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## Saxon math grade 6

I receive numerous inquiries about Saxon Math from homeschooling families, and I'm thrilled to share my experiences and review of this math curriculum, which has been instrumental in my family's academic success. With 17 years of homeschooling under my belt, my two oldest children have secured full scholarships to college, thanks in part to their exceptional performance on college entrance exams. As a result, I often get asked about our homeschooling approach, and one question that comes up frequently is whether Saxon Math is an effective curriculum. It's worth noting that Saxon Math tends to elicit strong opinions in the homeschooling community, with some families loving it and others being less enthusiastic. However, my family has seen significant success with Saxon Math, which is why I often recommend it to other homeschooling families. One of the key strengths of Saxon Math is its thorough and incremental approach, where each lesson builds upon previous concepts, providing a solid foundation for future learning. The curriculum's scope and sequence are well-designed, allowing children to gradually develop a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts and their interrelationships. The inclusion of numerous word problems also helps make the concepts more relatable and applicable to real-life situations. For those considering Saxon Math, it's essential to understand the different levels and placement tests. The curriculum is graded from K to 3, after which it switches to skill-level designations. For instance, Math 3 is followed by Math 5/4, which caters to advanced fourth-graders or average fifth-graders. It's also worth noting that Saxon offers various books, including Saxon 8/7 and Alg 1/2, both of which are considered Pre-Algebra. While Algebra 1/2 was written for high-schoolers who hadn't previously taken pre-algebra, Saxon 8/7 is geared towards younger students who are ready for pre-algebra. If a student completes 8/7 successfully, they may not need to complete both. Additionally, Saxon provides Geometry, although I've never used it in our homeschool, as the Algebra 1 & 2 books adequately cover geometry. According to the Rainbow Resource Center catalog, non-college bound students or those who don't plan to pursue math or science degrees can follow a sequence of Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and Advanced Math. In contrast, college-bound students or those who excel in math should consider Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Advanced Math, and Calculus, as the geometry content is covered in these texts. Based on our experience, I recommend skipping Saxon K and starting with Saxon Math 1 for kindergartners, as it covers all the necessary material, making the use of both redundant. You can homeschool your kindergartener using fun games in 'Homeschool Your Kindergartener (for free!) in Just 20 Minutes a Day'. Saxon Math 1 offers plenty of practice, but none of my children used Saxon K and it didn't affect them negatively. They actually benefited from moving quickly through math and then slowing down. I'll discuss our math schedule below. For older kids wondering where to start, check Amazon for used Saxon math books. You can find cheaper ones, but make sure you get the correct edition with answer booklets and test booklets if needed. The age, math level, and maturity of your child will depend on what works best for them. My kids did 2 pages a day, M-F, in Saxon Math K-3, which took around 10 minutes. We completed more lessons when we got to Saxon Algebra, but less as they got older. We didn't need as many assignments or time per week as our older kids, who needed longer times for more difficult upper-level courses like Advanced Mathematics and Calculus. In my family, we did what worked best for us. We completed 2 pages a day sometimes with one lesson and sometimes two, and usually worked through the summer because our kids didn't need to review. When they started Saxon Algebra, we did one lesson per day, even though we only homeschool 4 days a week. Our kids ended up being at least two grades ahead of schedule and completed Algebra 1 in 6th grade with great comprehension. They needed to slow down when they hit puberty, but we made allowances and gave them extra time and encouragement. My experience with the math schedule has taught me that progress needs to be slowed down, especially when it comes to Saxon Algebra 2 and Calculus. Understanding and retaining advanced math concepts takes time and repetition - even if it means repeating assignments multiple times until my children grasp them. My oldest kids needed two years to fully understand Saxon Advanced Mathematics, while my fifth child mastered it in just one year. To help their conceptual understanding, I supplement the trigonometry in Advanced Mathematics with additional practice on identities before moving on to Calculus. Additionally, I require them to thoroughly memorize the unit circle. Saxon Calculus takes another year, and we've found that taking a non-Saxon course beforehand helps prepare my children for the AP exam. Taking the AP Calc test in 10th or 11th grade reduces stress because the exams are spaced farther apart. My kids have chosen to earn their associate's degrees during high school, which requires significant college credits and can impact scholarship opportunities. The timing of taking AP exams is crucial. Junior year is better than senior year, but 10th grade provides the best advantage if my children have credits upfront. Taking more than three AP tests per year puts too much pressure on them. A strong understanding of upper-level math also helps with college-entrance tests taken in sophomore and junior years. Overall, homeschooling's flexibility allows us to tailor our schedule to each child's needs. However, every family is unique, and it's essential to make changes necessary for your child's confidence and success. In my experience with Math, I believe that practice, experience, and familiarity are key components of understanding mathematical concepts. I'm also a fan of Saxon Math's incremental development approach, which gradually builds on previous lessons in increasing complexity. Cutting out problems from the text can undermine this method's effectiveness and reduce students' exposure to math. However, I do let my children skip initial review lessons if they need to, as those are typically aimed at students who take a summer break. On the other hand, I wouldn't have them skip assignments towards the end of each book, where the learning is often deeper due to the spiral approach. As someone with degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science, I've found that experience and practice play a significant role in mastering complex subjects like Calculus. To ensure my children master math concepts, we complete all problem sets together, focusing on thorough understanding rather than just getting answers right. This involves reviewing mistakes and re-checking each other's work until every problem is correct, which can be time-consuming but yields significant learning benefits that are often overlooked in traditional schooling methods. As you begin your homeschooling journey with math, be aware that your child will likely require guidance - it's inevitable. For older children, explore local resources like free online math labs at nearby universities or websites such as Khan Academy and Purple Math for video tutorials and forums to discuss questions. You can also utilize digital tools, including video instruction CDs from 'teacher' and D.I.V.E., although our household prefers in-person teaching. If you're homeschooling a younger child, take advantage of the opportunity to review and refresh your math skills alongside them. A good curriculum should not only provide a solid understanding but also be engaging. While it may not be necessary for the curriculum to be 'fun' or packed with extras, finding something that aligns with your child's learning style is crucial. Saxon Math stands out due to its systematic and spiraling approach, focusing on fundamentals without unnecessary embellishments. In our experience, using math manipulatives like linking cubes, money, and baked goods has greatly enhanced conceptual understanding and made lessons more enjoyable for my children. When selecting a curriculum, prioritize those that emphasize building knowledge of 'why' behind the 'how', as this is essential for deep understanding. We've used Saxon Math since 2002, initially purchasing used textbooks from friends due to budget constraints. Since then, we've had experience with various editions and versions of Saxon textbooks, including some hardbound public school editions that work just as well as the more recent 'homeschool edition' releases. Sets are the only homeschool curriculum Saxon offers, either through their site or other companies, making it a profitable venture for the publisher. The "homeschool editions" of these sets are cheaper, but they're made with thinner paper and are less durable. They charge \$25 more for the "homeschool version" of the same books, which seems unnecessary. I've used Saxon Math 8/7 specifically and found the content to be the same as the homeschool edition. In my experience, buying older versions of Saxon math online at a lower cost is the way to go. Just make sure to get the correct edition for both textbooks and solution manuals. I haven't used the newer editions aligned with Common Core, which makes me skeptical due to its low standards. As someone who has homeschooled eight children, I've learned that consistency is key. My oldest two scored high on their college entrance tests without having a high school diploma, as they applied with their ACT scores and college GPAs. They're now attending a prestigious university on full scholarship. I've come to realize that we don't need to stress over every little detail. Do your best, but don't feel pressured to create a public-school-style education at home. Instead, find a curriculum that works for you and stick with it. Don't bounce around too much, as this can create gaps in your child's education. Most importantly, pray about your decisions and remember that your children are also God's children. He will guide you regarding their education. The license guarantees certain freedoms for the user as long as they adhere to the terms. Key conditions include: \* \*\*Attribution\*\*:. Providing proper credit, linking to the license, and indicating changes made. \* \*\*ShareAlike\*\*:. Distributing modified material under the same license as the original. \* \*\*No additional restrictions\*\*:. No extra legal terms or measures restricting others' actions. These freedoms do not apply to public domain materials or where exceptions and limitations permit. There are no warranties provided, and other rights may limit usage. Power-Up Workbooks offer one-page warm-ups for each lesson, covering Facts Practice, Mental Math, and Problem Solving exercises. The Course Assessments Book includes Placement Tests, Baseline Tests, Power-Up Tests, Cumulative Tests, Benchmark Tests, and an End-of-Course Exam. These tests cover skills from the preceding year's math curriculum and are designed to gauge student readiness for each course. Solutions for these tests can be found in the Solutions Manual. Power-Up Tests assess fact recall, while Benchmark Tests provide quarterly exams or help identify areas needing additional practice. The End-of-Course Exam is a final multiple-choice test. Written Practices offer cumulative information, but this Course Assessments Book may be necessary for external testing requirements due to its reproducibility. Saxon Math Courses 1-3 integrate traditional units, allowing students time to learn and master skills throughout the year, aligning with Common Core State Standards.