

# *Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) in Arkansas*

Since winter 2006, Arkansas teachers have begun to participate in Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) workshops. Now two years later, it seems to be the buzz word in mathematics. "Get teachers enrolled in CGI!" But what is it? Why should teachers participate?

"Cognitively Guided Instruction is a professional development program that is designed to assist K-3 teachers in implementing a comprehensive researched-based approach to mathematics instruction in their classrooms. The primary goal of CGI is to increase teachers' knowledge of how children think about mathematics" and how to use that knowledge in instructional decision making. In CGI workshops, teachers: 1) make sense of the different problem types\* and their use in developing children's understanding of mathematics concepts, 2) identify the levels of students' understanding and solution strategies\*, 3) learn how to use students' level of understanding to plan instruction and 4) begin to understand the algebraic properties the students are using in their invented strategies. Recent research indicates that "elementary students can learn to think about arithmetic in ways that both enhance their early learning of arithmetic and provide a foundation for algebra." \*The problem types and solution strategies are included in the appendix of the Arkansas K-8 Mathematics Curriculum Frameworks (pp 76-77).

Learnings from CGI can benefit schools in many ways. Understanding the problem types and children's solution strategies will help teachers use children's thinking to make informed instructional decisions. This framework can be used by itself or in conjunction with an adopted mathematics curriculum. Often, problems in mathematics textbooks are used with little thought about the type of problems included, the number selections used, or what students' responses mean in terms of student learning. CGI give teachers a background that will help them interpret these and make them better consumers of the adopted text.

Arkansas Department of Education supports schools' participation in CGI training. This summer 25 – 30 Level One CGI workshops will be held across the state. There will be 12-13 Level Two and 3 Level Three workshops held. Contact your local educational cooperative for more information.

Below are several websites that have articles that describe CGI, Algebraic reasoning and their research in greater detail.

☆ <http://www.promisingpractices.net/program.asp?programid=114#programinfo>

☆ <http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/ncisla/publications/reports/RROO-3.PDF>

☆ <http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/ncisla/publications/reports/RR-002.PDF>

☆ <http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/ncisla/publications/briefs/fall2000.pdf>

**Arkansas Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) 2008-2009 Schedule  
(as of April 1, 2008)**

	<b>CGI Training</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact</b>
1	Year 3	Cabot HS	July 21-23	Pam Allen Neelie Dobbins
2	Year 3	Cabot HS	July 21-23	Pam Allen Neelie Dobbins
3	Year 3	Farmington-NWAESC	Aug 4-6	Linda Jaslow
1	Year 2	Bryant HS-Dawson Co-op	July 30-Aug 1	Lisa Kissire
2	Year 2	Gillum-DeQueen-Mena Co-op	June 23-?	Jody Pearce
3	Year 2	Monticello-SEAESC	July 8-11	Heather Carter
4	Year 2	Hope-SWAESC	June 30-July 2	Angela Murphy
5	Year 2	Cabot-UALR	July 15-18	Neelie Dobbins
6	Year 2	Cabot-UALR	July 15-18	Neelie Dobbins
7	Year 2	Cabot-WDMESC	July 14-17	Pam Allen
8	Year 2	Cabot-WDMESC	July 21-24	Pam Allen
9	Year 2	Cabot-WDMESC	July 21-24	Pam Allen
10	Year 2	Magnolia-SAU?	June 23-27	Lynne Nielsen
11	Year 2	Farmington-NWAESC	June 16-18	Linda Jaslow
12	Year 2	Farmington-NWAESC	June 23-25	Linda Jaslow
13	Year 2	Helena-GRESC	TBA	Emily Hartsfield
1	Year 1	Harrisburg-CRESC	July 7-11	James Lee
2	Year 1	Arkadelphia-Dawson Co-op	June 23-26	Tina Hobbs
3	Year 1	Hot Springs-Dawson Co-op	Aug 4-8	Tina Hobbs
4	Year 1	Bryant-Dawson Co-op	June 23-26	Lisa Kissire
5	Year 1	Gillum-DeQueen-Mena Co-op	July 14-TBA	Jody Pearce
28	Year 1	Gillum-DeQueen-Mena Co-op		Jody Pearce
6	Year 1	Helena-GRESC	June 9-12	Emily Hartsfield
7	Year 1	Melbourne-NCAESC	July 28-Aug 1	Tracey Owens
8	Year 1	Walnut Ridge-NEAESC	Aug 4-8	Angelia Carlton
9	Year 1	Harrison-OURSC	July 7-10	Shane Flud
10	Year 1	Harrison-OURSC	June 23-26	Shane Flud
11	Year 1	Monticello-SEAESC	July 8-11	Heather Carter
12	Year 1	Monticello-SEAESC	June 3-6	Heather Carter
13	Year 1	Monticello-SEAESC	July 28-31	Heather Carter
14	Year 1	Monticello-SEAESC	Aug 5-8	Heather Carter
15	Year 1	Monticello-SEAESC	Aug 5-8	Heather Carter
29	Year 1	Monticello-SEAESC		Heather Carter
16	Year 1	Hope-SWAESC	July 21-24	Angela Murphy
17	Year 1	Cabot-UALR	July 21-25	Neelie Dobbins
18	Year 1	Cabot-UALR	July 21-25	Neelie Dobbins
19	Year 1	Cabot-UALR	July 21-25	Neelie Dobbins
20	Year 1	Cabot-UALR	July 21-25	Neelie Dobbins
21	Year 1	Branch-WAESC	July 7-11	Taunya Parsons
22	Year 1	Cabot-WDMESC	July 14-17	Pam Allen
23	Year 1	Cabot-WDMESC	July 21-24	Pam Allen
24	Year 1	Cabot-WDMESC	July 14-17	Pam Allen
25	Year 1	Camden-SCESC	June 10-13	Sonya Russell
30	Year 1	ATU-AFESC	June 9-12	Nancy Via
26	Year 1	Farmington-NWAESC	July 14-15, 17-18	Linda Jaslow
27	Year 1	Lincoln-NWAESC?	TBA	Linda Jaslow

