



Best Practices

Lab Model

Maximizing computer lab time:

- One computer per student to accommodate the whole class is optimal for individualized instruction.
- Two or more sessions per week on the curricular area of focus is recommended.
- If schedules do not allow for optimal amount of time in the lab for *all* students, provision for *focused group* of students is recommended.
- Empowerment and participation of teachers can contribute greatly to the success of the implementation. Experience has shown the following teacher actions to be key:
 - ***Remain in the lab with students.***
 - ***Actively engage in instruction and the learning process during lab time.***
 - ***Integrate and extend the lab instruction with classroom instruction.***
 - ***Regularly review and discuss program reports and progress with students by using lab time to conduct one-on-one conferences with them.***
 - ***On occasion have all students work on the same lesson as a group.***

Classroom Centers Model

Using computers on a rotation basis:

- Equity of access and maximum use of computers are most effectively assured when a schedule of times/students/assigned computers is posted.
- Students who need focused enrichment or remediation can be scheduled for additional access to computers.
- Computers can be scheduled before and after school, at the end of lunch period as well as during center's time. A worthy goal to strive for can be to have *all* computers in use every minute of the day.
- The Presentation Model can be used to introduce concepts to whole or small groups of students with individual access to classroom or lab computers to follow.
- Student assistants, classmates and/or parent or community volunteers can help students who are working on the computers.
- Clear expectations about student attentiveness should be set and enforced consistently.