Classroom-ready number talks for kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade teachers: 1,000 interactive activities and strategies that teach number sense and math facts by Nancy Hughes. Berkeley, CA: Ulysses Press, 2019. 372.7 HUG

“From activities on addition and subtraction to fractions and decimals, [this book] includes: Grade-level specific strategies; Number talk how-tos; Visual and numerical examples; Scaffolding suggestions; Common core alignments; Questions to build understanding.” – Publisher website.

Classroom-ready number talks for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade teachers: 1,000 interactive math activities that promote conceptual understanding and computational fluency by Nancy Hughes. Berkeley, CA: Ulysses Press, 2018. 372.7 HUG

“The primary goal for a number talk is to improve computational fluency (flexibility with computational methods, ability to explain and discuss a reasoning strategy, and computation with accuracy). Sharing math strategies during a number talk clarifies the student’s thinking and helps develop the language of math.” – p. 2.

Digging deeper: making number talks matter even more: grades 3-10 by Ruth Parker & Cathy Humphreys. Portsmouth, NH: Stenhouse Publishers, 2018. 372.7 PAR

“How teachers react to wrong answers and mistakes makes all the difference in mathematics class. The response can determine whether a student tunes out or delves in… Personal and accessible, this book highlights: The kinds of questions that elicit deeper thinking; Ways to navigate tricky, problematic, or just plain hard exchanges in the classroom; How to more effectively use wait time during Number Talks; The importance of creating a safe learning environment; How to nudge students to think more flexibly without directing their thinking.” – Back cover.


“Intentional talk provides teachers with a framework for planning and facilitating purposeful mathematical discussions that enrich and deepen student learning. According to Elham Kazemi and Allison Hintz, the critical first step is to identify a discussion’s goal and then understand how to structure and facilitate the conversation to meet that goal. Through detailed vignettes from both primary and upper elementary classrooms, the authors provide a window into what teachers are thinking as they lead discussions and make important pedagogical and mathematical decisions along the way.” – Back cover.

Audience: For teachers of Years K-5

Making number talks matter: developing mathematical practices and deepening understanding, grades 4-10 by Cathy Humphreys & Ruth Parker. Portland, ME: Stenhouse, 2015. 372.7 HUM

“Using insight gained from many years of doing Number Talks … Cathy and Ruth address questions to ask during Number Talks, teacher moves that turn the thinking over to students, the mathematics behind the various strategies, and ways to overcoming bumps in the road.” – Back cover.

Number talks: fractions, decimals, and percentages by Sherry Parrish & Ann Dominick. Sausalito, CA: Math Solutions, 2016. 372.7 PAR

“Chapters 1 and 2 discuss the key elements of the practice of number talks and how to establish procedures and expectations for implementation … Chapters 3, 4, and 5 concentrate on the essential understandings for reasoning with fractions, decimals, and percentages and incorporate number talks to strategically target these areas … Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 9 focus on operations with fractions … Chapter 10 addresses goals for reasoning and computing with decimals.” – p. xxxiii.

Audience: For teachers of Years 3-6

Number talks: whole number computation by Sherry Parrish. Sausalito, CA: Math Solutions, 2014. 372.7 PAR

This book “supports teachers in understanding what a classroom number talk is; how to follow students’ thinking and pose the right questions to build understanding; how to prepare for and design purposeful number talks; and how to develop grade-level-specific strategies for the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.” – Back cover.

Audience: For teachers of Years K-5