



**Your Helping Hand.**

**Valiant USA**

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## Case Study

### ***MathAmigo*<sup>™</sup> Use in Fort Lewis School Equals Success**

*Evergreen Elementary School students enjoy learning math anytime, anywhere with MathAmigo*

Kenton Morrison, a fifth-grade teacher at Evergreen Elementary School, initially wanted to use *MathAmigo* to help the students in his class that were behind catch-up with the rest of the fifth-grade class on basic computation skills. Because the school is located on the Fort Lewis Army base, there is a constant turn over of students throughout the school year. Some students arrive at Fort Lewis without the very basic math skills necessary to succeed in their assigned grade level. “*MathAmigo* gives us the ability to select from its thousands of activities and choose the difficulty level and skill that will enhance math learning and meet the students' individual needs,” Morrison states. He is able to select skills that the students may not have learned at the second, third or fourth grade level.

Today, Morrison uses the program with all of his students. “I am able to tailor the activities to meet the needs of the more advanced students as well, allowing them to work ahead and be challenged at the sixth, seventh or eighth grade level.”

*MathAmigo* was selected by the Washington State Enhancing Education Through Technology Competitive Grant project, “No Limit” (also known as New Outcomes in Mathematics Infused with Technology). Morrison was on the task force charged with the selection process. He viewed *MathAmigo* as the perfect supplemental math program to populate handhelds and saw its potential to help all students with diverse learning styles and abilities.

According to James Smith, program supervisor of consolidated federal programs for the Washington State Department of Education, students and teachers alike find the program easy to use and entertaining. Because the program works with handhelds, it goes everywhere with the students. This is a key benefit to Morrison who says, “When my students need to practice, they can practice!” The students pull out *MathAmigo* and practice while they are waiting to perform at a school concert, even while waiting for the bus to arrive. To the students, *MathAmigo* is fun yet enables them to improve their math skills.

In the future, Morrison plans to introduce *MathAmigo* to all fourth and fifth-grade students at the school. Using the program, students can practice skills that will better help them to prepare for the Washington State Assessment of Math.

MORE



## MathAmigo Use in Fort Lewis School Adds up to Success, page two

“*MathAmigo* has also proven very successful with ELL Latino students in the Yakima Valley and South Eastern Washington Patterson School District,” Smith explains. “This is in addition to Seattle successes from the Puget Sound Educational Service District.”

Moreover, Smith says that representatives of Valiant USA have worked closely with Washington teachers to ensure successful implementation of the program.

### **About MathAmigo**

*MathAmigo* is K-8 standards-based math software for handhelds. It features more than 2,500 activities on topics ranging from counting to pre-algebra at a fraction of the cost of other comprehensive math products. The activities test students’ understanding of concepts, offer an engaging platform to practice their knowledge and encourage problem solving. Students can use the program daily without repeating a question. The PC-based *MathAmigo Manager* enables teachers to quickly and easily plan daily math lessons individualized to each student, from struggling to gifted learners, and provide instant feedback. Teachers can monitor student progress and create assessment reports that illustrate students’ needs.

### **About Valiant USA**

Valiant USA, based in Forest Park, Ill., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Valiant Technology, Ltd., headquartered in London. Valiant USA was established in 2004, and serves the K-12 U.S. education market. The company’s mission is to provide educational technology products that help students fulfill their potential by teaching them to think, to understand and to use their knowledge in creative and positive ways. The company’s science and math product line includes robotic educational tools, *Roamer*® and *Turtle*; the design technology kit, *Inventa*™; and the electronics kit, *Tronix*®; the control and data logging product, *SenSci*®; as well as the math software, *MathAmigo*™. For more information, visit [www.mathamigo.com](http://www.mathamigo.com) or call 888-366-6628.

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