Title:

Background to developing Head Start mathematics material for the CAPS Curriculum

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Time allocation: 45 minutes

Conceptualising and developing textbooks within a context where there is evaluation and revision of a curriculum greatly influences the purpose, design and content of learning material. Therefore as authors of the Foundation Phase Head Start Series we had to interpret and consider the textbook series against the curriculum background and the role that curriculum plays in teaching. We had to look at how the curriculum is designed and the intention of it. This meant that we had to take the written curriculum, transform it into an active curriculum in the form of appropriate texts for teachers and learners.

So in this session we will:

- Define the role of the Head Start series against the educational backdrop of South Africa
- Demonstrate how the series mirrors and the CAPS Mathematics Curriculum.
- Describe the mathematical and pedagogical claims the Head Start series makes.
- Illustrate the functionality of the design features of the series and how learners can use the features
- Discuss and show the position of the teacher and the learner within the text
- Show the function of illustrations in terms of adding perspectives, complimenting the text, how it affects emotions and the values and attitudes embedded
- The role and purpose of a Grade 1 textbook in the Foundation Phase.
- Focus on the teaching and learning of Number, Operations and relationships within the series in a practical and illustrative way.

  Here we will focus on:

  - Sequencing and Progression of the content
  - Development of number concept
  - Calculation techniques
  - Independent use of text by the learner