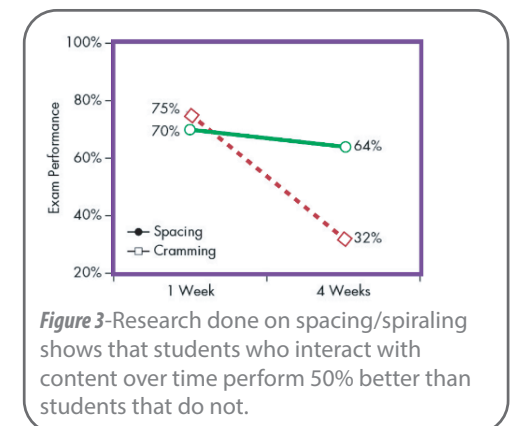


Research supports that providing your students with retrieval practice opportunities, like TEKSas Target Practice, greatly decreases test anxiety. Students become confident with content and therefore less anxious when it comes time to perform. Your students will be ready to shine. (Figure 2)



Spiraling/Spaced Practice-

When students encounter information repeatedly in one session, it quickly becomes familiar and creates an "illusion of knowing." Research shows that spacing/spiraling increases long-term learning and decreases forgetting. Spiraling content gives students the opportunity to engage in retrieval practice multiple times over time. TEKSas Target Practice's spacing prepares students for HIGH scores and INCREASES knowledge and retention. (Figure 3)



Interleaving-

Research shows that learning increases when we mix up concepts we are learning. Interleaving, a strategy of mixing things up, gives teachers and students a realistic picture of where they are in their understanding. Blocked practice deceives teachers and students! If students only practice concepts in blocked practice, they will struggle during a test when they experience interleaved problems. (Figure 4)

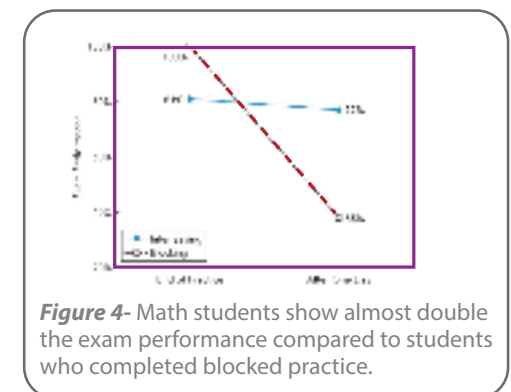
The interleaved concepts built into TEKSas Target Practice forces students to determine and retrieve which strategy or approach works best for the problem at hand.

Feedback-

According to cognitive scientist Pooja Agarwal, there are two common metacognitive illusions: the illusion of mastery and the illusion of confidence. Students' confidence-accuracy mismatches (incorrect answers with high confidence and correct answers with low confidence) can be remedied with feedback.

Quality and immediate feedback has shown to increase learning by a letter grade!

TEKSas Target Practice allows daily feedback so students are not fooled by the illusion of mastery. This feedback gives students an honest evaluation of their strengths and weaknesses.



Powerful Teaching: Unleash the Science of Learning
Author(s): Pooja K. Agarwal Ph.D., Patrice M. Bain Ed.S.,

From a “F” to an “A” in 2 years!

I bought TEKSas Target Practice for my entire campus, kindergarten through 6th grade. We do it every day! It is great to do the spiraling review every two weeks. It has really helped our campus tremendously. When I walked onto the campus two years ago we were an “F” rated school. WE ARE AN “A” NOW!!

Stephanie McConnell
Hawkins Elementary
(Principal Principles)

All 6 Distinctions

We have used TEKSas Target Practice for years at our school. Last year we received all six distinctions from the state of Texas, and we directly attribute much of that success to Lone Star Learning. We remain consistent in grade levels K-5 in using the program, and our kids each year are exposed to your digital learning for reading, math, and now science. We love our Lone Star Learning here at Westside!
-Angleton ISD-Westside Elementary

100% Passing

Our school has used Lone Star Learning for over 15 years and we have had 100% passing rate on the state assessment every year. Lone Star Learning is an awesome resource.

Ms. Ramirez, Patton Springs ISD

From a “C” to an “A”

Thank you so much for putting out such a wonderful product for our teachers. This past school year, we implemented Lone Star Learning in our district, and we saw great gains with all student cohorts. As a matter of fact, preliminary reports indicate that we went from being a “C” in the School Progress category to an “A”!!!

Most sincerely and appreciatively,
Raul J. Trevino
Assistant Superintendent of Academics
Rio Hondo ISD

31% Passing to 81% Passing

Thank you for such an outstanding, wonderful educational tool! Since this was the first time my students took the STAAR test, I am comparing the first benchmark scores in October to the actual STAAR results in May. In October I had 10 students pass at the “approaches” level and on the real STAAR test I had 26 pass at “approaches” or above. Awesome improvement, I am sure from TEKSas Target Practice! We climbed from 31% passing to 81% passing!!! Thank you, thank you!
Sharon Wood, Shamrock ISD

Low-socioeconomic Success

Our student’s test scores have been impacted in a big way through the TEKSas Target Practice! District assessments have shown 20-30% average growth and we are projected to have some of the highest scores in the district on end-of year assessments. For a low-socioeconomic campus with struggling learners this has boosted our student’s confidence in themselves in a TREMENDOUS way. The students are excited to learn and show us how capable they are. This is a program we will continue to use for years to come!
- Shayla Kennard