

## VMT: The Virtual Math Teams Project

VMT is a new project designed to investigate small group collaborative learning in The Math Forum's popular "Problem of the Week" service. Small groups of students are invited to collaborate online solving math problems that require reflection and discussion. VMT will investigate questions of group process and social roles in math problem solving in order to aid the design of the service, through the following research activities:













- \* Observe students in math classrooms in Philadelphia public schools working collaboratively on math problems & analyzing their collaborative learning process with an eye to creating Virtual Math Teams.
- \* Design mechanisms to bring together compatible online teams. Experiment on optimal groupings based on math skills, interests and backgrounds.
- \* Develop math problems structured for discussion, exploration and solution by small groups of students.
- \* Design, implement and evaluate online support for small groups of students to collaborate on math problems.
- \* Study the online collaborative learning process among student groups solving math problems.
- \* Scale up the online service for use in Philadelphia public schools and globally.





