



Central Middle School
Course: 8th grade
Mathematics
September 2014

Mrs. Sepe's Overview of the ISN

What is an ISN?

You are a mathematician. Mathematicians use notebooks and journals to record data, illustrations, charts, graphs, and their thinking. You can also use it to record your questions and ideas. Interactive Notebooks are like a personalized textbook that **YOU** create!

They help you to keep your notes organized and easy to access. They also act as a portfolio to showcase everything you've learned in math class. Your Math notebook will be used very frequently, so make sure it is in class **EVERY** day. If you do not have your notebook, take notes on a separate piece of paper and then transfer the notes in your notebook. We will follow guidelines when using our notebooks to make them informative and interesting. Your notebook should reflect *your* experiences, *your* thinking and *your* creativity, but it should also be easily understood by others.

What's the Point?

The purpose of the IN is to help you learn and remember important mathematical concepts. The interactive part is the use of the **LEFT** side of the Notebook to react, reflect, organize and interpret what is on the **RIGHT** side!

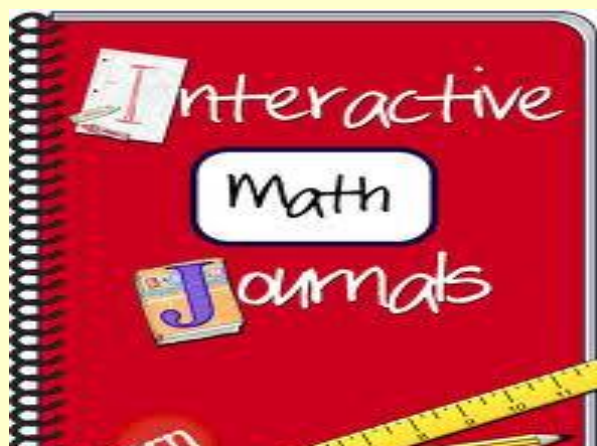
How Does an IN Work?

The IN is set up with a left-side/right-side orientation. The right side is for **input**, or information that is given to you by Mrs. Sepe, such as class notes, vocabulary, handouts, graphic organizers, etc. The left side is for **output**, this is where you process what you have learned, such as homework assignments, reflections, exit ticket problems, or higher order thinking questions.

What supplies to I need?

To make your IN, you'll need the following materials listed below. We will be setting up our interactive notebooks during the first week of school.

- Marble Composition pad (college ruled)
- At least 3 Pencils
- 1 red pen
- Erasers
- Glue sticks/tape
- Colored pencils
- Highlighters
- 1 pair of small scissors



How will I be graded?

You should have all items (assignments, class work, notes, etc.) that the Table of Contents has listed even for the days when you were absent. You will have periodic (weekly or biweekly) "IN" Checks" and your notebook will be collected at the end of each marking period and scored based on the rubric provided. A significant part of your final grade is based on the notebook!

What happens if I am absent?

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to collect the missing handouts, etc. from the "While you were out" station in my classroom. You should also check in with a trusted friend to copy any notes. Make sure to put items on the correct pages and record assignments in the table of contents. There is a teacher copy of the IN available for you to check with if you are unsure of how yours should look.

What if I lose my Interactive Notebook?

Let me know right away!

Do not quit working on assignments! You can always tape /attach papers inside your notebook if it is found afterward. Since a portion of your final grade for this class is based on your interactive notebook, your grade will suffer if you do not make up the work. You are welcome to stay after school or during lunch to rebuild the IN with my help.



Parents/Guardians

How do I know what my Child is doing in Math?

We all know that asking a middle school student what he or she is doing in school will mostly like earn you the vague answer of "I dunno...stuff." It is my hope that the Interactive Notebook will serve not only as a tool to help your child become a more successful student, but also as a tool for you, the Parent/Guardian to learn about what your child is doing in math class.

I encourage you to check with your child from time to time and to ask to see his or her Interactive Notebook and start a conversation about the math concepts being taught in class.

I hope this helps clarify the purpose of the Interactive Notebook (IN) Please feel free to contact me with any questions as the year progresses.

STUDENT: I understand the purpose of the Interactive Notebook and will try to do my best to keep; my notebook up-to-date and complete. If I fall behind I will meet with Mrs. Sepe during Guide or before/after school to get caught up.
NAME(Print)_____

SIGNED:_____

DATE:_____

PARENT/GUARDIAN: I have read the above information. I understand the purpose and requirements of the Interactive Notebook.
NAME:(Print)_____

SIGNED:_____

DATE:_____