

THE CURIOSITY PATH

4 Elements that help you spark curiosity in math class

1

Withholding Information

Withholding information is the key to creating a curious moment. When we give students all of the information upfront, we suck out ALL of the opportunity for curiosity. Hold back or cover up the necessary information in a math problem. Reveal it slowly or when students demand it.

2

Anticipation

By withholding information we create ANTICIPATION. When we leave students with an opportunity to anticipate where this problem is going, we are persuading our students to come along with us on a math learning journey. If we can effectively bring students down the curiosity path with us each and every day, we will have created math moments that matter and last in their memories.

3

Notice & Wonder

This is where we as the author of this math moment can value the creativity and thinking of our students to remove some of the invisible academic barriers that may exist between one student and another. This means that students are sharing anything and everything they notice and wonder without judgement from peers or the teacher in order to create that positive classroom culture necessary for students to learn each and every day. From the noticings and wonderings that can be mathematized, the teacher will use their facilitation skills to land on some questions that can be connected to the predetermined learning goal for the day.

4

Estimation

Just like in the notice and wonder stage, every student voice matters and they are given an opportunity to continue developing their adaptive reasoning skills as they conjecture, justify and articulate their predictions and perspective.

