

Journal Assignment 2 – Due Monday, May 10, 2010 by 4:30 pm

Article: Mack, N. (2007). Gaining insights into children's geometric knowledge. *Teaching Children Mathematics*, 14(4), 238 – 245.

For this journal assignment, you can choose from the following two options:

Option 1: The author asks three questions at the beginning of the article. I would like you to focus on the second question: *What should third graders learn about geometry?*

To answer this question, I would like you to look at the NCTM website (<http://www.nctm.org/standards/content.aspx?id=314>) and ODE website (go to <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=1148> and click on (K-8) standards). What do you find on those websites that can answer this question about what third graders should learn about geometry? Describe what these organizations recommend for third grade students in learning geometry.

Then choose two subjects/topics/concepts and explain how you would teach those concepts to students in a way that supports the recommendations of NCTM and ODE.

Option 2: The author describes three levels of geometric thinking (visual, descriptive, and informal deductive). She also describes an activity of using the book *The Greedy Triangle* and cards with shapes on them to understand the students' levels of thinking about geometry.

For this option, create an activity that you think would lead students through these three levels of geometric thinking. You can use the shapes that the author gave on the template sheet and you can use the book *The Greedy Triangle*, but your activity must be sufficiently different from the author's activity.

For each of these options, please write between 800 and 1000 words, typed, double-spaced. You can include diagrams in your work. Be sure to cite the appropriate resources when quoting information from websites or books.