**Learning Log Criteria**

**Developed by Mrs. D. Galvin**

In this course, you will be required to keep a learning log of all the new concepts you learn.  This must be a book that is separate from your daily work.  This new learning should be expressed in your own style.  You might find that you will add or change ideas as your understanding of a concept deepens.

The main purpose of this book is to give you the opportunity to think through your learning and record how you understand the concepts.  This process of thinking about your thinking is called ìmetacognitionî and it has been found to be one of the most valuable tools for learning.

If you have difficulty recording any concept, explain as much as you can and you can ask for help at the beginning of the following lesson.  If this book is used properly, it should provide you with everything you would need for studying purposes.  It would contain all your new learning, with examples, and it would also include any questions that you had during the learning process.

 In addition to all this (can you believe there is more?) you should keep a list of any new math vocabulary in the back of this book.

This book will be collected and marked throughout the school year.  We will begin all lessons helping any student who had difficulty explaining their learning from the previous lessons.  Many students have found it useful to use a question or example to explain their thinking.   It is truly in your best interest to do a thorough job of this book.  Many students have taken their learning logs to the next grade and have found them extremely useful for remembering past learning.  In fact, some students have continued to do learning logs, even when they were not required to do so.

Metacognition

KNOWING HOW TO LEARN, and knowing which strategies work best, are valuable skills that differentiate expert learners from novice learners. Metacognition, or awareness of the *process of learning,* is a critical ingredient to successful learning.

Evaluation Criteria for Learning Logs

A       - All new concepts are included in the book

        - All new concepts are fully explained in the studentís own words

        - Organization is extremely clear (titles, topics, etc.)

        - All examples include an explanation for why they are in the book

        - All of the vocabulary is listed in the back of the book

        - The book is extremely unique to the studentís own learning

B       - Book has some of the qualities from above and some from below

C+      - Most new concepts are included in the book

        - Most new concepts are fully explained in the studentís own words

        - Organization is clear (titles, topics, etc.)

        - Most examples include an explanation for why they are in the book

        - Most of the vocabulary is listed in the back of the book

        - The book is unique to the studentís own learning

C       - Book has some of the qualities from above and some from below

C-      - Some new concepts are included in the book

        - Some new concepts are fully explained in the student's own words

        - Organization is somewhat clear (titles, topics, etc.)

        - Some examples include an explanation for why they are in the book

        - Some of the vocabulary is listed in the back of the book

        - The book lacks the student's unique style.

       (This may mean the student used the textbook to record notes)

I       - This book does not meet the minimum requirement