I finally had a chance to really look at the  Discovery math data from today.  I just wanted to tell you I really think the number talks have been one of the reasons my students did so well.  Some of the questions they were asked to solve on the test are incorporated in the number talks we do almost every day....odd/even, expanded form, base ten, etc. along with mental math strategies.  The number talks get them to expand their thinking, explain their thinking, and they're so engaged when we do them.  I just started doing them this trimester and my kids love them!! They ask if we are doing one almost every day :).  Some days I don't do one, but I have been giving them multi-step story problems every day to solve in their journals as well.  They explain their thinking using words, numbers, and pictures.  I have the students walk us through and explain what they did to solve the problem.  They love being the "teachers" and I love seeing them use the strategies they've learned while helping each other to understand!  I truly believe doing these things everyday this trimester have helped them to be successful.

Also Discovery-created probes and Xtramath have been helpful as well this trimester! I love being able to track their math facts without using so much paper :) and the kids have enjoyed doing it at home as well.  I just wanted you to know your extra resources are very helpful and appreciated!  I am always looking for new resources to use so I love them! :)

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