

I use an abstract example of a coordinate graph to represent a physical activity that my students perform in class. I split my room up into a similar graph. We discuss as a group what it means to be in each section of the graph. Advanced = we know it, can use it, teach it and apply different situations. Proficient = we know it, can use it and apply it to class problems. Partially proficient = fifty-fifty. We have pieces of the puzzle but cannot do it all. Unsatisfactory = I don't know? What? Or I have never heard that before. After we establish what each area means, I introduce new terms/vocabulary and students move to the section of the room that best represents their understanding. Students are given a few minutes to discuss what they already know about the subject and each group gets a chance to share out. During this time students are also allowed to adjust their location if they feel they choose the wrong group. After all the ideas have been discussed by the group, each student returns to their seat and add these ideas to a identical graph in their interactive notebooks. This is a great way to analyze beginning class knowledge, learn the topics students have seen repeatedly over the years and decide what the class truly does not understand. It is a great way to get a quick understanding of where my class is. During this activity, I utilize specific vocabulary related to coordinate graphing: outlier, quadrants, origin. By Laura Zoromski