

# EMPOWERED PROBLEM SOLVING



My six-week online workshop is designed for mathematics educators who want their students to be better problem solvers with extensive exploration of problem-based lessons and higher Depth of Knowledge. Go to [robertkaplinsky.com/eps](http://robertkaplinsky.com/eps) for more information.

## Participant Feedback

"This is truly the **most relevant and useful workshop** I have taken. You have carefully thought through all we need to implement problem based lessons. You did a great job in making sense of the levels of Depth of Knowledge. I don't think I've seen a better explanation. For me, **this has been transforming**. It's exciting and I have revamped the way I do things for my adult learners."

- **Dee Mallie, Teacher in Elgin, IL**

"Often in a workshop, I hear 1 or 2 things that resonate with me, and, because I teach in a small, private school that has unique characteristics such as no grading, most of it does not apply to me. But **every segment of this workshop had moments that resonated with me** as a teacher and as a person. Your ideas can be implemented **not just in Common Core states**, which Virginia is not, **not just in public schools**, which mine is not, not just in certain types of classrooms, but **in any classroom**, for any teacher who wants to do a better job reaching and teaching students. You have expanded my sense of what's possible and what's necessary for problem-based learning."

- **Katrien Vance, Teacher in Afton, Virginia**

## Workshop Content

### Module 1: Introduction to Problem-Based Lessons

- How students experience math when using problem-based lessons.
- How problem-based lessons support the Common Core State Standards.
- How to use a tool to support students' underdeveloped critical thinking skills.
- Why we can't keep teaching the way we always have.

### Module 2: More on Problem-Based Lessons

- What "Pinterest Fails" can teach us about our approach to teaching problem solving.
- How to avoid common misconceptions about using problem-based lessons.
- How you can prepare your students for success when problem solving.
- Where you can find many problem-based lessons you can use.

### Module 3: Preparing for Problem-Based Lessons

- How you can maximize student learning when using problem-based lessons.
- How to anticipate student problem-solving strategies so that you can use them to help students make connections.
- How to facilitate discussions around problem-based lessons.



### Module 4: Dealing with Worst Case Scenarios

- How you can better anticipate lesson breakdowns in 60 seconds.
- How to handle eleven of the most common worst case scenarios when implementing problem-based lessons. (including "What do you do when a student comes up with a strategy for solving the problem that you do not understand?")

### Module 5: Depth of Knowledge in Mathematics

- Why higher Depth of Knowledge problems help challenge students and bring out hidden misconceptions.
- How the various Depth of Knowledge representations potentially generate misconceptions.
- How to use a tool that will help students persevere and attempt problems multiple times while developing a growth mindset.
- Where you can find many higher Depth of Knowledge problems you can use.

### Module 6: Advanced Problem-Based Lesson Tips

- How to take the first steps in developing a manageable curriculum instead of the burnout of trying to fit everything in.
- How to integrate problem-based lessons into your pacing guides and unit plans.
- How to assess problem-based lessons depending on whether they are being used only in your classroom, as a common assessment, or when you want students to see the rubric ahead of time.