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| ***Common Core State Standards  Tips & Topics Series***  *November 2013 Issue* | icanlearnsmalllogo |
| **Common Core Math – Attend to Precision…**  As educators strive to develop the capacity to “attend to precision” in their students, the focus on clarity, accuracy of process, and the outcome in problem solving have become central targets for growth. It is essential for mathematics educators at all levels to cultivate the ability within their students to communicate mathematically. One of the eight Common Core Standards for Mathematical Practice states that students should be precise communicators who use clear definitions, provide accurate labels when measuring and graphing, calculate operations efficiently, and are versed in the meaning of the symbols included in their math course.  To help meet this challenge, the I CAN Learn® Program attends to precision throughout its engaging and interactive lessons designed for numerous learners including 5th through 8th graders and Algebra I students. Featuring course content that is fully aligned to Common Core State Standards for the levels mentioned above, the program fosters thorough note taking within instructional sections utilizing audio and visual prompts. Students have control over the speed at which they work through video segments using pause and replay features.  Additionally, lessons exploring multi-step equations demonstrate how to check answers by plugging their solution back into the original problem to make sure the student is on the right track. Plus, proper vocabulary is employed consistently throughout the lesson presentations to promote students’ fluency in the language of Mathematics. Accordingly, the data analysis units in the Fundamentals of Math and Pre-algebra software delve into proper labeling of graphs and explore with the use of non-examples to show how misleading a chart can be without the use of appropriate intervals and consistent data display.  Another key advantage for educators using the I CAN Learn® Program is that all practice and assessment sections present in-depth solutions to each incorrectly answered question and prompt students to copy the proper method shown into a notebook for future reference. The software does not solely display answers; it clearly explains proper solution steps.  *“Starting in 6th grade, all students that attend my school utilize the I CAN Learn Program. I see VERY clearly how I CAN Learn helps students "Attend to Precision” especially with understanding and applying mathematical vocabulary. Having students on I CAN Learn for several years allows them to hear the correct mathematical language over and over as they refine their working definitions of mathematical terms and make them more precise. Curriculum must be meticulous in the use of mathematical vocabulary and symbols and I CAN Learn does this very well.”*  — NEA member - Pam Peterson, Martin County, FL  The [I CAN Learn Program’s online graduate credit courses](http://lms.neaacademy.org/topclass/topclass.do?expand-esdVendorCourses-v=393&utm_source=A131015&utm_medium=DIGITAL&utm_campaign=MCU1310b&utm_content=CCSStipsandtopicsseries_Issue3) offered through the [NEA Academy](http://www.neaacademy.org/index.html?utm_source=A131015&utm_medium=DIGITAL&utm_campaign=MCU1310b&utm_content=CCSStipsandtopicsseries_neaacademy) have proven to be effective tools in helping members prepare to teach to the Common Core requirements for real-world application learning and get every child thinking like a mathematician.  For more information about how to “attend to precision” in your Common Core Math classroom, please visit the NEA Academy to review the I CAN Learn Program: [neaacademy.org/icanlearn](http://lms.neaacademy.org/topclass/topclass.do?expand-esdVendorCourses-v=393&utm_source=A131015&utm_medium=DIGITAL&utm_campaign=MCU1310b&utm_content=CCSStipsandtopicsseries_Issue3) | |

For print media distribution: (full text links available below)

* **Standards for Mathematical Practice**

<http://www.corestandards.org/Math/Practice>

* **NEA Academy – I CAN Learn Program online graduate credit courses**

<http://www.neaacademy.org/icanlearn>

* **NEA Academy**

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