

Example of a Focal Student Planner

Student: K.

	Student's Strengths	Student's Difficulties
Conceptual	-Able to visualize and extend patterns -Good number sense and estimation skills	-Very concrete -Difficulty making generalizations and coming up with rules
Language	-Comfortable expressing ideas in pairs and small groups	-Difficulties with writing explanations -Weak vocabulary -Nervous about speaking in front of class
Visual-Spatial	-Strong drawing skills; creates diagrams to solve problems -Able to interpret and create 2-D and 3-D representations	
Organization		-Binder is disorganized making it hard to find prior work -Loses homework
Memory		-Major area of weakness -Makes frequent errors when retrieving math facts -Forgets formulas and procedures
Attention	-Able to sustain attention when drawing and when working with a focused partner	-Has difficulties focusing -Short attention span -Easily distracted
Other	-Works well in pairs -Strong fine motor skills	-Feels discouraged about learning math -Passive approach to learning

Helpful Strategies for this Student

- Provide visuals and manipulatives to build conceptual understanding
- Sequence activities to move from the concrete to the representational to the abstract
- Have student create a resource section in her binder so that she can look up information that she tends to forget. Have her create resources on computer so she has a back-up on file.
- Teach organizational strategies and set up a binder organizational system with frequent checks
- Use a non-verbal cue to direct her to focus her attention