SuccessMaker

SuccessMaker is a program of multimedia **math and reading** courses delivered via the Internet. The software is highly adaptive, starting with an **automatic placement** phase that first identifies a student's foundational mastery level then moves forward, concept by concept in small "bite-sized" pieces, based on **demonstrated mastery**. New concepts are introduced only once pre-requisite skills are in place.
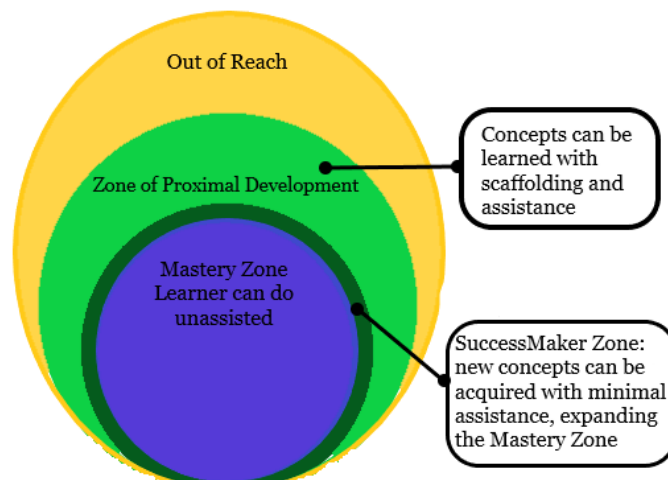
Students typically **enjoy doing SuccessMaker** – and for the right reasons: they are successful, and can feel their own progress: learning is its own reward. Students are kept in their **optimum learning zone** at all times—not too easy, not too hard — never wasting their time, constantly moving forward.

Each student's program is **individualized specifically and accurately**, strand by strand. SuccessMaker interacts with the student through **artificial intelligence** evaluating every response and intervening immediately, as required, leading the student forward to a correct answer almost all of the time, until assistance is no longer required, mastery is determined, and the next concept is introduced.

SuccessMaker finds the level "below which there are no gaps" then spirals up - covering a cross-section of the curriculum every two or three sessions, filling in gaps, while efficiently identifying and skipping over existing knowledge.

Success with the program does require daily use: at least four fifteen minute sessions a week. Students need to feel free to "make a good guess" and work quickly, **without any outside assistance**.

SuccessMaker is designed to supplement -- not replace -- existing educational programs, so that students become more successful with their regular schoolwork.

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SuccessMaker is a program is designed to "find and fill" gaps and weak spots from lower-level learning, in order to **support** (not replace) current learning.   It also very efficiently identifies existing lower-level concepts, marks them as already mastered and skips over them, to spend more time on actual difficulties, whether complete gaps in knowledge or just skills that once were learned, but have now been forgotten.

As pre-requisite skills are built up, a student is able to work more independently at grade-level, with greater success.   Students do 15-minute sessions, four or five days a week.

Work in **SuccessMaker** must be completely independent: no outside assistance of any kind. Although the **SuccessMaker** program itself makes automatic adjustments, part of my role is to monitor data and make manual adjustments, as required, to ensure that the student can in fact work independently, without frustration and with ongoing success.

If you are familiar with a Jenga puzzle then imagine that the top of the puzzle is the beginning of the current grade-level, and that, below that level, many of the blocks are missing. You can continue to build on top, but if you don't fill in the gaps, the tower will become increasingly shaky, and eventually fall down.   SuccessMaker finds those gaps and fills them in: the whole tower becomes stronger, the student finds grade-level work easier, and requires less assistance.

The cost is $75 for the schoolyear, for both reading and math.

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