

Teacher Guide: How Visual is Your Math Teaching?

Think about the extent to which your math teaching is visual by answering the questions below. Shade in your responses to identify patterns and reflect on the results to increase students' access to visual mathematics. The goal is not to have "most of the time" on each statement, but to prompt thoughts and reflections.

Some examples of visual mathematics: doodles, diagrams, manipulatives such as cubes, and digital technologies such as graphing software, animations and visual math games¹.

In my math teaching,	Seldom or Never	Occasionally	Regularly	Most of the time
1. I use visuals regularly as central to mathematics, not just as "stepping stones."				
2. My students work on math tasks that encourage visualizing of mathematics				
3. My students have class time to develop their own visuals of key mathematics.				
4. My students use color coding. (see JB Mathematical Mindsets, 2016)				
5. My students use concrete tools and manipulatives to visualize mathematics				
6. My students have in-class access to visual math apps & games				
7. My students present and discuss their visuals of key math ideas with their peers.				
8. My students are given specific feedback about how their visual connects to the math they are trying to represent.				
9. My students are encouraged use visuals on key assessments to show what they know.				

Helpful Links:

Jo Boaler's paper on visual mathematics at <http://www.youcubed.org/visual-math-network/>

youcubed's visual math page at <https://www.youcubed.org/category/visual-math/>

1. youcubed's favorite Apps and Games at <https://www.youcubed.org/category/teaching-ideas/math-apps/>