Tips for Family Members

The Personal Math Trainer® (PMT) is an online tool students will use as part of their GO Math!™ program. Students may ask for help while taking a test or doing their homework in the PMT.

Before Starting

Before students begin a PMT assignment, we recommend checking the settings on the computer. If a student is having problems seeing an assignment, then:

- Make sure browser preferences are set to allow pop-ups from ThinkCentral.
- Update the browser and operating system to the latest version for the best experience.
- Review a list of supported browser and operating system combinations online using this link: http://customercare.hmhco.com/csrportalnew/ptis/platforms/

Log In to ThinkCentral

Students can log in to ThinkCentral with a user name and password provided by the teacher at: http://www-k6.thinkcentral.com
Ensuring Success with the Personal Math Trainer

2 Launch a Personal Math Trainer Assignment

Assignments from the teacher are accessible through the To Do list on the Student Dashboard within ThinkCentral.

From the main login screen, click on “Things to Do.” Look at the list of assignments and take note of the due dates. Click on the name of the assignment to be completed.

3 Working on the Assignment

Questions may be answered in a variety of formats:

- Entering an answer in an answer box
- Choosing from a set of multiple-choice answers
- Choosing a response from a drop-down box
- Using a number line or graphing tool that appears on the screen

Note: Some questions have multiple parts. Make sure students answer all parts of every question.

Encourage students to stay focused on the assignment.

Students will have better results with the PMT if they have a designated time to work on their assignment. Help them stay focused and avoid multitasking.

Remind students to save their work frequently.

If students need to take a break or walk away from their device, be sure they click the “Save and Close” button first.
4 Use the Learning Aids

When students receive a Homework assignment, they have access to a variety of Learning Aids available within the PMT to help them answer questions.

“View Example” and “Step by Step” will show students how to solve the problem they are working on. If students use these Learning Aids, they must click on the “Try Another” button. This will give them a similar problem so they can demonstrate their understanding.

The “Math on the Spot” button links to a tutorial video that will provide an example with step-by-step instructions on how to complete the math problems in the lesson. Each lesson will have one of these videos provided.

The “Textbook” button links to the pages from the textbook that the problem is based on.

The “Check Answer” button lets students know if their answer is correct. If the answer is incorrect, click “Try Another.”

Note: Students only see Learning Aids when the teacher gives Homework assignments. Learning Aids will not be available when the teacher assigns a Test in the PMT.

5 Turning In the Assignment

After students have answered all the questions, they are ready to turn in the assignment.

Click the “Turn it In” button to submit the assignment to the teacher. Once students click that button, they will no longer have access to the assignment.

Students can click the “Save and Close” button as often as needed until the due date of the assignment. However, work is not sent to the teacher until a student clicks the “Turn it In” button.
Assignment scores can be viewed by clicking on “My Scores” from the home screen of the Student Dashboard in ThinkCentral.

**6 Personalized Assignments**

Teachers can use the PMT to give students additional Intervention and Enrichment assignments that contain carefully selected items to help students master specific skills and concepts within the lesson.

These assignments are personalized for each student and will have a purple banner at the top.

Personalized assignments have a time limit. Students should answer as many questions as they can in that time. Remind them not to move on to the next question until they have done their best on the current question.

Personalized assignments will be automatically generated and will appear under “Things to Do” with Prescription or Enrichment in the title. Or, you might get a short warm-up before an assignment.

**7 Helpful Hints**

At Grades 3–6, some questions require students to use an Answer Palette to enter fractions or math symbols. The Answer Palette is built into the PMT and will automatically pop up for appropriate questions. If a student needs to erase work or start over, he or she should use the eraser button or the trash can button in the Answer Palette.