

Foundations for Algebra Year 1 Syllabus

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Welcome to Foundations for Algebra Year 1! In this course you will develop your logical and mathematical reasoning skills along with strengthening core mathematical ideas in preparation for algebra courses. This year, you will complete guided investigations that explore and develop ideas within Study Teams, then practice them along with procedural skills in subsequent chapters. Most of the mathematics will be in real life situations that students and adults encounter in their daily activities and workplace settings. The concepts and skills that you learn in this course are used and further developed in all future math courses. Support for this class is available online at www.cpm.org.

Textbook: Foundations for Algebra Year 1 (CPM 2002)

Classroom Expectations:

Be respectful	Be on time	Be on task
Try your best	Complete all assignments	Follow the Study Team Guidelines

Materials: You need to bring the following **everyday** to class:

Notebook/Binder	Pencil	Lined paper
Textbook	Homework	

Notebook/Binder: Each student needs a 3-ring binder with the following labeled dividers:

1) Notes & Tool Kits	2) Classwork	3) Homework
4) Tests & Quizzes	5) Learning Log	6) Mathematics Portfolio

Homework:

Homework is assigned every night and contains approximately 10 questions. Homework has been carefully designed to offer you practice of past skills and to help lay a foundation for future learning. You are encouraged to use your notes, classwork, previous homework, the Internet, and study teams to help you successfully complete the assignments. Find online help at www.cpm.org. Assignments and resources will be posted online at Mr. Morgan's website www.morganmath.com.

Learning Logs:

You will reflect regularly at the end of lessons in a Learning Log. These reflections include a description of your mathematical understanding in your own words and will go into a section of your binder called "Learning Log". The Learning Logs are a very important part of developing your mathematical knowledge and can serve as a reference tool and as a wealth of resources for your Mathematics Portfolio.

Mathematics Portfolio:

You will create your Mathematics Portfolio throughout the course of this class. Your portfolio is a collection of work and reflections showing the scope of your mathematical understanding and skills. It may include your best work or work illustrating growth, teamwork, problem solving, or analysis. It may show your ability to solve large or challenging problems or your use of technology or one or more of the "Five Ways of Thinking". We will collect work to possibly include in your portfolio starting in the first week, and continue this process throughout the year until you complete your portfolio at the end of the course. Copies of work that you may want to use in your portfolio go into the section of your binder called "Mathematics Portfolio". A portfolio is a very large task—remember that it is important to gradually work on it and not wait until shortly before it is due.

Study Teams:

To meet the challenges of algebra you will be working in study teams everyday. Working in study teams means speaking up, interacting with others, explaining and sharing ideas, asking questions, and listening to what others have to say. Learning math through study team investigations is extremely advantageous- actively participating, asking questions, discussing possibilities and concepts, and explaining your understanding to others will help you understand mathematics at a deeper level than ever before! Study team members will have particular roles in their group and both the roles and groups change throughout the course. Team roles include **Facilitator**, **Team Captain**, **Recorder/Reporter**, and **Resource Manager**.

Grading: Categories and percentages are approximate and may change based on actual assignments.

10% Classwork & Team Participation	90% – 100%	A
10% Homework	80% – 89%	B
15% Projects & Presentations	70% – 79%	C
50% Tests & Quizzes	69% or below	No Credit
15% Mathematics Portfolio		

Foundations for Algebra Year 1 Course Outline

Month	Topics	Days
January/ February	Chapter 1: Algebra Rocks!- Integers and Data Interpretation Chapter 2: The Game Show- Integers and Solving Equations Chapter 3: The Pig Race- Order of Operations and More Integers	23 days
March	Chapter 4: Mrs. Poppington Sees the World- Area and Multiplication Chapter 5: The Giant 1- Ratios, Measurement, and Equivalent Fractions	16 days
April	Chapter 6: Millions and Billions- Ratio and Proportion Chapter 7: The Garcia's New House- Operations with Fractions and Decimals Chapter 8: Mars Colony- Geometry, Properties, and Equations	21 days
May	Chapter 9: Zappo Cola Containers- Circles and Cylinders Chapter 10: The Jar of Marbles- Probability, Statistics, and Interpreting Data	21 days
June	Finish any chapters Finish Portfolios Last school day of Semester 2 is on _____.	3 days