TOOL // Math Self-assessment: Learn From Your Mistakes

What is it used for?
The tool assesses how well students can identify errors in math computations and corrects those. This provides the teacher with assessment for learning data regarding student understanding of a computational procedure as well as a student's ability to self-assess and correct their own work in the future.

How do you use it?
Students are given a placemat with a math computation on the left corner that has been completed incorrectly. Their job is to identify the error, rework it correctly and give feedback to ensure it doesn’t happen again. This can also be done with the teacher writing a student’s computational error from a test on the placemat and having the student identify where they went wrong and what they need to do next time. As well, the teacher may identify a question a small group of students had incorrect, choose one of the incorrect examples and then work with the small group to identify the error. This could be done using the Smart Board and putting each child’s work who had an error up so the group can identify different errors in process.

How do you adapt for other subjects or topics?
This can be used for any math skill where a computational error can be highlighted. The teacher simply puts the incorrect procedure on the left hand side and the students complete the boxes.
Learn From Your Mistakes

Look closely at the ________ question. Identify where the student made their mistake. Give the student some feedback as to how they can avoid this mistake. Solve the question correctly so they can see what they did wrong.

Identify and Explain the Mistake

Undo Mistake

Hints & Tips
Learn From Your Mistakes (4)

Look closely at the question below. Identify where the student made their mistake. Give the student some feedback as to how they can avoid this mistake. Solve the question correctly so they can see what they did wrong.

Kyle has 3 one-litre containers with some juice in each, as shown in the picture below.

Which is closest to the total amount of juice Kyle has?

Kyle has 2 litres of juice.
I know because one full one and Two part ones.

Identify and Explain the Mistake

The kid's mistake is only one of Kyle’s cups are full and each cup is one litre of juice. 2 parts are $\frac{3}{4}$ not a full one.

Undo Mistake

Add up the two cups that are not full and see how much Kyle has:

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Hints & Tips

Try to pay attention to the amount of each cup's measurements.