

Tech Tool 1

What: Prodigy

Web address: www.prodigygame.com

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Grade level(s): 5th Grade at Pinewood Elementary

Content area(s): During any Math period .

Abstract: Prodigy is an online math game that can be accessed on all devices. This resource is free and easy to create an account on. As an instructor/teacher, one can create his/her own account and then create a class. The website gives you a class code and then when students sign in for the first time, they use the class code and create their own usernames and passwords. Once all students sign in, the teacher has access to all of the student's account information and scoring results. Prodigy allows for teachers to set benchmarks for students to achieve. Prodigy is set up for students like a game. The more questions the students get correct, the more points and games the students have access to. This tool is great because teachers are able to set grade levels, common core standards, and even give tests/assessments based on students on level and skill work. If a student is above or below grade level, the teacher can assign tasks to that skill level. This allows for intense differentiation.

Personal Experience: I had never heard of Prodigy until I began working at Pinewood Elementary this year. My teaching partner used Prodigy for many different reasons. She loved that it peaked her students interest and made math into a fun game. She also explained to me that within the teacher account, she is able to look at each individual student's progress, but also assign them a grade level and a specific common core standard. I loved the idea of pinpointing the troublesome standards my students were struggling with and giving them that extra support. However, because I am a first year teacher, being overwhelmed and planning, I did not take up Prodigy. I finally decided to dive in and see if it would be a positive technology tool in my classroom. I chose to implement it during the Warm-Up in my math block. Although I have only been using it for two class periods, I have seen the excitement that my students get about the tool before each math class.

The level of rigour is intermediate. I have noticed that some students have found it easy, however, there is a handful that have asked for assistance. After implementing this technology tool for two class periods, I am already able to tell which students I need to differentiate for and what standards they struggle with. For the students that are exceeding in every task, I may increase the grade level or assign them tasks that we have not covered heavily in class.

Below are some screenshots of what the Prodigy Math game looks like and how to track student success.



