Title of Site: Dawson-Bryant 3rd Grade Math Class

Goals and Objectives

- The goal of this site is to help improve the math skills of third grade students.
- The objective of this site is to provide extra math examples and links to other helpful sites to help improve student’s math skills.

Description

- Site developed by Rick Sturgill for Dawson Bryant third grade math teacher - Mrs. Julie Sturgill as a supplemental help for her math students.
- This website has been developed to help the third grade math students at Dawson-Bryant Elementary School located in Lawrence County Ohio.

Client

Dawson-Bryant Third Grade Math Students

Target Audience

- All Third Grade Math Students
- This site has been developed to help third grade students as they develop their math skills by providing links to and examples of third grade level math problems and language.

Objectives

- Provide math examples, solutions, and links to other helpful sites.
- The mission of Dawson Bryant Local School District is to ensure that each student who leaves the school district is an independent, self-motivated learner, has the basic tools and the self-confidence to be successful in life, and has behavioral traits to be a happy and contributing citizen.

Three Goals:

- Help math students become self-motivated
- Provide 3 grade level online math teaching tools
- Help students become successful in life by providing help with developing the necessary math skills.

Summary:
I wasn’t sure what my website was going to be about. I had several ideas for the site but I finally decided on helping my wife, who is a third grade teacher at Dawson-Bryant elementary school. My wife was actually excited about getting a site that her students and their parents could use for her class. The students would be able to use the site during the school year to keep up with the math schedule and also the parents could use the site to know what their children were learning in the class. I wasn’t sure what links would be needed so I asked my wife what she thought would be useful on the site. We came up several pages and condensed them down to five pages. Of course there’s the home page for the site and 4 other linked pages. She wanted to have the Ohio Standards listed on a page for the parents and a Links page for the student.

**Peer Critiques:**

I feel like there’s a lot of potential for the site. Unfortunately, time will not allow me to do everything that I want to do but I will continue to work on it and improve its usability even after the class is finished. The peer critiques were of great help on developing the site. What I found interesting about the critiques was that I had the same general opinion when I was in the development stages of the project. The most important thing the class taught me was to listen to my gut when developing the theme of the site. For example I had the background of the site a kind of bold yellow. I kept thinking it was too bold for a good contrast to the text but decided to let it go. Sure enough it was the number one thing that came out of the peer critiques.

**Design:**

I chose to use a youthful theme with simple colors for the design. After the critique phase I lightened the background of the site and it really helped the overall contrast of the site. I have
looked at a lot of sights for comparison and I realize that my site has a way to go but I am satisfied at this point with the progress I have made and the choices that go along with designing and developing a website.

I chose the pencil as a logo and kept the title of the site fairly simple. My target audience will be third grade elementary students so I knew going into the project that it could not be too complex and wordy and needed to be very kid friendly. I still think there are some changes that could be made to the site to improve the overall interest of the user but I am confident that it will get there in time. During the design phase I compared my intended site design with other I found doing a Google search.

Links to the websites I used:

   
   About A website designed for Math Practice
   
   **What Works**
   - Geared toward kids
   - Clearly defined sections
   - Kid friendly
   
   **What Doesn't**
   - The green is a little overpowering
   - Linked pages not as nice
   - Somewhat busy secondary pages

   
   A website geared to k-8 math skills
   
   **What Works**
   - Nice color scheme/ not distracting
   - Nice design
   - The content is logical and concise
   
   **What Doesn't**
   - Too much adverting
   - Menu could be larger
• Somewhat busy secondary pages


This site is for elementary school teachers

**What Works**
- Links
- Easy to navigate
- Teacher friendly

**What Doesn't**
- Poor design scheme
- Links at top very confusing not sure if they are hyperlinks
- Home page not broken into sections


Website for teachers, parents, and students

**What Works**
- Nice links
- Clearly defined sections
- Kid friendly

**What Doesn't**
- A little amateurish
- Color schemes are horrendous
- Could use more detail about the intent of the site


Website for elementary math skills

**What Works**
- Geared toward kids
- Clearly defined sections and links
- Nice color scheme

**What Doesn’t**
- Poorly placed advertizing
- Intent not clearly defined
- Not so kid friendly
I felt that the each design phase was helpful in the overall creation of the new site. I think typically people muddle their way through to a new site but the stages used in the class are what are needed to create a professional looking site. Of all of the stages I would say the mockup phase was the most helpful to me, the reason being that I had the idea in my mind from looking at other sites but not until I was able to see the mockup did it really begin to come together for me.

What critical feedback did you receive from your peer review? The critiques were very helpful. For the most part they were very positive and all were helpful. The color scheme was the resounding message I received from the feedback. I took the feedback and made the changes to the site. I softened all the colors and made the background less visual and the text bolder so the user’s eyes would be more attracted to the text than the color scheme.

Development References: