

**Title of Session:** Math Transformers - Airplanes

**Moderator:** Patricia Chen

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Room: Math Transformers Group

**BjB:** I love the airplane animated gif!

**PatriciaCh:** I have a similar one on my web site

**PatriciaCh:** actually I had one with a paper airplane flying over the teacher

**BjB:** I'm going to announce, although doesn't seem to be much of a crowd logged in.

**BjB** . o O ( but I want to hear about paper airplanes! )

**PatriciaCh:** it is a strange time of year

**PatriciaCh:** we have finals right now

**BjB** nods...lot of schools at term change

**JeffC** joined the room.

**JeffC** waves

**PatriciaCh:** hello -- Happy New Year

**JeffC:** u2

**BjB** waves to Jeff

**PatriciaCh:** how are you doing Jeff

**JeffC:** doing ok... no work to speak of as a sub though... although I did sub today at the alternative school.

**PatriciaCh:** how was that

**JeffC:** fine

**JeffC:** showed the kids Shmoop

**PatriciaCh:** what is that?

**JeffC:** <http://www.shmoop.com> ...analysis site like sparknotes but much better

**JeffC:** mostly lit and history

**SusanR** joined the room.

**SusanR:** hi Patricia

**SusanR:** love the topic

**BjB:** Hi, Sue. I knew the paper airplane topic would bring you in!

**PatriciaCh:** hello how are you

**BjB:** I don't think so, Pat

**PatriciaCh:** ok .. let start then

**PatriciaCh:** where do you all want to begin

**JeffC:** in the middle

**SusanR:** what kid does not love making airplanes under their desk when you are teaching

**BjB** rolls her eyes at Jeff

**PatriciaCh:** well ...that is true ...especially after you pass back the papers

**SusanR:** ha ha

**PatriciaCh:** when I teach symmetry ... I introduced this to the students

**PatriciaCh:** depending the age of the students ...you can make it simple ... or scaffold it to a more complex assignment ...using a protractor and ruler ...

**PatriciaCh:** and if you permit the students to fly it ... they can measure the distance as well

**PatriciaCh:** comments?

**SusanR:** neat

**PatriciaCh:** the students really get a kick out of this ...because paper airplanes are frowned on

**JeffC:** lotsa variables regarding flying... of course there are different models... I'm looking at the Airplane webquest now (ok... I didn't start in the middle... more towards the end)

**PatriciaCh:** I like to stick to the simple triangular ones ...but there are tons of different types ...

**JeffC:** not to mention putting paper clips on the front, etc.

**PatriciaCh:** with the older students ...they can pick one ..you can have contests ... do percentages

**SusanR:** Will you excuse me, I have to step out for awhile and pick up a prescription for my sore throat before the pharmacy closes

**SusanR:** regrets of course

**PatriciaCh:** also ..with the triangular ones ...if you fold the nose with a perfect point ... and aim it correctly ...it will stick on certain ceilings

**PatriciaCh:** Susan - feel better

**SusanR:** thank you ..

**SusanR:** hope to be back later

**SadyGst4** joined the room.

**PatriciaCh:** hello ..welcome

**BjB:** Hi, Sady

**BjB:** glad you could join the discussion.

**SadyGst4:** hi

**BjB:** we're having fun talking about paper airplanes

**PatriciaCh:** we were discussing ..using paper airplanes to teach symmetry and measurements

**BjB:** your little ones would love that too, I'll bet, Sady

**PatriciaCh:** I teach middle school ...paper airplanes are a hit with them

**SadyGst4:** Yes, I'm sure my kids would like it if we took the time to make them one day and look at the lines the folds make

**PatriciaCh:** I scaffold the lesson according to the students ability

**SadyGst4:** we could also experiment with different size paper and see how far they go

**PatriciaCh:** you can also look at the different triangles as well

**PatriciaCh:** Sady ..that is perfect

**SadyGst4:** good idea

**PatriciaCh:** As Jeff pointed out ...there are different types ...some of more complex

**JeffC:** look at the Featured links Sady

**PatriciaCh:** you can ask the students to look at the different types ...make a prediction ...which one will fly the furthest (sp?)

**JeffC:** I'll put them into chat for the transcript (if you click links in chat, Sady, be sure to hold down the Ctrl key or else your popup blocker will log you out):

**JeffC:** <http://teacher.scholastic.com/paperairplane/>

**SadyGst4:** ok I will check them out

**JeffC:** that's the first... and yup... paper clips are a must for top flight airplanes... I'm wondering how you could get a uniform throw though!

**JeffC:** [http://teams.lacoe.edu/documentation/projects/math/airplane\\_sites.html](http://teams.lacoe.edu/documentation/projects/math/airplane_sites.html)

**JeffC:** here's another: [http://teams.lacoe.edu/documentation/projects/math/airplane\\_sites.html](http://teams.lacoe.edu/documentation/projects/math/airplane_sites.html)

**SadyGst4:** I am going to look at the webquest one

**JeffC:** you need to accept popups from Tapped In or hold the Ctrl key down when clicking in chat...

**PatriciaCh:** you can do so much with this concept

**JeffC:** but you should be safe just clicking the Featured links in the top frame.

**SadyGst4:** I did... and it worked, but then it cleared the chat

**JeffC:** <http://www.10paperairplanes.com/>

**SadyGst4:** that's what I will do

**JeffC:** this one is the airplane webquest:  
<http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~cb338090/Web%20Quest/lesson.htm>

**JeffC:** and the last one is a .pdf lesson plan:

<http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-090710-032.pdf>

**BjB:** you can come back to this room later to look at the featured links that Pat has provided, Sady

**JeffC:** all these are from Patricia... I'm going to make shorter versions of the above.

**SadyGst4:** I am going to have to go now, but I plan to come back as a guest another day to do some more exploring. This has been a cool experience

**PatriciaCh:** You will be a big hit with your students

**SadyGst4:** thanks again

**PatriciaCh:** it is always fun to try to teach math a different way ... the students will remember the concepts better

**BjB** agrees

**PatriciaCh:** I wish my math classes were like this

**BjB:** maybe you could try to have them online?

**BjB:** this is from the current edchat discussion: the problem is when students have been 'spoonfed' for years - then you want them to make choices, be self directed - very hard

**JeffC:** I created <http://snurl.com/airplane1> <http://snurl.com/airplane3> up to <http://snurl.com/airplane6> ... <http://snurl.com/airplane2> was already taken... for the movie sequel... but anyways all of the above links now have shortcuts.

**BjB:** thanks, Jeff

**PatriciaCh:** thanks ...

**PatriciaCh:** yes it is ... the poor kiddies cannot think ..and it gets worse when they get to college

**SusanR:** I am back

**BjB** nods to Pat

**PatriciaCh:** we have a virtual school ... but is a lot more work

**SusanR:** and reviewing the transcript

**SusanR:** and listening

**PatriciaCh:** as you said ....most are not self-directed ...so online teachers has to call home constantly

**PatriciaCh:** There is no real answer...:(

**BjB:** where do you think intervention should start? Kindergarten? 3rd grade?

**PatriciaCh:** When homework is assigned ...

**PatriciaCh:** parents tell the kids to say ..I don't get it ... when they don't have time to finish work ...

**PatriciaCh:** because they were at soccer practice or whatever

**PatriciaCh:** the best is .... when a child is absent ...parents assume the child doesn't have to make up the work

**BjB:** yikes! That doesn't benefit the teacher or the kid

**BjB:** does your school have a web page?

**PatriciaCh:** I know ...but if the child is conditioned to do this ...

**BjB:** each teacher should have their own webpage linked from the school's page...

**BjB:** and the parents should be aware that assignments, etc. will be posted

**PatriciaCh:** yes .. my homework is posted on my page ,...the online grade book ...as well as a hard copy in the classroom .... this is 8th grade ... the usual excuse ...the teacher didn't tell me

**SusanR:** 8th grade ..soo challenging in many ways

**BjB:** 8th grade!?

**PatriciaCh:** yes

**PatriciaCh:** the sad part is ...many of my colleagues do not collect homework .... they make it a completion grade

**SusanR:** Can I see you class web page please?

**PatriciaCh:** they walk up and down aisles ... and note down if a student do not have the homework

**PatriciaCh:** <http://homs.sbmc.org/>

**PatriciaCh:** click on staff ...go down to the 8th grade ..Pat Chen

**SusanR:** o O ( I was in a grade 8 classroom where the homework was being covered and reviewed and only 1/3 of the class had done the homework .. of course this was at the end of the school year )

**PatriciaCh:** you should see dancing penguins

**PatriciaCh:** I collect homework as well as grade for accuracy on a sliding scale ...this forces the students to really do the homework and learn the material

**PatriciaCh:** I do go over the problems first ...I expect the students to correct their own paper as well

**BjB:** yeesh...you certainly make it all clear enough!

**BjB:** and I assume the parents are aware of the webpage?

**PatriciaCh:** yes ...and so are the students

**PatriciaCh:** spoonfed and hand holding

**BjB:** sighs deeply

**PatriciaCh:** second chances ...third chances ..etc

**PatriciaCh:** everyone has accommodations ...but no real accountability

**PatriciaCh:** I don't what you all do by you .... but this is Florida

**PatriciaCh:** well ..I need to go ..good night everyone

**BjB:** Thanks, Pat.

**BjB:** See you next month when things will be closer to Spring!

**SusanR:** Thanks Pat

**SusanR:** Spring???

**BjB:** closer ;-)

**PatriciaCh:** yes closer ...it has been very cold down here ....

**PatriciaCh:** our schools are not equipped for 30 degree weather

**BjB:** at least no earthquakes or hurricanes!

**PatriciaCh:** yes ... which is good

**PatriciaCh:** I have to think of what to do for next month ...

**BjB:** yep...we started the discussion counting our blessings

**BjB** hugs Pat. Take care

**PatriciaCh:** this is quite true ..be thankful for what we have

**SusanR:** Good nite ..thanks for sharing and caring

**PatriciaCh:** Games or quilting

**BjB:** games

**PatriciaCh:** what do you think BJ

**SusanR:** games

**PatriciaCh:** you are so fast

**SusanR:** games

**PatriciaCh:** Let the games begin ...LOL

**BjB:** unanimous ....except for Jeff

**BjB** pokes Jeff

**SusanR:** bye

**PatriciaCh:** he is making the airplane

**PatriciaCh:** good night

**BjB** chuckles...undoubtedly!

**PatriciaCh:** yup