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Reflection: Making Mathematics Come Alive With Technology

In my academic career, I have experienced technology in several different classes. The class that comes to mind the most is in my geometry class. In this course there were many days that the instructor incorporated technology into the lessons. We worked in a program which allowed for us to manipulate geometric figures and see the geometric/algebraic relationships. This technology was very useful in formalizing our conjectures related to certain mathematical relationships. Once we had an idea of what the relationship could be, we then began to work on a generalized proof of our conjecture. I think that incorporating this technology into the lesson allowed for me to focus more on the relationships themselves rather than getting bogged down by the tedious calculations for each case. It allowed me to see the big picture without having to focus on the individual parts. I also feel that this aspect of the course was beneficial by providing me with a greater understanding of how Geometry relates to Algebra.

Out of all of the technology functions presented in this article, I find the one related to programming to be the most compelling. The reason for this is because I feel that programming is one of greatest examples of mathematical application in our world today. I feel that students would be able to see more of a reasoning behind why they learn certain mathematics. I also feel that students would be better prepared for upper level mathematics courses that they may run into in their future academic careers. Programming is an extremely vital tool in our world today and if students have a better understanding of why/how the technology we have works, then they will be more prepared to progress our technologies further in the future. Mathematics will

play an enormous role in that and I feel that getting students to make this connection is vital to our future.

I thought that this article was very interesting to read. It opened my view up to more possibilities of technology incorporated into mathematics. I feel that technology has a great potential to make mathematics education better if these technologies are employed in the correct manner.