



## Hello and Welcome to Think Through Math!

All of us at Think Through Math are so excited that your students will be using TTM this year! We know that TTM is an amazing program that will really help your students make tremendous progress in their mathematical understanding while gaining confidence in their mathematical abilities.

This guide is designed to work in conjunction with the TTM Student Launch Video found on the Help tab of your Think Through Math teacher account. This video will help make sure that your students get off to the best start possible by providing them with a demonstration of how TTM works, along with tips and strategies for getting the most out of the program.

### Before showing the video to your students:

1. Watch the video once all the way through to prepare yourself for the “stop and talk” points
  - Schedule a time where you will have students for 45-60 minutes.
  - The video will take about 30 minutes and it’s ideal to have students log onto their TTM homepage immediately afterwards so they can get started right away.
  - If necessary, you can also split this into two sections, one where you watch the video and another to get started.
2. Prepare students’ TTM journals and have them ready to hand out.
  - A guide for journaling strategies and suggestions is available on the **Help** tab of your teacher page. Simply scroll down to the Resources area and click the *Show Resources* link next to the Math Resources section.
  - Expectations for journal use should be set and you should be ready to talk to students about your requirements.
    - TTM recommends having students show their work on the pre- and post-quiz.
    - TTM recommends you collect the journals at least once a week for accountability purposes.
  - Print out Start Cards (usernames and passwords) and glue one copy onto each TTM journal.
3. Familiarize yourself with the Classroom Motivation Goals
  - From the teacher page, click the **Motivation** tab and then select the Classroom Goals link. Then select the Manage Classroom Goals link.
  - You may want to write all the options on the whiteboard as you will use this list after the video to have your class select toward which goal they want to work.



## TTM Student Kickoff: Teacher Outline

### During the video:

There are a couple of key “stop and talk” points that you’ll want to prepare for. They are:

1. Why do we do math?
  - Pause the video at the *1 minute mark*. Then talk for just for a minute or two at the prompt to have a discussion about how students use math in daily life. Here are some possible suggestions to help you out.
    - Cooking
    - Playing pool
    - Grocery store
2. Using a Math Journal
  - Pause the video at the *14 minute mark*. At the prompt discuss your journaling requirements. Please hand out the TTM journals and instruct students on which activities you would like them to show their work.
    - We recommend instructing students to write title of the TTM lesson and then, at a minimum, show their work on their pre-quiz and post-quiz activities.
    - Journaling is a great way to make sure students are being thoughtful in their work and will also model appropriate use of technology when taking their state tests.
    - Be mindful of how much extra work journaling may require, but have students do enough to clearly show what they are doing mathematically and what common misconceptions they may be experiencing.

### After the Video:

1. If you are able, allow students to log in and spend 5 – 10 minutes exploring their student page. Encourage students to check out:
  - the **Motivation** tab to get the details on the latest TTM contest
  - the **Badges** tab to see all the badges there are to earn
  - the **Redeem** tab to see the charity programs they can donate to and also to play around with designing their ideal avatar
    - This allows students to set goals based on how many points they will need to earn.
2. Before students click the Start button, get their attention and remind them of the following:
  - They will be taking the placement test first. There is no help here as the program is trying to see where they are. They should do their best but know that they will see some tough problems.
  - Your journaling expectations need to be followed.
  - They can earn more points by taking their time than by hurrying through and guessing.