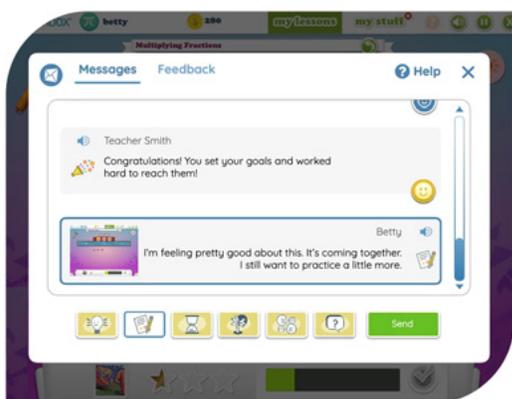# DreamBox Ensures Math Engagement in Remote Learning

EDUCATOR EDITION

One of the most powerful ways to guarantee learning is to ensure engagement. Teachers have grappled with this since the beginning of time: what strategies are most effective? How can I pique student interest? What is the best approach to create those ah-ha moments? With many schools shifting to remote learning this year, most engagement strategies have been flipped upside down. Enter online learning — and a need for appealing online programs. Our DreamBox Math program was built by educators with student engagement top of mind.

In EdWeek Market Brief's survey (fall 2020), nearly 2,000 district administrators, principals and teachers were asked what product features are very successful at promoting student engagement in remote learning[1]. Of all educators, 63% said game-based lessons were one of the most engaging features for kids. As students play on DreamBox, they are immersed in a world where learning is fun — leveling up from one interactive game to the next and collecting data for their teachers as they play.

Best Practices for Engagement: Woven Throughout the DreamBox Experience

Connection: Fostering positive student-teacher relationships results in stronger engagement and attendance[2]. Students need to know their teacher is available to provide encouragement, especially with distance learning. The DreamBox Messaging tool allows for two-way, customized communication between educators and students. Educators can send notes of encouragement or assignment reminders. To best support all learners, students using DreamBox in Spanish will automatically see all prewritten messages in Spanish, and students with reading difficulties can hear messages read aloud.

Personalization for a productive struggle: Driven by Intelligent Adaptive Learning™ technology, DreamBox adjusts in-the-moment based on how students solve problems. Meeting students at their unique level, DreamBox encourages productive struggle through individualized instruction that ensures both growth and engagement.

1. https://marketbrief.edweek.org/exclusive-data/product-features-engage-students-covid-19/

2. Schoology's: Top Ten Engagement Strategies

Students track their own progress by checking the weekly goal tracker to keep up on how many lessons they've completed.

Detailed data: Check in on student usage and identify gaps in understanding. The DreamBox Insight Dashboard allows educators to identify which students are logging in, down to the day. The information assists in attendance efforts – kids can't engage if they aren't present. The dashboard also collects and sorts student data by state standards, so educators see progress and growth as well as gaps in understanding. This support helps teachers plan for student engagement in the classroom and form small groups.

Goal setting & celebrations: Students track their own progress by checking the weekly goal tracker to keep up on how many lessons they've completed, we recommend five lessons per week for the maximum DreamBox impact. Students can also can select which lessons to work on within the standards they are focusing on, so they're invested and active in their learning. They continually earn badges and coins for perseverance, receiving feedback as they play.

Student-driven experience: Students are in the driver's seat as they choose which lessons to complete. When students take ownership of their learning, through the power of choice, they're more motivated and engaged in learning.

WE ASKED THE EXPERTS — TEACHERS THEMSELVES

We asked our **DreamBox Nation** community of educators how they work to drive engagement through remote learning. From managing Zoom chats to encouraging student-logins, there's a lot to consider. Here's what they had to say:

"I mail home a DreamBox certificate by snail mail and put confetti inside the envelopes. I write down how many lessons they complete each week. Kids love getting mail!"
— **Bianca, Teacher**

"Keeping lessons short and meaningful is very important. I keep the chat turned off during instruction and I turn it back on when I want students to ask questions. I've found this helps to keep students focused on the lesson and not the chat thread."
— **Courtney, Math Coach**

"Brain breaks throughout the day!"
— **Kailyn, Kindergarten Teacher**

"I think kids look forward to knowing the routine of our time in DreamBox. They know what to do and are able to be self-sufficient. It works well!"
— **Beth, Math Interventionist**

"When a student has mastered a skill, I allow them to teach the class what he/she has learned. This gives me an opportunity to see the depth of their understanding. The student gets the opportunity to shine!"
— **Jessica, Teacher**

"I am making a big deal of the arcade and only allowing them to go there on Friday's when they earn their coins throughout the week."
— **Jamie, Teacher**

For additional information, visit **DreamBox.com** and check out our **Social Emotional Learning** resource. Join our educator community on social media or **DreamBox Nation** to connect with educators just like you.

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