Math Investigation Center

Let Me Count the Ways

Unit of Study 1

Core Correlation: 5.NBT.5

DOK: 3

Type of Activity: Math and Communication

Materials: Internet access, journal or log, optional materials for presentation

Instructions:

- Use the internet to research three or more different methods to solve a multi-digit multiplication problem. You might try the box method, lattice method, Egyptian method, Russian Peasant method, Japanese method, and more. Keep a bibliography of sources.
- Record your findings in a journal or a log. Include samples of each method and a description of why the method works.
- Answer the following questions in your journal or log:
    1. Which are your favorite methods? Why?
    2. Are some methods better for certain situations?
    3. What are the pros and cons of each method?
    4. Compare your favorite method to the standard algorithm. Which of these two methods do you like better? Why?
- For an additional challenge, design a presentation for your class. You might utilize PowerPoint, Prezi, Interactive White Board, or a foldable for each member of the class to use. Present your findings to the class.

Assessment:

Grade will be determined by completion of the following:
- Journal or log of findings
- Answers to questions
- Bibliography of sources