

Teaching mathematics to high school students: Which methods work best?

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Abstract

The ways in which mathematics is taught to students can have profound effects on their achievements later in life, as well as their creativity, empathy, and their understanding of the world around them (Tok et al., 2015; Ansari, n.d.; Antonsen 2016). Therefore, it is crucial that teachers educate their students so that they learn and retain as much information as possible while still maintaining a positive attitude towards mathematics. However, there has been much debate over which methods should be used in math education (Ansari, n.d.). The research conducted for this paper surveyed students across the state to analyze the types of teaching taught in classroom in comparison to the attitudes and anxiety levels students have towards mathematics. The original hypothesis claimed that creative teaching methods would have the best effects for high school students, and though my results partially supported that claim, they also suggested that teaching methods should not be approached as if all highschool-aged kids were the same, but rather they should be individualized to fit the needs of each student.