

Suggested Materials for Algebra

There is a poster titled, "When are we ever gonna have to use this?" (Saunders, 1993, Palo Alto, CA: Dale Seymour) that is a worthwhile investment to have in the classroom. Topics are grouped by the subject areas of basic math/pre-algebra, beginning algebra, geometry, second-year algebra/trigonometry, and other topics (calculus, calculator use, computer use, problem solving, mathematical modeling, and so on). Beginning algebra topics listed are using formulas, linear equations, linear inequalities, operations with polynomials, factoring polynomials, rational expressions, coordinate graphing, linear systems, radicals, quadratic equations, and algebraic representation. Over 100 career options are listed on the chart. Career choices include all the mathematically obvious ones like engineer and scientist, but they also list trades like carpenter, electrician, mechanic, painter, and plumber. The medical professions are represented with categories like dentist, dietitian, doctor, nurse, physical therapist, veterinarian, and x-ray technician. Airline pilots, TV camera operator, museum curator, farmer, firefighter, golf pro, real estate agent, and waiter/waitress are also listed. As students ask for rationalizations about the need to learn algebraic concepts, the careers listed should convince them of the universal advantages of having a command of the subject.

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It would be useful to purchase *Teaching Secondary Mathematics Second Edition* (Brumbaugh and Rock - - www.eribaum.com - - Search Brumbaugh) for the text information and the algebra software that comes with it. \$52.50 but the algebra software sells for \$395.

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