

Math Rules! 1st -2nd

By Barbara VandeCreek

Math Rules is to be utilized as an enrichment book along with the regular classroom text. The math concepts that are covered follow our state's math standards. The book is divided into 2 main parts- 1st grade has 6 challenge questions per week, while 2nd grade has 8. The problems are well written and easy to understand by the student. The illustrations are simple and clear. There are 25 weekly lessons for each grade level. Each weekly set of lessons may be completed by the student working alone, working with a partner, or working in a group. One to four stars are placed in the border of each problem to denote the difficulty of the problem with four stars being the most challenging. There are varied mixtures of mathematical problems for each week. Ms. VandeCreek even includes the number systems from ancient Babylon and the Mayans. Many of the answers can be obtained by working the problem in different ways-something I stress to my students. Of course there is a handy answer key in the back of the book.

I think Math Rules will be quite user friendly. In the past, I've had to find problems from the 3rd grade textbook and other books to enrich my students. I can already see how I can utilize this book in my classroom next fall. Gifted and high achieving students love a challenge and I think this book will live up to its name!!

M. Cunningham