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# Elementary Teachers' Use of Mathematical Textbooks in Korea

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The purpose of this research is to analyze Korean teacher textbook use and explore the effective use of textbooks. The researcher surveyed teachers to obtain information relative to their dispositions and views of textbook use, and a subset interviewed to obtain additional insight about these views. For the sample, 278 elementary school teachers were surveyed and a group interview was conducted with 6 teachers. The results showed that many teachers teach all the students simply by following the textbook content. These results suggest that for effective us of textbooks, teachers need to understand how to reconstruct the textbook within an understanding of the textbook authors' intension for the textbook content.

Keywords: elementary school mathematics, textbook use

MESC Classification: U22 MSC2010 Classification: 97U20

#### I. INTRODUCTION

A textbook has value as an effective way for directing the educational goals. A textbook is a learning resource to help students engage in learning activities rather than simply introducing the subject knowledge. Also, the textbook influences what happens in the classroom learning.

Especially in mathematics, as the fundamental resource for lessons, the textbook is

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always used to identify the educational objectives and regulate the content and boundaries of the learning experiences. Thus, mathematics textbook plays an important role in teachers' and students' teaching and learning processes.

With the role and importance of the textbook in Korean education, whenever curriculum reform happens the basic content and criteria of the textbook become even more essential. The basic guidance of the textbook for enhancing students' learning abilities and developing creativities with the reform curriculum in 2007 include:

- 1. The textbooks must faithfully reflect the curriculum.
- Appropriate textbooks for the curriculum are centered within the school education system.
- 3. Learner-centered variety and high quality textbooks are provided. (Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD), 2007)<sup>1</sup>.

With this basic guidance and Korea's continuing endeavor for making good textbooks, the textbooks have been developed with high quality. However, making good textbooks does not necessarily lead to effective use in the classroom teaching.

While some teachers use lessons directly from the textbook and its organization, others use textbooks as a resource when considering and selecting context and determining the content order through their own reasons. Some teachers never use the textbooks for their lessons. Since the teacher and textbooks are two important elements in implementing a particular curriculum (Kong & Shi, 2009), analyzing how teachers use the textbooks can serve as important indicators for judging how the intended curriculum is implemented. Limited research exists on how teachers use textbooks, especially in the use of mathematics textbooks. Accordingly, it is meaningful to investigate the teachers' use of textbooks in their classroom teaching and discuss methods for effective textbook use.

Kim & Pyung (2004) investigated elementary teachers' use of elementary mathematics teacher manual on seventh and sixth reformed curriculum, making comparisons of their use. From their results, they discussed the problems on elementary mathematical text-books in using the 7th reformed curriculum. However, there is a limitation on discussing the problem of using mathematical textbooks only in terms of use of the teacher's manual. Son & Choi (2008) investigated how elementary teachers used mathematical textbooks and the variables that influenced their use. Through their research however, the researchers classified the types of the teachers' textbook use only in terms of how the cognitive aspect of the mathematics problems in the textbooks appeared in classroom teaching. The researchers needed evidence of the effective use of the textbook in their investigation —

Ministry of Education (South Korea) became Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD) in 2001, and Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in 2008

the teachers' awareness of use of the textbooks with a more comprehensive view, and how teachers used the textbooks in the classroom teaching in general without any limitations from specific units or problems.

This research investigated elementary teachers' awareness of mathematical textbooks and their use. The researcher interviewed teachers who used the textbook effectively in order to obtain specific and practical information. The results of the study provide the fundamental data sources for searching the effective use of textbooks on the intentional curriculum implementation in the classroom teaching. The research questions were:

- 1. What is the elementary teacher's awareness of mathematics textbook in Korea?
- 2. How do elementary teachers use the mathematics textbook in Korea?
- 3. What are specific, effective uses of the mathematics textbook by elementary teachers in Korea?

In this research, mathematical textbooks include the mathematics textbook and the mathematics workbook as provided in Korea.

#### II. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

#### 1. A point of view about textbooks

A point of view about textbooks includes one's awareness about the property of textbooks and the position and role of textbooks in teaching. First, we have two points of view about textbooks based on open and closed perspectives. Thinking a textbook is the only learning resource like the Bible is the closed perspective. The open perspective is that a textbook is one of the various resources and if there is better content than in the textbook, one should accept the content even if that content is not in the textbook. Thus, in the closed perspective a textbook content has no error and maintains absolute authority. However, in the open perspective textbook content is relative and there are more text tools (Ministry of Education, 2000). In Korea, the closed perspective was more dominant in the past but recently an open perspective is becoming more dominant. In other words, the textbook is not the only resource but a tool for assisting students' learning and a referent resource. The open perspective is the focus of this research.

Also, we can have two points of view based on the criteria of whether the textbook supports teachers' profession or constrains it. First, educators who see textbooks as a mean for instructional improvement emphasize textbooks as a supplemental resource for teachers' lack of knowledge and experience, and regard textbooks as an important method for realizing educational reform. Also, they hypothesize that teachers will follow the textbook if they supply well-developed new textbooks, and as a result students' achieve-

ment will be improved. In the contrast, the educators who think that the textbook constrains the teacher's professional teaching activities insists that the textbooks implies the teacher's professional teaching role, constrains teacher's decision making, and restricts students' learning chances (Son & Choi, 2008). Teachers have to decide the content and teaching methods for each lesson. However, if we consider that they don't have much time to prepare the lessons, differing from the later point of view, this research supports the point of view that the textbook is necessary for classroom teaching as an element for decision making. If the textbook is a necessary resource for teaching activities in the classroom, we should make good textbooks first and guide teachers not to simply follow the given textbook but to use them effectively.

#### 2. Korean curriculum and textbooks

#### A. The fundamental direction of making Mathematical textbooks

For the 2007 Korean educational reform, making good quality textbooks is a goal for accomplishing a desirable human character and educational goals. The fundamental direction for textbooks is "making the textbooks for the improvement of students' learning abilities and creativity." The specific components are in Table 1 (MEHRD, 2007).

Fundamental Direction

Make textbooks for substantially reflecting curriculum

Make textbooks for changing curriculum—centered schooleducation

Make textbooks for changing curriculum—centered schooleducation

Make textbooks for changing curriculum—textbooks for changing curricu

**Table 1.** The fundamental direction for making Mathematical textbooks

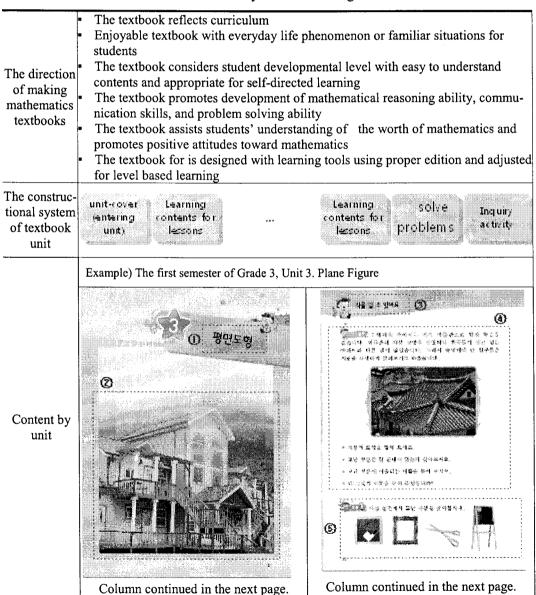
useful

#### B. Fundamental direction and system of structure for making mathematical textbooks

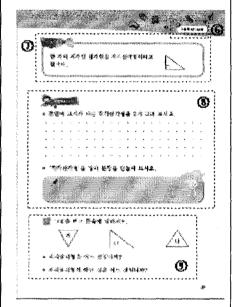
Elementary mathematics textbooks and workbooks follow the fundamental direction mentioned above. In particular, they emphasize the self-directed learning goal of considering students' levels, students' reasoning, communication, and problem solving abilities, and positive attitude toward mathematics. In addition, the mathematics textbooks emphasize everyday life phenomenon or familiar situations for students. Also the mathematics workbook emphasized the suitable use of knowledge and skill acquired from the mathematics textbook and reinforced the ability to teach and learn based on students' abilities and levels.

If we consider the structural system for units in mathematical textbooks, the number of units is composed of 8 units. The mathematics textbooks are organized by the order of unit-cover, learning contents for each lesson; solve problems for unit assessment, and inquiry activity. The mathematics workbooks are made by the order of "unit-cover, preparation for learning, learning contents for each lesson, problem solving, story-yard, and play-yard." Each structural element's manuals are in Table 2 and Table 3.

**Table 2.** The direction and structural system for making mathematics textbooks

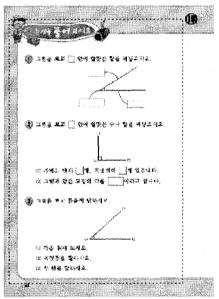


- ① Unit name
- 2 Symbolic illustration for the unit content
- 3 Learning theme: described from student's side
- ④ Open mind: showing right situation for Learning theme, think about the situation and discuss about what they think
- (5) Activity: to realize the learning theme, operational, intuitive and abstract activities are showed and discussed about each case

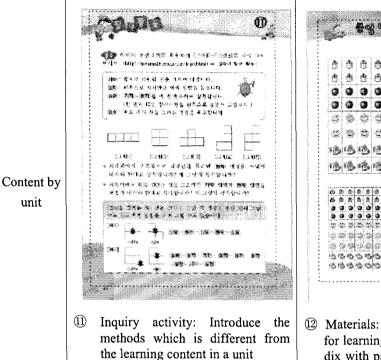


Content by unit

- The page number related with mathematics workbook
- ⑦ Define: mathematically define the learning content through the open mind or activities
- ® Check and confirm: to check and confirm whether the mathematical concepts are well developed, students make a picture or make a sentence with defined sign and vocabulary
- Practice: problems and exercises to practice all learned content



10 Solve problems: assess the learning content of a unit showing problems reflected the each lesson content



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Materials: the necessary materials for learning are added on the appendix with page number in mathematics textbooks

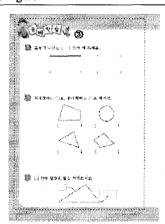
**Table 3.** The direction and structural system for making mathematics workbooks

The direction of making mathematics workbooks	<ul> <li>The workbooks facilitate teaching and learning based on students' abilities and levels</li> </ul>
The construc- tional system of textbook unit	l unit.co:≙/ li≥come

Example) The first semester of Grade 3, Unit 3. Plane Figure

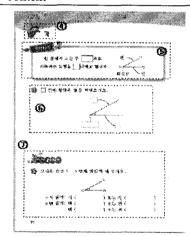


- 1 The unit name
- ② The illustration for introducing the unit: Symbolic cartoon for the unit content



③ Each unit 'preparation for learning' provides about 2 pages to check the prior knowledge necessary for learning the unit

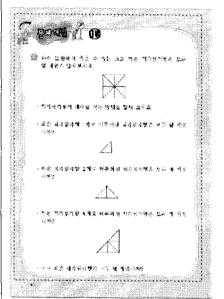
Content by unit



- ① Learning theme: same as textbook and described from student's sides
- (5) Checking: content from textbook is organized and summarized
- Basic problems: very basic problems which can be solved intuitively
- Confirm the basic: the problems include basic process



- 8 The page number related with the mathematics textbook
- Oultivate ability: the problems corrrespond to more difficult levels

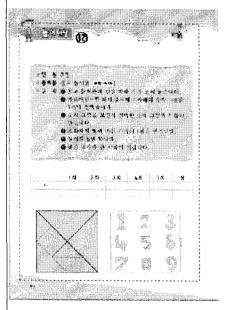


Problem solving: problems are given in each unit to develop problem solving ability

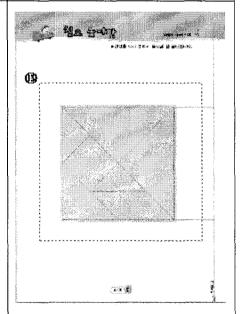


① Story yard: history of mathematics or similar story which is adjusted to the unit content and can motivate students' interest about mathematics

Content by unit



② Play yard: to raise effective learning with playing, fun games are presented



(3) Materials: the necessary materials for learning are added in the appendix

#### 3. The Types of teacher textbook use

The researchers mostly classified the teacher textbook use based on the purpose of their use. Table 4 shows the criteria and types of teacher textbook use.

Table 4. The types of teacher textbook use

Types	Contents				
General Type (Freeman & Porter, 1989)	The teacher follows the textbook exactly (Textbook-bound) The teacher changes the textbook on the content based on district objectives (Focus-on-district-objectives) The teacher who teaches only the basic content from the textbook (Focus-on-the-basic)				
The index and level on using textbooks (Fanzhe & Ningzhong, 2009)	<ul> <li>The index for explaining the teacher textbook use</li> <li>Understand and study the textbook</li> <li>Analyze and integrate the textbook</li> <li>Apply the textbook</li> <li>Decision making about the textbook</li> </ul> <ul> <li>The level of teacher textbook use</li> <li>Creative use</li> <li>Refinement of use</li> <li>Routine use</li> <li>Mechanical use</li> <li>Misuse</li> </ul>				
The types of textbook use on Mathematics work related to cognitive aspect (Son & Choi, 2008)	<ul> <li>The teachers who give lessons which require cognitive thinking at a high level with the textbooks which require cognitive thinking at a high level</li> <li>The teachers who give lessons which require cognitive thinking at a low level with the textbook which is requires cognitive thinking at a high level</li> <li>The teachers who give lessons which require cognitive thinking at a high level with the textbooks which require cognitive thinking at a low level</li> <li>The teachers who give lessons which require cognitive thinking at a low level with the textbooks which require cognitive thinking at a low level</li> </ul>				

Freeman & Porter (1989) studied the types of teacher textbook use. They distinguished three types of teacher textbook use based on whether teachers used textbooks making changes. These types can serve as the criteria for this research focusing on the meaning of the effective use of textbooks. Also Kong & Shi (2009) made 4 indexes for analyzing teacher textbook use. They suggest 7 different criteria making the sub-index, and analyze the 5 levels of using textbooks. The levels range from creative level to misuse level. In Korea, Son & Choi (2008) studied the types of the teacher textbook use. They divided the cognitive aspects of mathematical works by low level and high level. They presented 4 types of teacher textbook use when teachers apply the content in classroom teaching. These types show that the mathematical work possesses important parts of mathematical lessons. However, it is difficult to explain all teacher textbook use with mathematical work only. So, we need to systematically analyze teacher textbook use.

#### III. DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

#### 1. Research design

The purpose of this research is to analyze Korean teacher textbook use and explore the effective use of textbooks. To accomplish the purpose, first, the researchers sampled and surveyed to formulate conjectures about the teachers' dispositions and their views of textbook use (Creswell, 2003). Second, the researchers interviewed teachers to get insights about the teachers' views. Through the interviews, the researchers sought to find meaningful truths that cannot be discerned from surveys (Patton, 2002).

Table 5. The background of the subjects

		Number	Rate (%)
	Male	76	27.3
Sex	Female	201	72.3
Sex	No response	1	0.4
	Total	Male       76         Female       201         No response       1         Total       278         is than 5 years       89         5-9 years       102         10-19 years       51         e than 20 years       35         No response       1         Total       278         Seoul       74         tropolitan city       130         d medium-sized city       57         Town       11         No response       6         Total       278         elor(Math major)       35         or(Nonmath major)       183         ter(Math major)       12	100.0
	Less than 5 years	89	32.0
_	5–9 years	102	36.7
Teaching	10-19 years	51	18.3
experience	More than 20 years	35	12.6
_	No response	1	0.4
_	Total	278	100.0
	Seoul	74	26.6
- -	Metropolitan city	130	46.8
	small and medium-sized city	57	20.5
Teaching place —	Town	11	4.0
_	No response	6	2.2
_	Total	278	100.0
	Bachelor(Math major)	35	12.6
_	Bachelor(Nonmath major)	183	65.8
_	Master(Math major)	12	4.3
Academic	Master(Nonmath major)	47	16.9
-	Doctor(Math major)	0	0.0
	Doctor(Nonmath major)	1	0.4
_	Total	278	100.0

#### 2. Sample

In this research, 278 elementary school teachers were sampled using snowball effects. A group interview was conducted with six teachers from the sample to elaborate on specific ideas related to the effective use of textbooks.

The researchers used nonprobability sampling to sample the teachers, specifically snowball sampling. Nonprobability sampling may have problems with representation of the population because it does not include random sampling, but the researchers applied judgemental sampling. In other words, the researchers' judgements were applied to determine the sample for representing the population. After the researchers sample a part of the population, the researchers complement the representational problem using snowball effects (Krathwohl, 1998). In this research, the graduate school students of whom one of the researchers is the advisor and their colleagues were asked to respond the survey. The teachers' background is shown in Table 5.

#### 3. Data collection and analysis

#### A. Survey composition

To identify elementary school teachers' awareness and use of mathematical textbooks, criteria which was used in research focusing on other subjects including physical education and English, as well as mathematics, were employed for this study. Also the researcher constructed survey items and added several necessary criteria not explicit in the other studies. The survey items are composed with 4 different subscales.

- First, items for teachers' demographic background information.
- Second, items for identifying teachers' awareness of mathematical textbooks.
- Third, items for identifying teachers' use of mathematical textbooks.
- Fourth, items for describing teachers' ideas on the meaning of the effective use of mathematical textbooks and specific ideas on the effective use of mathematical textbook.

Survey items were mostly multiple choice and Likert scale. In addition, the effective use of mathematical textbooks followed free descriptive response format. A pretest was conducted with 8 elementary school teachers who are majoring in elementary mathematics. The specific construction of the survey is outlined in Table 6.

The data collected through the survey were analyzed by using SPSS and frequency and descriptive analysis were used depending on the item types.

Table 6. Survey area and detailed content

Composition	Domain	Specific content
I . Teachers' backgr		Sex, teaching place, teaching experience, teaching grade, Academic background
	Function	Awareness about the mathematics textbook function  Awareness about the mathematics workbook function
II. The general awareness about mathematics textbooks	The contribution to the mathematics lessons	Suitability of the textbooks for graded learning
	Rate of use	<ul> <li>The rate of use for mathematics textbooks and the reason why teachers do not use them</li> <li>The rate of using items in the textbooks</li> </ul>
	Time used	<ul> <li>The time of use for the textbooks: before, middle, and after lessons</li> </ul>
III. The use of	Methods of Use	<ul><li>Ways of using the textbooks</li><li>Ways of teaching and learning when using textbooks</li></ul>
mathematics textbooks	Restructuring the textbooks	<ul> <li>Whether they reconstruct the textbooks or not and frequency</li> <li>Ways of restructuring the textbooks</li> <li>Reasons why they reconstruct the textbooks</li> </ul>
	use of assisting materials	<ul> <li>Whether or not they use the textbooks and other resources</li> <li>Kinds of assisting materials used</li> <li>Reasons why they use the assisting materials</li> </ul>
	Referring resource	<ul> <li>Reference of mathematical knowledge for effective use of the textbooks</li> </ul>
IV. The awareness	Meaning of effective use	<ul> <li>Personal ideas about the effective use of textbooks</li> <li>Whether they use the textbooks effectively</li> </ul>
about effective use of mathe- matics textbooks	Ideas about effective use	<ul> <li>Specific ways of effective use of the textbooks when they use, if not, introduction of specific ways for using the textbooks effec- tively</li> </ul>

#### **B.** Group Interview

A group interview was conducted with 6 teachers in one of the researchers' office. The interview lasted two hours. The teachers were asked to describe how they used textbooks effectively. After describing ways of using the textbooks, they were asked to write down their use of textbooks and how they reconstruct the textbooks.

#### IV. RESULTS

# ${\bf 1.} \ \ \, {\bf The \; elementary \; school \; teachers' \; awareness \; about \; mathematics \; textbooks \; in } \\ Korea$

To identify the elementary school teachers' awareness about mathematics textbooks in Korea, the teachers were first given multiple choice items from which they choose the 2 functions for the textbooks from given examples. Second, they were given items to quantify related to how much the textbooks contribute to accomplishing learning objectives that is emphasized in the curriculum, students' self-directed learning and graded learning, and developing students' mathematical thinking, problem solving ability, mathematical creativity.

Table 7	T1	-1 4	1, 4 1	
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 	Textbook	(N=506)	Workbook ( $N = 510$ )		
Examples	Response number	Rate (%)	Response number	Rate (%)	
Motivate learning	39	7.7	7	1.4	
Present learning content	164	32.4	54	10.6	
Present learning materials	45	8.9	113	22.2	
Direct inquiry process	165	32.6	72	14.1	
Present work of inquiry and practice	93	18.4	264	51.8	
Total	506	100.0	510	100.0	

Five examples were presented about the function of mathematics textbooks, motivating learning, presenting learning content, presenting learning materials, directing inquiry processes, and presenting work of inquiry and practice. 278 teachers choose at most 2 examples making the response number 506. For the important function of the textbooks, the most chosen examples were 'direct inquiry process' (32.6%) and 'present learning content' (32.4%). The next were 'present work of inquiry and practice' (18.4%), 'present

learning materials' (8.9%), and 'motivate learning' (7.7%). The response about workbook function was 510. The 'presenting work of inquiry and practice' (51.8%) was the first and the second was 'presenting learning materials' (22.2%). The order of the chosen examples is shown in Table 7.

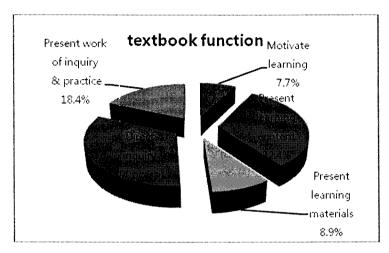


Figure 1. The textbook function

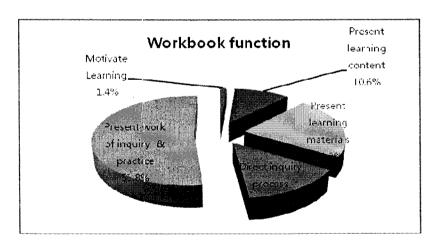


Figure 2. Workbook function

If we compare Figure 1 and Figure 2, we can see that the teachers think that 'motivate learning', 'present learning processes' and 'direct inquiry process' are more important in the textbook rather than the workbook. They also think that 'present learning materials' and 'present work of inquiry & practice' are more important in the workbook rather than textbook.

The ratings that the teachers gave (1 to 5 points among 9 examples) related to how much the textbooks contribute in the mathematics lessons is shown in Table 8. The rate of

contribution, 3 is 'average'. 4 is 'contribute more.' Based on the rate, the teachers have positive aspects on elementary mathematics textbooks because most items' rated are between 3 and 4. They think that the elementary mathematics textbooks are well matched with the national curriculum

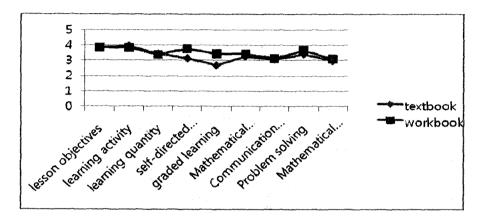


Figure 3. The textbooks' contribution on mathematics classroom lessons

The teachers think that lesson objectives are accomplished well when they teach with the textbook (3.84) and the learning activities in the textbooks are helpful for advancing the classroom lessons (3.95). Also, they indicated that the workbooks are helpful for accomplishing the lesson objectives (3.84), learning activities in the workbooks are appropriate (3.83), and the workbooks are well composed for students' self-directed learning (3.75). Meanwhile, they graded lowest (2.71) on whether the textbooks are appropriate for graded learning while the workbook average was 3.44. From these results, we can see that the teachers gave positive meaning to the workbooks rather than the textbooks on graded learning. Also, we can confirm that teachers evaluated the higher contribution of the workbooks than the textbooks and on other items there is no difference between textbook ratings and workbook ratings (see Figure 3). The more reform oriented the curriculum, the greater emphasis on mathematical creativity. The average for the textbooks is 2.99 and for the workbooks is 3.10 on the question whether the textbooks are composed appropriately for developing mathematical creativity. The teachers gave low points on the appropriateness for developing students' mathematical creativity. From this result, we can infer that teachers need to use the textbooks effectively to develop students' mathematical creativity. An analysis of the responses from the item that asked about what effort teachers devote to develop students' mathematical creativity, the data provides specific examples for using textbooks. Many teachers responded that they used mathematics notebooks with the textbooks. Specifically, the teachers use activities that

require students to make various problems and write in their mathematical journal or diary. In addition, even though the use of materials are not shown in the textbooks, the teachers make an effort to use various teaching materials to develop students' mathematical creativity, to use open-ended questions in classroom teaching, and to ask students to present various problem solving processes and explain their problem solving processes.

**Table 8.** The awareness about the textbooks' contribution to the mathematics lessons (N = 278)

Ţ.	Textbook		Workbook	
Items	average	SD	Average	SD
The learning content in the textbook is appropriate for accomplishing the classroom lesson objectives.	3.84	0.713	3.84	0.786
The learning activities in the textbook are helpful to proceed the classroom lessons.	3.95	0.776	3.83	0.843
The learning quality is suitable for advancing the classroom lessons.	3.43	0.898	3.38	0.921
The textbook is appropriate for students' self-directed learning.	3.15	0.905	3.75	0.879
The textbook is appropriate for graded learning.	2.71	0.839	3.44	0.913
The textbook is appropriate for developing students' mathematical thinking abilities.	3.27	0.818	3.42	0.845
The textbook is appropriate for increasing students' mathematical communication skills.	3.09	0.814	3.13	0.846
The textbook is appropriate for developing students' mathematical problem solving.	3.42	0.765	3.66	0.804
The textbook is appropriate for developing students' mathematical creativity.	2.99	0.795	3.10	0.798

## 2. The elementary school teachers' textbook use in Korea

To understand the teachers' use of mathematical textbooks, the rate of use of mathematical textbooks, the rate of use of structural items, the time of use and the period in lessons, the teaching and learning methods in using the textbooks, reconstructing, and the use of extra teaching materials were explored.

The rate of use was evaluated in 1-5. First, the average of the textbook use is 4.58 and the average of the workbook use is 4.39. Both textbook and workbook use average is close to 5 points. These results mean that the teachers use textbook and workbook very

often in mathematics teaching (cf. Table 9 and Figure 4).

<b>Table 9.</b> The use rate of mathematical textbooks ( $N =$	= 278)	
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Item	Average	SD
Textbook	4.58	0.619
Workbook	4.39	0.718

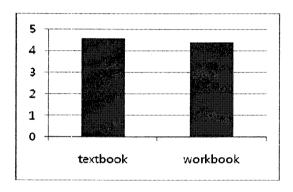


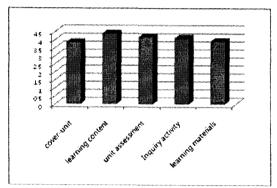
Figure 4. The use rate of the textbooks

**Table 10.** The use of structural items of mathematical textbooks (N = 114)

	Item	Average	SD
	Cover-unit	3.85	1.115
	Learning content for lessons	4.40	0.675
Textbook	Unit assessment	4.18	0.937
	Inquiry activity	4.12	0.77
	Learning materials	3.92	0.913
	Cover-unit	3.06	1.254
	Learning content for lessons	4.19	0.872
337	Problem solving	4.36	0.802
Workbook	Story yard	3.88	0.998
	Play yard	3.71	1.09
•	Learning material	3.76	1.011

To understand specific use of the textbooks, we first examined the teacher's rate of use of each structural item (cf. Table 10). Because each structural item of the unit was based on 2007 reform curriculum, 114 teachers taught Grade 1–Grade 4 students on 2010. Grades 5 and 6 did not adopt the 2007 reform curriculum yet. All the rate of use items were more than 3 points. So, we conclude that the elementary teachers evenly use items

presented in the textbooks. In the textbooks, the highest rate of use was 'learning content for lessons' (4.40) followed by the 'unit assessment' (4.18) and Inquiry activity (4.12). In the workbooks, the highest rate of use was 'problem solving' (4.36), followed by the 'learning content for lessons' (4.19). Among the whole constructed set of items the lowest rate of use was the 'unit cover' in the workbook. The reason why they do not frequently use the 'unit cover' in the workbooks is that they more often rely on the 'unit cover' of the textbooks.



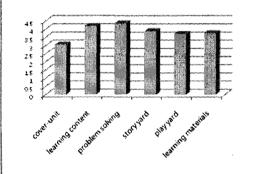


Figure 5. The textbook use rate of items

Figure 6. The workbook use rate of items

For the time period of use of mathematics textbooks in classroom teaching, the responses of 'lesson preparation' (62.9%) and 'middle of the lessons' were the most frequent. In the middle of the lesson, step by step activities are done for accomplishing the lesson objectives in the expanding stage. The teachers use the textbooks most (90.6%) in the expanding stage of the 'middle of the lessons.' Also, 74.5% teachers use the textbooks for the purpose of identifying the learning objectives and presenting the problem situation at the opening stage of each lesson. In case of the workbook, 82.7% teachers use the workbooks at closing stage and 77.3% teachers use it after the lesson.

Table 11.	The using time of the textbooks $(N = 278)$	
		-

Items		Lesson Mi		ddle of the lesson		After the	T-4 -
		preparation	Opening Expending		Closing	lesson	Etc.
Textbook	Response (%)	175 (62.9)	207 (74.5)	252 (90.6)	143 (51.4)	20 (7.2)	2 (0.7)
Workbook	Response (%)	57 (20.5)	14 (5.0)	76 (27.3)	230 (82.7)	215 (77.3)	9 (3.2)

This means that the teachers use the workbooks after finishing the lesson content with

the textbooks, or after finishing the lesson they give as solving the workbooks problems as homework. Other responses included that they use the textbooks for teaching low achievement students individually, use the workbooks for tests, and in the morning sessions before the lesson.

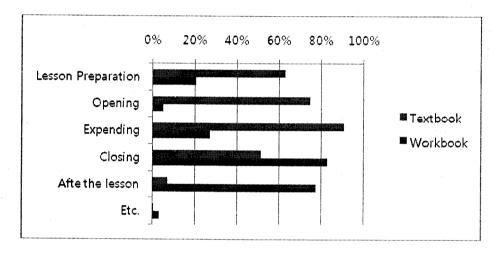


Figure 7. The using time of the textbooks

From Table 11 and Figure 7 we see that more teachers use the textbooks for lesson preparation and the opening and expanding stages than the workbooks. Toward the closing stage, the greater the use of the workbooks. After the lesson, the workbook use was much higher than the textbook use.

For the ways of using the mathematics textbooks, 52.2% of the teachers responded that they teach all the students following the textbook content when they use the textbook. 48.2% of the teachers responded that they use the textbooks for identifying the learning objectives and presenting the problem situation. From the results we observe that the teachers were guided for identifying the learning objectives after the lessons by the textbooks and used the textbooks for presenting the problem situation in introducing the learning content. 80.2% of the teachers use the workbook for supplementary teaching materials. From this result we can imply that many teachers think that the textbooks are more fundamental for teaching materials than the workbooks and they use the workbooks as a supplementary tool. Besides the role of supplementary teaching materials, 40.3% of the teachers responded that they give the workbooks for the homework and check. Because the content of the workbooks is too much for completing during classroom teaching, the teachers give solving workbook problems for homework. Also 25.9% of the teachers use the workbooks for checking by level based learning and teaching (cf. Table 12).

**Table 12.** The way of using the mathematical textbooks (N = 278)

	Item	Response number	Rate (%)
	Teach all the students following the textbook content.	145	52.2
	Use the textbook for checking learning objectives and presenting the problem situation.	134	48.2
Textbook	Use the lesson activities as referral materials.	40	14.4
	Use the textbook for assessing students' achievement of learning objectives.	77	27.7
	Implement various lessons being free from the textbook.	13	4.7
	Etc.	5	1.8
	Use as a supplementary teaching materials for the textbook.	223	80.2
	Use for the graded learning.	72	25.9
Workbook	Give homework and check.	112	40.3
,, ormoon	Make students solve the problems individually but not check.	13	4.7
	Etc.	21	7.6

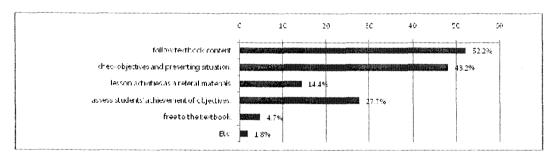


Figure 8. The ways of using the textbook

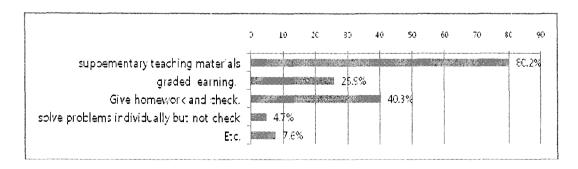


Figure 9. The ways of using the workbook

For the main way of teaching and learning, 74.8% of the teachers use the textbooks for the explanation and 91.4% of the teachers use the workbooks for individual learning. Compared to the workbook use, teachers use various teaching methods, discovery learning, inquiry learning, collaborative learning, when they use the textbooks (cf. Table 13).

	Item	Discovery learning	y Inquiry learning	Colla- borative learning	Individual Learning	Explana- tion	Free from the text-books	Etc.	
Text-	Response	103	155	65	100	208	31	1	
book	(%)	(37.1)	(55.8)	(23.4)	(36.0)	(74.8)	(11.2)	(0.4)	
Work- book	Response (%)	8 (2.9)	52 (18.7)	64 (23.0)	254 (91.4)	40 (14.4)	15 (5.4)	4 (1.4)	

**Table 13.** Teaching and learning method for using mathematical textbooks (N=278)

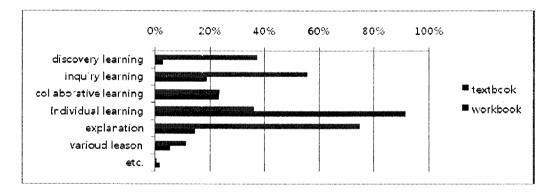


Figure 10. Teaching and learning method when they use the textbooks

**Table 14.** Textbook reconstruct and frequency (N=278)

Item	Response	Rate(%)
Reconstruction on every lessons.	1	0.4
Reconstruction sometimes on every unit.	44	15.8
Reconstruction sometimes when it is necessary.	180	64.7
Never reconstruct and follow the textbook content and order.	50	18.0
No response	3	1.1
Total	278	100.0

In the items that asked about textbook reconstruction, 18.0% of the teachers use the textbooks without restructuring the textbooks, except 1.1% of teachers who did not respond while the rest of the teachers use the textbooks with reconstruction depending on

the situation. For the frequency of the textbook reconstruction, 64.7% of the teachers do sometimes, when it is necessary, and 15.8% of teachers do sometimes on every unit while 0.4% of the teachers do with every lesson (cf. Table 14).

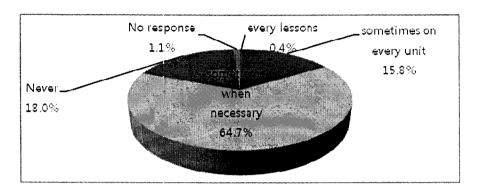


Figure 11. Textbook reconstruction and frequency (N=278)

Table	15.	The way	of	textbook reconstruct	(N	= 225)
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Item	Response	Rate (%)
Reconstruct both textbook order and content	109	48.4
Reconstruct textbook order only	28	12.4
Reconstruct textbook content only	87	38.7
No response	1	0.4
Total	225	100.0

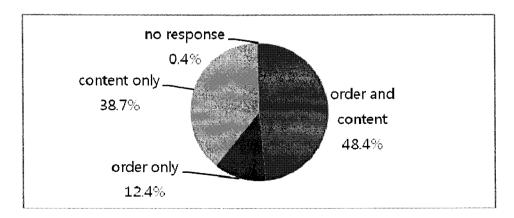


Figure 12. The way of textbook reconstruct (*N*=225)

225 teachers who restructure the textbooks were asked about the methods of recon-

struction. 48.4% of the teachers reconstruct the textbooks on content and order of the content, 38.7% reconstruct the content only and 12.4% reconstruct the order only. These findings reflect teachers' thought that the textbooks' content order of national curriculum is systemized considering the mathematical system and students' developmental stage (cf. Table 15).

55.6% of the teachers responded that they restructure the textbooks for making students understand easily; 24.0% responded for motivating students' learning and interest; and 9.8% responded for deepening and supplementing the textbook content (cf. Table 16).

Item	Response	Rate (%)
To understand the textbook content easier	125	55.6
To deepen and supplement the textbook content	22	9.8
To provide various information to students	8	3.6
To motivate students' learning and evoke interest	54	24.0
To implement teachers' distinctive teaching method	6	2.7
Etc.	3	1.3
No response	7	3.1
Total	225	100.0

**Table 16.** Textbook restructuring reason (N = 225)

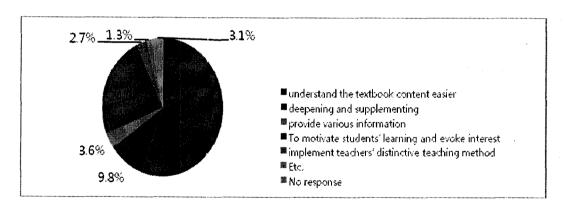


Figure 13. Textbook restructuring reason (N = 225)

The teachers were asked where they get the mathematical knowledge when they use the mathematical textbooks. The teachers get reported that they get most of the material from the teacher's manual (62.9%), websites related with mathematics education (31.3%), reference books (18.3%), and teacher professional development programs (12.2%) (cf. Table 17). Other ways include the teacher's community and colleagues.

Item	Response	Rate (%)
Textbook	19	6.8
Teacher manual	175	62.9
Reference Books	51	18.3
Teacher professional development program	34	12.2
University or graduate school lecture	12	4.3
Website related mathematics education	87	31.3
Etc.	. 7	2.5

**Table 17.** The sources of mathematical knowledge for effective use of the textbook (N=278)

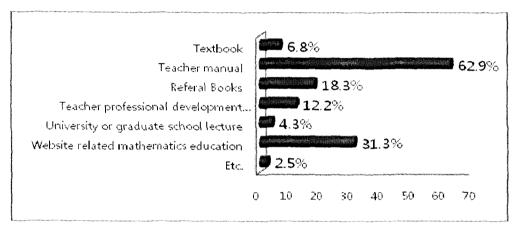


Figure 14. The sources of mathematical knowledge for effective use of the textbook (N = 278)

#### 3. The ways for effective use of the mathematical textbooks

The teachers were asked to describe freely their opinions on the meaning of effective textbook use. Table 18 summarizes their thinking.

The teachers were asked to describe the specific ways of using textbooks effectively. Many teachers described their own way of effective use of textbooks. 8 of the teachers described the following methods. First, present the problem similar to or equal to the 'everyday life problem' in the textbooks. Second, make students solve it by exploring themselves. Third, students solve the problem on their notebook and know various solving strategies. Fourth, solve the practice problems from the textbooks. Fifth, summarize the final content of the textbooks. Sixth, solve more difficult problems from the textbooks. Seventh, solve the problems in the workbooks. These teachers reported use of the textbooks and workbooks very often in the classroom teaching.

**Table 18.** The teachers' opinions about the meaning of effective textbook use (N = 162)

Item	Response (%)	Examples of the representative response
Textbook centered teaching but teacher need to reconstruct the textbook	46 (28.4)	<ul> <li>Depends on the students' level of understanding and attention, both the order and content should be reconstructed but students need to learn all the textbook content.</li> </ul>
Use as reference resources for achieving learning goals	24 (14.8)	<ul> <li>Have to use to assist for accomplishing the learning goals</li> <li>( does not need to teach all the textbook content</li> </ul>
Use as a fundamental tool through the whole lesson	21 (13.0)	<ul> <li>Because many researchers developed it for teaching and learning over a long time, we should use it enthusiastically through the whole classroom lesson to accomplish the na- tional curriculum goals.</li> </ul>
Extract core elements and use it without relying on the textbook	13 (8.0)	<ul> <li>Considering classroom environment and students' learning level, extract least element, reconstruct and use it.</li> <li>Do not rely on the textbook content entirely and use it in extracting mathematical element in various situations.</li> </ul>
Teach after identifying the content and learning process	13 (8.0)	<ul> <li>Mainly use for getting lesson process</li> <li>Referring to teacher manual which explains the textbook, use it after identifying the textbook authors' intention and the best way of teaching method matching with the intention</li> </ul>
Use it to understand learning questions and basic concepts and principles	13 (8.0)	<ul> <li>Use it as teaching and learning materials for students to understand mathematical concepts and principles and problem solving</li> <li>Use it for identifying learning questions and fundamental concepts and principles</li> </ul>
Use it for presenting the inquiry process	8 (4.9)	<ul> <li>Use it for evoking interest and presentation of resources for inquiry process • Use it for group or individual work after presenting mathematical situation</li> </ul>
Summarizing and assessing lesson contents	5 (3.1)	<ul> <li>It should be helpful for checking what students understand and assessment.</li> <li>Use it for summarizing the lesson content and inquiry process</li> </ul>
Use it for individual learning	5 (3.1)	<ul> <li>Use it for individual learning, adjusting students learning level</li> </ul>
Use it for student self- learning	4	Use it for self-directed learning     Guide students to use it for their self-learning
Etc.	(2.5) 10 (6.2)	<ul> <li>Guide students to use it for their self-learning</li> <li>Use it to develop the thinking process of problem solving</li> <li>One of the resources for mathematical problem situation</li> </ul>
Total	162 (100.0)	

Item	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No response	Total
Response	30	122	117	4	0	5	278
(%)	(10.8)	(43.9)	(42.1)	(1.4)	(0.0)	(1.8)	(100.0)

**Table 19.** The teachers' effective use of textbook (N = 278)

For using the textbooks effectively, teachers asked to offer some recommendations. The construction of the textbooks and the textbook authors' intension were explained to the teachers. So, the teachers need to have professional development programs for the textbook use. Also before using the textbook, teachers need to study teaching and learning strategies and tips for the teaching process. The textbooks are needed to have activities that can be done by a student alone as well as collaborative groups.

#### 4. Two teachers' opinion about the effective use of mathematical textbooks

Among the 6 interviewers two teacher's opinions about the effective use of mathematical textbooks is described. The first teacher is Ms. Yoon. She is a graduate student who teaches Grade 4. She expanded on textbook use. The second teacher is Ms. Han. She is teaching Grade 5. She expanded on workbook use.

#### A. Ms. Yoon's opinion about the textbook use

Ms. Yoon thinks that the textbook is immediately available in the class and the material implements the curriculum concretely. But, the textbook is one of the teaching materials, thus, a teacher can use other materials instead of textbook to implement the curriculum at any time. Most of the in-service teachers may try to reconstruct the textbook in order to prepare the open classes or to achieve specific purposes such as conducting some research. Also, some teachers reconstruct the textbook with goals such as reaching the learning objectives and understanding of students. Ms. Yoon also reconstructs the textbook for the above three reasons. But the biggest challenge to reconstructing the textbook is that the teachers should reconstruct the textbook including the original contents of textbooks when beginning a new idea and trying to reconstruct according to this idea. If a teacher adds other activities in the lesson, he can't teach all of the contents in the textbook on time. Because a teacher should teach all of the content in the textbook to be recognized as the faithful teacher, most of the teachers will take time to make up missed learning content.

#### B. Ms. Yoon's case of mathematics textbook use

'Doing promise' in the mathematics textbook is to define mathematical terms and

symbols learned through the activities. This is equally used in the learning and teaching situation, so the students are expected to understand the content of 'Doing promise' surely. This helps teachers prepare for their classes as well as helps students understand the mathematical concepts.

Ms. Yoon tends to make use of 'Doing promise' more frequently when she teaches the content of geometry strand. Although she is fully aware of the mathematical content knowledge required in the class, she has the students confirm and use the mathematical concepts through the part 'Defining' in textbook. Teachers should convey more accurate information to the students.

For example, Ms. Yoon has a good knowledge of mathematical terms such as rectangular prism, faces, edges and vertexes that are required in the unit 'Rectangular prisms (5-A)'. But, she makes full use of the part 'Doing promise' in textbook, because as the teacher, she feels she should use the accurate mathematical terms and definitions.

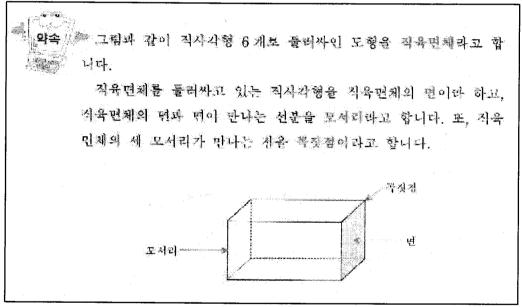


Figure 15. The part of the textbook on the rectangular Prism

As shown above, 'Doing promise' covers the definitions of rectangular prism, faces, edges and vertexes which the students are required to know. This part aims to help the students understand mathematical concepts. In addition, the teachers can confirm the appropriate definitions for the 5th graders through 'Doing promise'.

Ms. Yoon often uses the part 'Doing promise' in the numbers and operations strand. The concept of 'divisor' is introduced first to the 5th graders. To them, the divisor means the number that can divide the dividend (the number being divided) exactly as the opposite concept of the multiple. The divisor is typically defined within the range of

integers and it also can be generalized to define the domain. It can be introduced as shown in the part of textbook ('Doing promise') below:

Figure 16. 'Doing promise' of the divisor in the textbook

So, the part of 'Doing promise' in the textbook can be used as guidelines to confirm the definition of mathematical concepts when the teachers prepare for their classes.

#### C. Ms. Han's application methods of the mathematics Workbook

At most of schools, the mathematics workbook is given for homework or used as learning materials which the students solve by themselves and then the teacher gives the answers in class. But if the teachers use the mathematics workbook as below, they can make the math classes more efficient and useful.

#### 1) Teaching and Learning Each Other and Developing the Ability (TLEODA)

The students have difficulties in solving the mathematics workbook and are bored with it. The teachers know that personal teaching is the most effective but it is impractical. Therefore, the teachers let the students solve the mathematics workbook formally and just give the answers sometimes. But the teachers can use the mathematics workbook more efficiently if they use the method of **TLEODA**.

TLEODA is literally teaching and learning each other and developing the ability to think mathematically. If the students share their solutions and discuss them with other group members after solving the mathematics workbook personally, they can communicate mathematically, present their problem-solving methods and use meta-recognition to organize their thought processes. It helps that mathematical low achievers overcome difficulties in learning by discussing with other learners and receiving their assistance. If there are the problems which are not solved by themselves, the students will naturally ask their teacher about these problems. And the students can readily make sense of the teacher's explanation about the problems, because they thought about them many times.

Figure 17 shows the part of the workbook about "Rounding off the quotient" in the unit 「6-B 3. Division of decimals」. In this part, there are not only the simple operation problems but also the word problems that many students have difficulties in solving. The word problems offer more opportunities for the discussion about division's principle than

the simple operation problems. These problems also enhance the mathematical thinking ability and understanding of the students. It is important that the teachers make students verify their problem-solving processes by showing the right processes after the discussion among the students.

When Ms. Han actually used the mathematics workbook in the manner of **TLEODA**, the number of mathematical low achievers dropped off, the students' academic ability improved during teaching and learning within groups, the students became more familiar with others through the communication and the students' social consideration for others and feeling of mutual trust were formed.

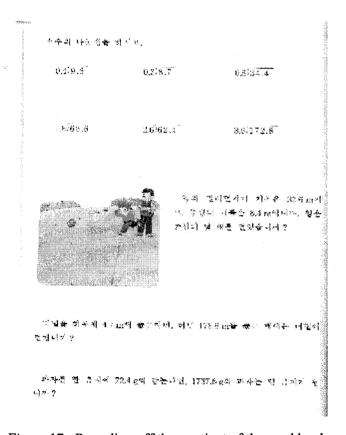


Figure 17. Rounding off the quotient of the workbook

#### 2) The workbook use for graded learning

Each of lessons in mathematics workbooks begins with the information about the procedures for operations, followed by basic problems for the principle and a lot of exercises. The mathematical low achievers are apt to hate to study mathematics when they became tired of solving a lot of problems. Thus, Ms. Han provided her students with opportunities

for graded learning after the students performed the activities of 「Practice」 in the mathematics workbook. For example, the students lacking in understanding about the essential elements of learning, solved the problems such as Figure 18, on the contrary, students having sufficient understanding solved the problems such as Figure 19 in the workbook. By doing this, the teachers do not need to prepare other teaching materials for graded learning. In addition, the students make effective use of their time during the class through the appropriate learning for their own level.

Because graded (level-based) learning is performed in every single class, not after finishing all classes of a unit, unnecessary loss of time can be avoided. The teachers should not expect all of their students to solve all of the problems in the mathematics workbook. To use the mathematics workbook effectively, teachers should have their students solve the appropriate problems for own level.

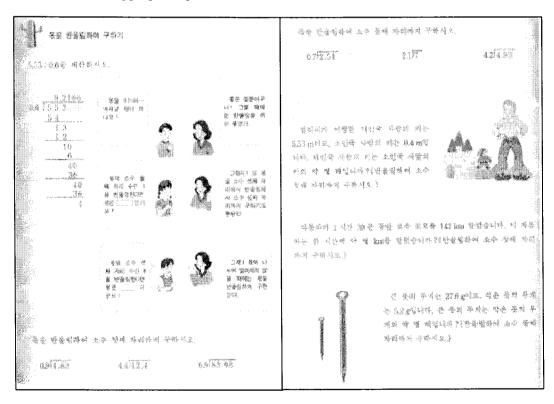


Figure 18. Division problem on the textbook Figure 19. Word problem for division

#### 3) The workbook use for performance assessment

The questions for review are given in each unit of a mathematics workbook. This part consists of the questions to assess whether the students know the essential elements of learning or not. The teachers can make up extra questions for performance assessment. To

assess students' level of attainment, the teachers also can use the questions for review in the mathematics workbook. After solving the questions for review, the students can study Learning again (supplementary learning) or Learning more (enriched learning) depending on their personal level. So, the students can do the level-based learning every unit by using the mathematics workbook. At the beginning of the school year, Ms. Han distributed a sheet like the Table 20 to her students. After the students finish solving the questions for review, they counted the number of correct answers, and then decided what to study next for themselves.

**Table 20.** The check list for unit assessment of mathematics workbook (6-7-)

Sequence			I. Fractions and decimals	2. Prisms and pyra- mids	3. The range of num- bers	4. Build- ing blocks	5. Surface area and volume	6. Ratio and propor- tion	tional	tion	9. Finding out prob- lem- solving methods
1	Review	Number of questions	22	9	13	9	10	21	15	8	4
1	Review	pass or fail	(18)	(6)	(11)	(6)	(6)	(15)	(11)	(6)	(3)
1	Review	Number of correct answers									
2	pass or fail	pass									
2	pass or fail	again									
3	Learning again (supplementary learning)	Number of questions	18	9	3	9	12	18	9	10	4
3	Learning again (supplementary learning)	Number of correct answers									
4	Learning more (enriched learning)	Number of questions	5	4	8	6	12	11	8	8	3
4	Learning more (enriched learning)	Number of correct answers									

"The unit assessment of mathematics workbook should be performed within class. So, do not solve the questions in advance. Everybody can be a master of mathematics. Way to go!"

Because the mathematics workbook includes the unit assessment and promotes success at learning as well as the level-based learning of each class, the effective use of

mathematics workbook helps make math classes very meaningful.

#### V. CONCLUSION

From the results, there are several conclusions that can be formulated as well as some implications. First, the teachers think that the textbooks function to direct inquiry processes and present learning content and the workbooks function to present work of inquiry and practice, and to present learning materials. They think the textbooks and the workbooks have different functions for classroom lessons. So the authors who make the textbooks and workbooks need to consider the teachers' awareness. They should make the textbook more clearly on directing inquiry processes and learning content. Also they need to focus on present work of inquiry and practice in the workbooks.

The teachers rated high on the contribution of the mathematics textbooks for teaching mathematics. They think that the textbooks are well matched with the Korea national curriculum. So, we can infer that the textbooks are well made for reflecting the national curriculum and can help teachers for teaching mathematics. However, the teachers do not think that the textbooks encourage students to enhance mathematical creativity. The mathematical creativity is getting emphasized in this society, but the mathematics textbooks do not well support mathematical creativity enhancement. The textbook authors should make efforts to reflect mathematical creativity in the textbooks.

Most of the teachers use the textbooks and workbooks very often in classroom teaching. However, the teachers use the textbooks more on the lesson preparation and opening and expanding stages in the lesson and use the workbooks more on closing the lesson and after the lesson. So the time of use is different. The textbooks should be focused more on preparation and opening parts. The cover-unit on the textbooks should include attractive pictures or illuminations. The workbooks are used for homework, so it should be constructed by considering self-directed learning and graded (level-based) learning. This means that students should be able to solve the problems in it and should be able to check their solutions by themselves.

Many teachers teach all students by simply following the textbook content. The teachers need to reconstruct the textbooks to teach and to do so they need to take professional development programs focused on mathematics textbook use. Most teachers do not know the textbook authors' intention. So there is a gap between teachers' teaching and the textbook author's intention. This means that the teachers cannot use the textbooks effectively. Even though many teachers reconstruct the textbooks when it is necessary, because they do not know the textbook authors' intention, they might simply reconstruct the order and content of the textbooks. When the textbooks are made, the intension of the

textbooks should be clear to the teachers and workshops should be provided.

From the two teachers Ms. Yoon and Ms. Han, the core concept of the textbooks should be identified first to make sure that the students understand the core concepts and practice to keep the concept in mind. Because many problems cannot be put in the textbooks, the teachers should use the workbooks effectively. The workbooks can be used as for teaching and learning and developing abilities for graded (level-based) learning, and for performance assessment. The workbooks should be able to support all these ways of strategy use.

This research could not focus on specific ways of using the textbooks in the classroom teaching practically. Further research is necessary to study teachers' use of textbooks in classroom teaching.

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