

Mathematics Textbook Reviews

Diocese of Lansing

Curriculum Institute Team



08

Series Title	Publisher	Copyright	Grade Level
Algebra I – Michigan Edition	Prentice Hall	2008	8
Algebra I – Courses 1, 2, and 3	Prentice Hall	2008	8-12
Envision Math	Scott Foresman--Addision Wesley	2009	K-6
Investigations	Scott Foresman	2008	K-5
Pre-Algebra	Glencoe-McGraw Hill	2008	7-8
Middle School Math (Courses 1,2,3)	Holt	2004	6-8
Pre-Algebra Middle School (Courses 1,2,3)	Holt	2004	6-8
Progress in Math	Sadlier-Oxford	2006	K-6
Houghton Mifflin Math	Houghton Mifflin	2007	K-5
SRA Real Math	SRA/McGraw Hill	2007	K-6
SRA Real Math (review 2)	SRA/McGraw Hill	2007	K-6
Algebra I	Glencoe-McGraw Hill	2008	8-9
Strength in Numbers	Harcourt	2009	K-6
Math Connects	Macmillan McGraw Hill	2006	K-5
Math Connects	Glencoe McGraw Hill	2009	6-8
Math Connects	Macmillan McGraw Hill	2009	PreK-5,
Saxon Math	Harcourt Achieve	2007	K-8
Math – Michigan Edition	McDougal Littell	2008	6-8
Pre-Algebra	McDougal	2008	7-8
Middle School Math	McDougal Littell	2004	6-8

Series Title: Algebra I Michigan Edition

Grade levels: 8th grade

Publisher: Prentice Hall

Copyright Date: 2008

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters		x		
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		x		
Relevant and realistic word problems			x	
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)		x		
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration			x	
Cultural inclusivity			x	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)		x		
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition				x
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cover states that content is aligned with State standards but it is not mentioned anywhere else.• Higher order thinking skills inclusion is sporadic• Too many practice problems• Extra Michigan topics are included in the back of the book• Some problems are too elaborate• On-line resources are available for students and teachers				

Series Title: Algebra I Courses 1, 2, 3**Grade levels:** 8-12**Publisher:** Prentice Hall**Copyright Date:** 2008

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment	x			
Organization of chapters	x			
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	x			
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities	x			
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	x			
Age/grade appropriate reading level	x			
Cross curricular integration		x		
Cultural inclusivity	x			
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition	x			
Comments: Review of Course 2 texts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiated instruction spelled out in teacher handbook • GLCE's and specific standards are mapped out • GLCE's are assessed • Each chapter contains between 7-10 lessons • Begins with good course one review –Chapters 1-3 • Patterns, in chapter 9 and Coordinates, in chapter 10 should logically follow or precede Equations, and Inequalities, chapter 4. Would suggest not teaching in the order they are presented. • Good mixed review at end of lessons • Test taking strategies are included 				

Series Title: Envision Math**Grade levels:** K-6**Publisher:** Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley**Copyright Date:** 2009

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment		x		
Organization of chapters	x			
Logical sequencing of chapters			x	
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	X			
Relevant and realistic word problems	X			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		X		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)		X		
Age/grade appropriate reading level		X		
Cross curricular integration		X		
Cultural inclusivity		X		
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	X			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition			x	
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher manual consists of 20 packets; a teacher manual booklet for each chapter				

Series Title: Investigations

Grade levels: K-5 (reviewed grades 3 and 5)

Publisher: Scott Foresman

Copyright Date: 2008

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment		x		
Organization of chapters	x			
Logical sequencing of chapters				x
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	x			
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	x			
Age/grade appropriate reading level				x
Cross curricular integration	x			
Cultural inclusivity	x			
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition				
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This series is designed for both student and teacher learning; it requires teacher professional development throughout.• This improves teaching but also requires a substantial commitment on the school's part.• This series follows the latest research on learning mathematics and is solid reform curriculum				

Series Title: Pre-Algebra

Grade levels: Grades 7 and 8

Publisher: Glencoe-McGraw - Hill

Copyright Date: 2008

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters			x	
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		x	x	
Relevant and realistic word problems		x		
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x	x	
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)			x	
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration			x	
Cultural inclusivity			x	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)				x
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition			x	
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No alignment to Michigan GLCE's • Chapters lengthy • Practice opportunities vary by chapter • Teacher's Edition pages are too busy. Many answers found in other places • Pages are visually boring/dull to look at. 				

Series Title: Middle School Math (Course 1,2, and 3)

Grade levels: 6, 7, and 8th grades

Publisher: Holt

Copyright Date: 2004

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters		x		
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		x	x	
Relevant and realistic word problems			x	
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)			x	
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration		x	x	
Cultural inclusivity		x	x	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)		x		
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition	x			
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michigan alignment noted but would need supplementing • Word problems were minimal • Differentiated instruction was weak. Same types of examples were repeated • On-line resources for students were available • Graphing calculator labs with step by step instructions and screen shot were good • Practice problems were adequate but some lack rigor • Written explanations were weak however, numerous math problem examples were offered • Books were visually appealing 				

Series Title: Pre-Algebra – Middle School Course 1,2, and 3

Grade levels: 6-8

Publisher: Holt

Copyright Date: 2004

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment	x			
Organization of chapters	x			
Logical sequencing of chapters	x			
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		x		
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	x			
Age/grade appropriate reading level	x			
Cross curricular integration		x		
Cultural inclusivity		x		
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition	x			
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed specifically Middle School Math course 3• Heavy Geometry and Probability• Spiral reviews of prior knowledge• Mid-chapter quiz• Cross curricular content is simply a word problem at the end of the homework• Good extra practice at the end of the book• Excellent additional resources				

Series Title: Progress in Math

Grade levels: K-6

Publisher: Sadlier-Oxford

Copyright Date: 2006

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment	x			
Organization of chapters	x			
Logical sequencing of chapters	x			
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	x			
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities	x			
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	x			
Age/grade appropriate reading level	x			
Cross curricular integration	x			
Cultural inclusivity	x			
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition	x			
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online, CD and manipulatives available• Tex, diagrams, and layout of pages easy to follow for both students and teacher.				

Series Title: Houghton Mifflin Math

Grade levels: K-5

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin

Copyright Date: 2007

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment		x		
Organization of chapters		x		
Logical sequencing of chapters	x			
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	x			
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	x			
Age/grade appropriate reading level	x			
Cross curricular integration		x		
Cultural inclusivity		x		
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition	x			
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each chapter has Guided Practice, Lesson Practice and Extra Practice• Supplements include re-teaching, practice, enrichment and problem solving.				

Series Title: SRA Real Math

Grade levels: K-6

Publisher: SRA/McGraw-Hill

Copyright Date: 2007

(Review of 5th grade book)

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters		x		
Logical sequencing of chapters	x			
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	x			
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	x			
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration	x			
Cultural inclusivity	x			
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition		x		

Comments:

- Practice problems are in a separate book
- Basic manipulatives are available
- Limited practice problems in the text, but separate workbook is available
- Workbook has higher level thinking skills and relevant problems
- Content meets NCTM 5th grade standards
- Material covers all GLCE's
- Oral assessments included as well as assessment record forms
- Measurement units are weak
- Some explanations and definitions are vague or unclear
- Coverage of many of the GLCE's is very brief and superficial

Series Title: SRA Real Math (Second Review)

Grade levels: K-6th

Publisher: SRA/McGraw-Hill

Copyright Date: 2007

(Review of 6th grade book)

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment		X		
Organization of chapters		X		
Logical sequencing of chapters		X		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		X		
Relevant and realistic word problems	X			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		X		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	X			
Age/grade appropriate reading level	X			
Cross curricular integration	X			
Cultural inclusivity		X		
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)				X
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition	X			

Comments:

- Chapters seem long with many containing 12-16 lessons
- This is not an aesthetically pleasing book
- Much too wordy
- Not a 'great' connection explained between fractions, decimals and percents
- Should have an entire chapter on Ratios and Proportions
- Heavy social science curricular integration
- Differentiated instruction includes engaging games.
- Too many overall review lessons. Would be better balanced with more practice in core lesson rather than whole lessons dedicated to review of prior knowledge and skills.

Series Title: Algebra I

Grade levels: 8th/9th grades

Publisher: Glencoe-McGraw - Hill

Copyright Date: 2008

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters			x	
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		x	x	
Relevant and realistic word problems		x		
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x	x	
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)			x	
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration			x	
Cultural inclusivity			x	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)				x
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition			x	

Comments:

- No alignment to Michigan GLCE's
- Chapters lengthy
- Practice opportunities vary by chapter
- Teacher's Edition pages are too busy. Many answers found in other places
- Pages are visually boring/dull to look at.

Series Title: Strength in Numbers

Grade levels: K-6

Publisher: Harcourt Schools Publishers

Copyright Date: 2009

(Review of 5th grade text)

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment	x			
Organization of chapters	x			
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	x			
Relevant and realistic word problems				Not measured
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities	X			
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	X			
Age/grade appropriate reading level	X			
Cross curricular integration	X			
Cultural inclusivity	X			
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	X			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition		x		
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade level was not clearly marked on or in book • Electronic format available • 5th grade began algebra in chapter 4 (px12, 7c+8) • Data and Probability introduced early • Multiple volumes of Teacher's Edition 				

Series Title: Math Connects

Grade levels: K-5

Publisher: Macmillan McGraw-Hill

Copyright Date: 2006

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters		x	x	
Logical sequencing of chapters		x	x	
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		x		
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)		x		
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration			x	
Cultural inclusivity		x		
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition		x		
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplemental materials include re-teaching, skills practice, hands-on activity tools, and resources 				

Series Title: Math Connects (Courses 1,2 & 3)

Grade levels: 6, 7, and 8

Publisher: Glencoe McGraw-Hill

Copyright Date: 2009

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters		x		
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills			x	
Relevant and realistic word problems		x		
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		x	x	
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)			x	
Age/grade appropriate reading level			x	
Cross curricular integration			x	
Cultural inclusivity			x	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)		x		
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition				x
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pages are extremely wordy and difficult for students to read or follow examples• Pages are not aesthetically pleasing				

Series Title: Math Connects

Grade levels: PreK-5, Courses 1, 2, and 3, Pre-algebra, Algebra 1 and Geometry

Publisher: McMillan McGraw-Hill

Copyright Date: 2009

(Review of Grade 3 texts)

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment		x		
Organization of chapters		x		
Logical sequencing of chapters			x	
Includes development of higher order thinking skills		x		
Relevant and realistic word problems		x		
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities	x			
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)		x		
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration		x		
Cultural inclusivity			x	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	x			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition		x		
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pages are extremely busy• Differentiation exists for readiness levels in the practice problems• The format for the Teacher Edition and the student textbook is quite busy and overwhelming• Instruction includes some modeling by students, but little opportunity for student interaction				

Series Title: Saxon Math**Grade levels:** K-8**Publisher:** Harcourt Achieve**Copyright Date:** 2007

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment		X		
Organization of chapters			X	
Logical sequencing of chapters				Not rated
Includes development of higher order thinking skills			X	
Relevant and realistic word problems		X		
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities	X			
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)		X		
Age/grade appropriate reading level		x		
Cross curricular integration			X	
Cultural inclusivity			X	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)			x	
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition		x		
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Saxon math program is well designed for a remedial math course or for special needs students. • Early elementary program is based on structured introduction to concepts, repetition and consistency • Late elementary and middle school editions are flexible enough to be used at several grade levels • Chapters are organized in a manner that lends itself well to remediation or review of specific skills 				

Series Title: Math (Michigan Edition)

Grade levels: 6, 7, and 8

Publisher: McDougal Littell

Copyright Date: 2008

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment		X		
Organization of chapters	X			
Logical sequencing of chapters	X			
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	X			
Relevant and realistic word problems	X			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities	X			
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)		X		
Age/grade appropriate reading level		X		
Cross curricular integration				Not rated
Cultural inclusivity	X			
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)	X			
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition	X			
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Even though the book is labeled "Michigan" edition it is weak on inclusion of several key objectives in Algebra, Geometry and Numbers and Operations.• Includes MEAP practice questions• Additional lesson included in back of book to cover Michigan expectations• Great chapter reviews and summary				

Series Title: Pre-algebra**Grade levels:** 7-8th**Publisher:** McDougal**Copyright Date:** 2008

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			x	
Organization of chapters		x		
Logical sequencing of chapters		x		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills	x			
Relevant and realistic word problems	x			
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities				Not rated
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)	x			
Age/grade appropriate reading level	x			
Cross curricular integration	x			
Cultural inclusivity	x			
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)		x		
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition		x		

Comments:

- No evidence of alignment with Michigan GLCE's
- Several varied approaches to differentiated instruction
- Contains more word problems than other publishers
- Attempts made to demonstrate cultural diversity through story problems
- Supplementary materials include on-line resources for both students and teachers
- Did not include any instruction or practice for factoring quadratics

Series Title: Middle School Math (Courses 1, 2, & 3)**Grade levels:** 6, 7, and 8**Publisher:** McDougal Littell**Copyright Date:** 2004

Qualities	Strong	Acceptable	Weak	Not applicable
Grade level content expectations alignment			X	
Organization of chapters		X		
Logical sequencing of chapters		X		
Includes development of higher order thinking skills			X	
Relevant and realistic word problems			X	
Appropriate amount of practice opportunities		X		
Differentiated instruction (e.g., projects, review, enrichment)			X	
Age/grade appropriate reading level		X		
Cross curricular integration				Not rated
Cultural inclusivity			X	
Additional resources available (e.g., CDs, on line, manipulatives)		X		
Quality and ease of use of teacher's edition				X
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No evidence of alignment to Michigan GLCE's • On-line resources for students and teachers • Practice problems are weak • Lots of problems to choose from—possibly too many • Pages look kid friendly and may be condescending for 7th and 8th grade students 				