

Comparison of Three Classes of Second Graders

Individual interviews were conducted in three second grade classes. The students were asked to solve $7 + 52 + 186$ without pencil and paper. Classes were heterogeneous. These interviews were conducted at the end of second grade. One teacher had taught algorithms. On the chart the information for this class is labeled "algorithms." The second teacher did not teach algorithms in the classroom but had many parents teach them at home. This class is labeled "some algorithms taught at home." The third class did not have algorithms taught in class and when parents taught them at home the teacher talked with the parents and asked them not to do this. All student answers are listed under the number of students in each class.

Algorithms	Some algorithms taught in home	No algorithms
17 students	19 students	20 students
9308		
1000		
989		
986		
938	989	
906	938	
838	810	
295	356	617
		255
		246
245 (12%)	245 (26%)	245 (45%)
200	213	243
198	213	236
30	199	235
29	133	138
29	125	
	114	

Research from Constance Kamii. Young Children Reinvent Arithmetic: Implications of Piaget's Theory, Teachers College Press, Columbia University, 2000.