

For IRSD students in 6th, 7th, 8th, Alg I, Alg II, or Geom math courses!

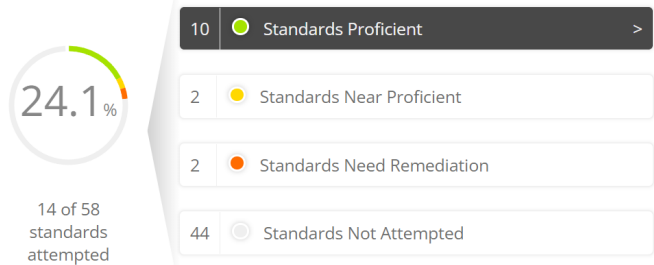


A message from the District Math Specialist

Hello Indian River families! If your child is taking any of the courses listed above, that means they will more than likely need to complete some online coursework in MATHia this year. MATHia is software that provides instruction and practice through 10-15 minute chunks of instruction and practice called workspaces. Workspaces contain extra practice on grade level material while offering tutorials, hints, practice problems and much more.

MATHia is a critical piece to our curriculum and should not be treated as an afterthought. MATHia is not from a third party company or a separate source of math instruction. The workspaces in MATHia align directly with their textbook, creating opportunities for students to preview instruction, retain knowledge, and grow as mathematicians. Therefore, students will be engaged with the textbook AND MATHia throughout the duration of the school year.

One thing you may hear from your child is that MATHia is difficult...and they are correct! MATHia is grade level content that is rigorous and standards driven. The workspaces will continue to push students until the system knows a student is proficient with a particular standard, or determines that they need remediation. Teachers will then receive detailed reports that lets them know how your child is doing on a variety of standards, ultimately informing our instruction in a way not possible before. Teachers can pinpoint exactly what standard your child needs help on.



Our goal this year is for every child to get 100% of the way through their grade level course curriculum. This is why teachers have given out MATHia progress trackers, goal sheets, or have set up due dates for completion of certain MATHia workspaces. We have had some incredible success this year with our district average being on track for completion by the end of the year, but know that some other students are struggling. That's where you can help us!!

Please review some of the tips and tricks for parents on the back of this sheet. If you have any questions at all about MATHia or math instruction, feel free to reach out to me at james.wheatley@irsd.k12.de.us. I would love to get the community more involved and start an open line of communication. Thanks for your continued support in working together to help your child be successful in mathematics class.

James wheatley
IRSD Secondary Mathematics Specialist



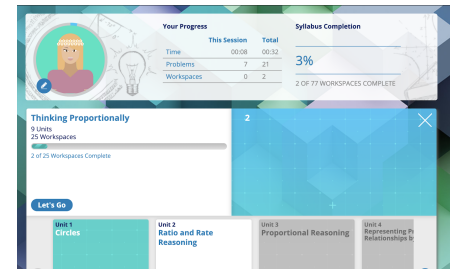


Tips and Tricks for Parents: Help us build stronger mathematicians!

01

Ask for a demonstration!

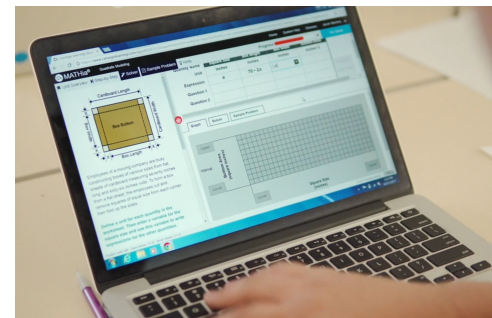
Although students are given enough time in class to complete all of MATHia by the end of the year, you can complete MATHia after school hours. Ask your child how they are doing in MATHia. Let them show you the program! Ask your child if they are on track with their progress their teacher has assigned them. On the landing page, you should be able to see their syllabus completion percentage.



02

Encourage to Persevere!

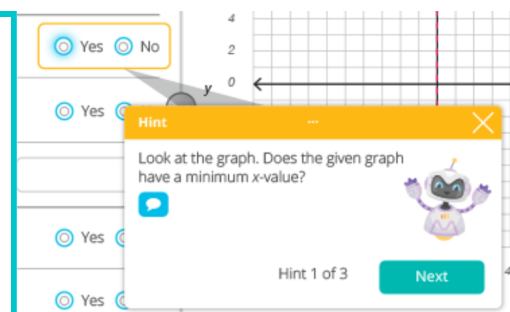
A lot of students might struggle at particular workspaces, but they must persevere in trying. When a student sits and does nothing in a workspace, they will remain there until they start trying. Even if they don't understand, the system will continue to move them forward as long as they are putting their best effort forward. Remind your child to never give up and to remain focused in class and they can make it through!



03

Hints and Built in Supports

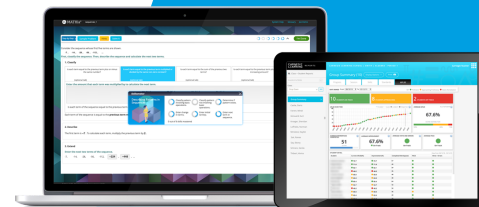
When a student answers a question incorrectly in MATHia, the system will intelligently respond with a hint that doesn't give them the answer, but helps lead them in the right direction, just like a teacher. Encourage your child to read the hints and utilize them! A lot of students skip through the hints and continue to struggle, when they could be doing a lot better if they take their time and read!



04

Working after school. Catching up or previewing.

Although we give enough time in class for MATHia, some students have been working on MATHia after school or on weekends to catch up or get ahead. We actively encourage students to work ahead of where they are in the book to preview new information before it is taught. Students that have fallen behind in class due to sickness or other reasons can also work on MATHia at home to catch right back up! Encourage your child to do some extra practice at home if they have time.



05

Consistency and Rewards

Ask your child about MATHia consistently to make sure they are making good progress in MATHia. We highly recommend a reward system at home to encourage your child to complete their required workspaces. Each secondary school has a building reward system in place. In addition to that, local businesses have donated rewards to district office to encourage students to go above and beyond. (Anyone over 25% syllabus completion in MATHia by October 30th is eligible to win a PS5, XBOX, or \$500.) It would be great if there were home rewards as well!

