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The Philosophy of TouchMath

The TouchMath philosophy may be stated in five easy words: REACH AND TEACH ALL LEARNERS. The educators who have developed and expanded the TouchMath Program throughout the last 45+ years have worked constantly to meet this goal. Every TouchMath unit, module, and activity sheet reflects their dedication. The success TouchMath has experienced is largely due to its multisensory approach and adherence to research-proven practices. It is unique in that it combines the use of the four major senses of seeing, saying, hearing, and touching, with the research-proven Concrete- Representational- Abstract (C-R-A) learning continuum by using the abstract numeral as a manipulative.

The C-R-A continuum reflects the sequence of instructional and research-based best practices for how most students learn. This is important because it helps student represent numbers and develop number sense quickly, preparing them for future success in math by ensuring they develop a tangible understanding of the math concepts they need to learn and have multiple strategies for solving math problems.

In addition, TouchMath incorporates other research-proven strategies in the lessons and activities, including Model, Lead and Test, which is also known as I Do, We Do, You Do. Educators will also find multiple ways for students to access, engage and express their learning, also known as Universal Design for Learning. Constant time delay, form or errorless learning is another strategy that is available for use with those students who need it.

We have made sure that TouchMath activities are meticulously scaffolded and provide all learners with ample opportunities for success. As each skill is mastered, the next simple step is introduced. The TouchMath activity sheets are clean and uncluttered with age-appropriate artwork. The variety, quantity, and quality of the activities provided make reinforcement immediately available on an as-needed basis. Teacher materials are straightforward and easy to use. Skills on each page are clearly defined, connected to the standards, and presented using specific methodology. Instructional strategies include real world connections, books to read, digital tools and group and individual work and games. The materials are effective in large group situations, in small groups, or for individual learners. Students master each concept as they see it, say it, hear it, touch it, and learn it.

TouchMath is committed to our mission of helping students conquer math. You can use the TouchMath program to give young children a head start, supplement a grade-level curriculum (Pre-K – beginning Algebra), provide intervention and remediation, and achieve the best possible outcomes for any student.
Opening Your Standards-Based Box

Each Standards-Based Program unit box contains reproducible activity masters, labeled folders to keep the activity masters organized by module, and a spiral-bound teacher’s guide. Unit boxes are designed for effortless organization, ease of use, and clutter-free storage when placed on a bookshelf or desktop, or when stored in a drawer or filing cabinet.

The spiral-bound teacher’s guide includes page-by-page instruction for unit activity masters with answer keys, progress monitoring, and grade-level scope & sequence.

Module folders are provided to help keep the reproducible activity masters organized within the unit box. Activity masters are also 3-hole drilled if you prefer to store them in a binder.

23 colorful unit boxes make up the complete Standards-Based Program: Pre-K (orange) 1 unit, Kindergarten (green) 4 units, First Grade (red) 4 units, Second Grade (blue) 4 units, and Upper Grades (purple) 10 units.
A Look at the Teacher’s Guide

Each Standards-Based Unit includes a spiral-bound teacher’s guide. Each teacher’s guide summarizes the content for that unit and is broken into modules with page-by-page instruction for every student activity sheet. Also included are activity sheet thumbnails, a comprehensive answer key, parent/guardian communication letter, and progress monitoring records for each module. These essential teacher’s guides are organized for quick reference and easy use in a busy classroom. They contain the following:

- Unit and module overviews that provide the scope of content
- Find alignments to your state standards at touchmath.com/alignments
- Comprehensive list of objectives and vocabulary covered in the unit
- Objectives that define a focus for the skills presented
- Prerequisites that identify experiences needed prior to the lessons
- Vocabulary that emphasizes teacher language to be used in concept building
- Materials that will be necessary for the lessons
- Page-by-page instructional strategies matched with student activity sheets
- Pre- and posttest assessment tools
- Parent/guardian communication letters
- Progress monitoring records to track student progress and to plan differentiated instruction
Instructional Strategies Visual Features

Each teacher’s guide includes page-by-page instructional strategies to be used with the student activity sheets. The two column presentation helps educators teach with ease with easy to follow directions paired with activities and answer keys.

The left column contains detailed page-by-page directions with teacher script, materials lists, bolded vocabulary words, and icons for multisensory engagement, including:

- Materials Needed
- C-R-A Sequence
- Teacher Information
- Teacher Script
- Multisensory Directions
- Teamwork Activities
- Teacher Modeling
- Student Movement
- Centers Activities

The right column contains answer key thumbnails, activities, and whiteboard samples to be modeled and/or discussed. The Second Grade and Upper Grades programs also include basic background (information related to the skill), instructional insights (purpose of the strategy), and differentiated directions (suggestions for meeting various needs of individual learners).
Standards-Based Activity Sheets

Each unit in the TouchMath Standards-Based Program contains reproducible student activity sheets, which are organized by skill into modules. These pages are aligned with current, rigorous state standards – and follow current state ESSA plans that mandate a culture of high expectations for all students. All skills are built upon the Concrete-Representational-Abstract (C-R-A) approach, allowing all students to access a range of tools for building the foundational math skills they must master to succeed in critical math domains.

The activity sheets are designed to incorporate TouchMath manipulatives and common classroom materials where appropriate. They feature opportunities to discuss and build mathematical language naturally. The clean, uncluttered pages also allow students the necessary space to develop tactile skills as they master new concepts. As children see, say, hear, and touch while they practice math, they learn and remember.

Thumbnail answer keys to all activity sheets can be found in the teacher’s guide alongside the instructional strategies. A comprehensive answer key can also be found in the back of the teacher’s guide.
Opening Your RtI Box

Each RtI Program kit box contains reproducible activity masters, instructional strategies, and teaching aids. Kit boxes are designed for effortless organization, ease of use, and clutter-free storage when placed on a bookshelf or desktop, or when stored in a drawer or filing cabinet.

What’s In the Box?

RtI Programs

9 colorful kit boxes make up the complete RtI Program: Kindergarten (green) 3 kits, First Grade (red) 3 kits, and Second Grade (blue) 3 kits.

Instructional strategies are printed on colored cardstock. Use them as dividers at the beginning of each 15-page section in the kit.

Included teaching aids enhance and expand the wide range of concepts presented on the activity master pages, helping to reinforce the mathematical concepts that are introduced.

Section tabs are provided to help keep the reproducible activity masters organized within the kit box. Activity masters are also 3-hole drilled if you prefer to store them in a binder.
A Look at the Implementation Strategies

Each RtI kit includes instructional strategies printed on colored cardstock. The implementation strategies offer valuable information in a simple and convenient format, and can be used as dividers at the beginning of each 15-page section in the kit. Each implementation strategies page presents a straightforward, uncomplicated collection of lesson extensions, helpful ideas, and relevant information that may be integrated into plans for each group of lessons. You can easily use these strategies to develop lessons for students at both ends of the learning spectrum and for every student in between. Each implementation strategies page is divided into six separate sections:

- **Objective:** The written objective uses key mathematical vocabulary and indicates the underlying rationale
- **Materials Needed:** Suggested materials to support the lesson
- **Math Concepts:** Key vocabulary that your students will encounter in the activity pages
- **Teaching Tips:** Educator tips that make each lesson more powerful
- **Hands-On Activities:** A wide variety of games, crafts, story starters, and multisensory activities
- **Literature Connection:** Math literature reviewed by TouchMath with a clever tie-in with language and reading
About the Teaching Aids

Each RtI kit includes a wide variety of teaching aids to enhance your lesson plans, integrate hands-on learning, and pique your students’ interest as you introduce new math concepts. Preview all the clever multisensory teaching aids included in each kit and expand upon them with additional ideas and activities tailored to your own classroom.

Included teaching aids enhance and expand the wide range of concepts presented on the activity master pages, helping to reinforce the mathematical concepts that are introduced.
RtI Activity Sheets

Each kit in the RtI Program contains reproducible student activity sheets, which are organized by skill into sections. Implementation strategies, printed on brightly colored cardstock, will guide you through each 15-page section. All skills are built upon the Concrete-Representational-Abstract (C-R-A) approach, allowing all students to access a range of tools for building the foundational math skills they must master to succeed in critical math domains.

The activity sheets are designed to incorporate TouchMath manipulatives and common classroom materials where appropriate. They feature opportunities to discuss and build mathematical language naturally. The clean, uncluttered pages also allow students the necessary space to develop tactile skills as they master new concepts. As children see, say, hear, and touch while they practice math, they learn and remember.

A comprehensive answer key can be found in the kit appendix.
Connect School to Home

Both the Standards-Based and RtI Programs include parent/guardian communication letters. These letters can be found in the standards-based teacher’s guides, or in the RtI kit box introduction. The introductory letter informs parents/caregivers that TouchMath will be used with students during the school year. The letters are designed to be printed on school letterhead and signed by the teacher. Spanish versions are available on the Teacher Tools page of the website. In addition to an overview of the TouchMath approach, letters suggest ways parents/caregivers can help at home, and include the Touching/Counting Patterns to help parents/caregivers better support their child.
Review. Assess. Record.

Regular assessment of specific skills is essential to ensure student success. Formal assessments combined with ongoing classroom teacher observations measure what has been taught. These assessments should occur upon completion of work on particular skill, and the results should be used for re-teaching and remediation.

Progress monitoring records are included in both Standards-Based and RtI Programs. Teachers may use any appropriate record keeping method they wish (e.g., check marks, different colors for completed or needs help, letter grades, etc.). When used effectively, these monitoring records provide an ongoing snapshot of each student’s progress and are very helpful for conferences with the parent/guardian. Electronic (.xlsx) versions are available for every grade, unit, and module of the Standards-Based Program, and can be downloaded for free from the Teacher Tools page of the TouchMath website.
TouchMath PRO is our new digital annual subscription service that supports personalized learning and remediation in any environment. This teacher-facing tool gives educators digital access to the complete TouchMath program (Pre-K – Upper Grades) covering beginning number sense concepts through beginning algebra.

1. To login visit app.touchmathpro.com.
2. Sign in using the TouchMath PRO account login information provided by your school administrator.
3. Change your password (if prompted).
4. You now have access to TouchMath PRO materials and can begin creating personalized learning plans for individual students, groups, and classes!

**Personalized Learning Plans**
It is easy to set up individualized and personalized learning plans, giving each student, group, or class the opportunity to learn at a level and pace that meet individual needs.

**TouchMath PRO Skills Rainbow**
With access to over 5,000 TouchMath activities, you can easily select activity sheets based on skill across any grade level. We even highlight precursor skills to effortlessly reinforce the foundations.

**Core Curriculum Planner**
For use as a core curriculum for general and special education students, the Grade Rainbow makes it easy to choose the grade level program you need, and use the units and modules in sequential order.

**Gradebook and Reports**
With guided teacher directions, answer keys, and scoring at your fingertips, TouchMath PRO makes tracking student progress simple with integrated progress and intervention reports.

**TouchMath PRO Support**
Visit the Support page at touchmathpro.com to view user guides, browse FAQs, or fill out a help ticket. The TouchMath University team also offers customized training to help administrators and teachers launch TouchMath PRO with success. Visit touchmath.com/tmuniversity for more information.
Green Editions Quickstart Guide

2. Sign in using your touchmath.com account login information. When you are logged in to your Green Editions account, you will see an area at the top of your dashboard to “Register new license.”
3. Enter the license key(s) issued to you at time of purchase and click “Activate.” Each Unit license key will need to be entered and activated separately.
4. You now have access to your Green Edition materials and can begin to browse, customize, and lesson plan!
TouchMath Has Gone Virtual

TouchMath Connect is an interactive software program that brings the TouchMath methodology into the virtual world. Students of all age levels and abilities can engage directly with their touchscreen tablet, desktop computer (mouse/keyboard), or classroom interactive whiteboard, to count, add, subtract, skip count, multiply, divide, and more. Customizable problem choices, playlists, and TouchPoints gives educators the power to create individualized learning experiences for each student, group, or classroom. Sample problems, guided voice directions with positive reinforcement, and step-by-step interaction makes TouchMath Connect great for classroom instruction or independent use.

**TouchMath Connect 1 Software**
- Touching/Counting Patterns
- Number Concepts
- Addition
- Subtraction

**TouchMath Connect 2 Software**
- Touching/Counting Patterns
- Skip Counting
- Multiplication
- Division
- Pre-Algebra
- Fractions

Visit [touchmath.com/connect](http://touchmath.com/connect) to see demo videos and learn about tech requirements for PC/Mac desktop and laptop computers. Mobile App versions of Connect 1 and Connect 2, as well as our Counting App and Jungle Addition App are available for iPad, Chromebook, and Android tablets on the [Apple App Store](http://apple.com/appstore) and [Google Play Store](http://play.google.com). Visit our [Mobile Math Apps](http://touchmath.com/mobile-apps) page to learn more.

**TouchMath Connect 1 and 2 Apps**
Available for iPad, Chromebook and Android tablets
Visit the [Apple App Store](http://apple.com/appstore) or [Google Play Store](http://play.google.com) on your supported device

**TouchMath Counting App**
Available for iPad, Chromebook and Android tablets
Visit the [Apple App Store](http://apple.com/appstore) or [Google Play Store](http://play.google.com) on your supported device

**TouchMath Jungle Addition App**
Available for iPad, Chromebook and Android tablets
Visit the [Apple App Store](http://apple.com/appstore) or [Google Play Store](http://play.google.com) on your supported device
Connect with TouchMath Online

1. **Visit touchmath.com**
2. **Setup your Free TouchMath Account (Login)**

   After setup you will want to explore the website to learn more about TouchMath and our family of classroom programs. You can also access Professional Learning [training](#) and [webinars](#), browse [research](#) papers and testimonials, view and download [alignments](#) to your state standards, follow our [blog](#) for TouchMath tips and industry insights, watch instructional [videos](#), gain access to [Teacher Tools](#) and [Free Stuff](#), plus a whole lot more.

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**Social Media**

TouchMath has also embraced social media as a way to keep you informed. There are plenty of ways to stay up to speed with the latest and greatest, and receive valuable information that will help you and your students succeed in the classroom.

- Receive special offers and exclusive discounts
- Get the latest news and information on programs and products
- Have the ability to ask questions of fellow educators and TouchMath experts
- Share and receive best practices, teaching strategies, and program adaptations
- See what your peers are saying about TouchMath
Hands-On Tools For the Classroom

TouchMath manipulatives provide numerous ways to teach math concepts in a way that appeals to students of all learning styles. For tactile/kinesthetic learners, or students needing concrete support tools, nothing beats the hands-on approach of TouchMath, with versatile aids for relating math skills to concepts they can touch.

- **TouchNumerals**: Includes three sets of form numerals 0–9, operation signs, TouchPoints, and USB with printable activities and instructional strategies.

- **3-D Numerals**: Includes two sets of textured magnetic numerals 0–9, operation signs, and USB with printable activities and instructional strategies.

- **TouchPoints**: Includes 500 one-inch textured TouchPoints in eight colors, and USB with printable activities and instructional strategies.

- **TouchPoints with Pictures**: Includes 1,440 one-inch form TouchPoints with space and animal pictures – pairs directly with the Pre-K Standards-Based Program.

- **TouchShapes**: Includes 324 textured, multi-color shapes (6 different shapes) in three sizes, and USB with printable activities and instructional strategies.

- **Domino Cards**: Includes five unique sets of textured playing cards (55 cards in each set) with a variety of pictures, arrays, TouchPoints, and numerals.

- **Student Number Cards**: Includes ten sets of hand-sized reinforcement cards for numerals 1–9, reversible with and without Touching/Counting Patterns.

- **Desktop TouchLines**: Includes 24 perforated TouchLines, reversible with horizontal and vertical numeral presentations. Laminate for extra durability and tape to any desk.
Vibrant Visual Reinforcement

TouchMath poster sets turn your classroom into a veritable resource for a variety of math skills, prompts, and reminders of the TouchMath process. TouchMath posters offer additional opportunities to reach and teach visual learners, and serve as immediate classroom references when students need support.

**TouchPoint Posters**
Two unique sets (TouchPoint Posters and TouchPoint Animal Posters) each include 8.5”x 11” reversible posters for numerals 1–9, with and without Touching/Counting Patterns. Each set comes with downloadable activities and instructional strategies.

**Counting Quantity Posters**
Two unique sets (Pre-K: Space and Kindergarten: Birds) each include ten 5.5”x 17” posters covering numbers 1–10, and two 11”x 17” posters, one each for numbers 20 and 30. Each set comes with downloadable activities, instructional strategies, and digital versions of each poster.

**Skip Counting Posters & Songs**
Two unique sets (Primary and Upper Grades) each include eight 11”x 17” posters for skip counting patterns 2–9. Each set comes with downloadable songs that accompany each poster, printable activities, instructional strategies, and digital versions of each poster.

**Computation Step Posters**
Four unique sets (Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division) each include six 11”x 17” posters covering all steps of the TouchMath approach. Each set comes with downloadable activities, instructional strategies, and digital versions of each poster.
Remediate. Practice. Test.

TouchMath single-use workbooks and standards-based assessments provide students the chance to back up, practice, master the foundational skills they may have missed, and move forward to grade level, or more advanced concepts. From learning Touching/Counting Patterns through Fractions & Decimals, Pre-K through Upper Grades, workbooks and assessments give students of all ages and abilities the opportunity to conquer math.

**Above+Beyond Workbooks**

Two unique sets built on learning progressions, one for Multiplication and one for Division, help educators easily remediate across grade levels. Each progression contains six color-coded single-use workbooks (25 pages each), covering standards from Kindergarten through Grade 4. Checkpoint assessments and progress monitoring are included in each workbook. Teacher editions (one for each progression) contain full-page answer keys and recommendations for remediation.

**TouchMath Intervention Workbooks**

Grade level and skill focused, each 56-page workbook offering meaningful repetition with scaffolded problems, visual cues, and TouchPoints. Single-use workbooks for Pre-K through Upper Grades cover a variety of targeted skills including TouchPoints, Number Concepts, Counting, Addition, Subtraction, Skip Counting, Multiplication, Division, Time, Money, and Fractions & Decimals. Teacher’s guides (one for each grade/skill) contain answer keys and guidance for success.

**Standards-Based Placement Tests**

Placement tests are designed for beginning-of-year assessment based on the previous grade-level standards to ensure grade-level readiness. These single-use assessments are available for Grade 1 through Grade 5. Teacher editions (one for each grade) contain page-by-page directions, answer keys, progress monitoring, accommodations for learners with disabilities, and recommendations for remediation within the Standards-Based Program.

**Standards-Based Proficiency Tests**

Proficiency tests are designed for end-of-year assessment based on the standards and content presented throughout the year. These single-use assessments are available for Kindergarten through Grade 5. Teacher editions (one for each grade) contain page-by-page directions, answer keys, progress monitoring, accommodations for learners with disabilities, and recommendations for remediation within the Standards-Based Program.
Make It Easy On Yourself

Having the TouchMath Program in the classroom is one part of a successful overall strategy to implement quality math instruction. To ensure user fidelity and augment the effectiveness of the program, suggestions are included for classroom use.

TouchMath Classroom Setup

- Display all TouchMath classroom aids during math instruction, and use them with the students.
- Provide centers featuring TouchNumerals, counters, and other manipulatives to reinforce learning.
- Have books identified in literature connections available to read.
- Place the progress monitoring records in an easily accessible place.
- Store the unit and/or kit boxes on a shelf for later use.
- Schedule a paraprofessional to meet with students needing individual instruction.
- Establish small group areas for use with a paraprofessional or parent volunteer to differentiate instruction and provide individualized guidance.

TouchMath Program Implementation

- Incorporate the objectives listed in the teacher’s guides and/or implementation strategies into your lesson plans and/or IEPs.
- Include in your lessons the visual, auditory, and tactile/kinesthetic components mentioned in the instructional strategies.
- Model using TouchMath materials, manipulatives, and counters during whole group instruction.
- Use the vocabulary words included for each objective in your instruction with the children.
- Assess students at the end of each module to monitor progress.
- Send home the completed activity sheets to keep parents/guardians informed of the program material.
- Send home the parent/guardian communication letter at the beginning of the unit and/or kit.
- Use opportunities outside of math instructional time (art, snack time, transitions) to reinforce TouchMath strategies and provide meaningful repetitions.
- Incorporate the skills in the TouchMath Program throughout the day.

TouchMath Program Implementation Tips

- TouchPoints: Provide explicit instruction to master the Touching/Counting Patterns.
- Instructional Strategies: Modify the teacher input/modeling, checking for understanding, and directions for guided practice, implementing those that work for you and your learners.
- Activity Sheets: Use only the activity sheets that are needed to advance the learning of individual students.
- Practice: Use enough activity sheets to provide meaningful repetition of the skill for the developmental level of the student.
- Extra support: Schedule a parent volunteer or paraprofessional to work with small groups or individuals who need more experience with the skill.
- Classroom setup: Locate details and examples in this implementation guide.
- Amount of time: In general, structure activities within the two to two-and-a-half times the learner’s developmental age (e.g., If the student is 6 years old developmentally, activities will be most effective if they are 12 to 15 minutes long). Independent time provides opportunities for additional experiences. Using one to four pages per day will provide ample opportunities for experiential learning throughout the year.
Classroom Guide Checklist

- Use all TouchMath classroom aids during math instruction.
- Set up small group areas.
- Feature TouchNumerals, TouchPoints, and other counters in centers.
- Keep the Progress Monitoring Records in an accessible place.
- Store the unit and/or kit boxes.
- Schedule paraprofessionals or parent volunteers.
- Include objectives from the instructional strategies in lesson plans and IEPs.
- Incorporate visual, auditory, and kinesthetic components in lesson plans.
- Modify instructional strategies to meet the needs of the learners.
- Identify and use student activity sheets for meaningful repetition.
- Allocate time based on the developmental level of the learner.
- Model using TouchMath materials during large group instruction.
- Provide explicit instruction with TouchPoints.
- Include vocabulary words in instruction.
- Read books listed in literature connections.
- Reinforce TouchMath strategies throughout the day.
- Assess students at the end of each module.
- Send home parent/guardian communication letters.
- Regularly send home completed student activity sheets.
Studied. Published. Proven.

TouchMath is an evidenced-based, multisensory approach to teaching all skills and concepts in elementary math. This method is consistent with foundational educational research and has been proven effective across educational settings, various student demographics, and all different student abilities. TouchMath incorporates a See It, Say It, Hear It, and Touch It approach to learning each math skill introduced to ensure that the learner is engaged at his level of understanding and the way he best learns information.

TouchMath is the only program that uses the actual numeral as a manipulative by having TouchPoints (concrete level) and uses visual cues (pictorial/representative level) throughout the program to eventually remove visual cues and TouchPoints so the student can demonstrate a symbolic/abstract comprehension of the skill.

The TouchMath Program supports and connects both conceptual and procedural learning.

Whitepapers, case studies, action research, and quasi-experimental design studies have been conducted related to the effectiveness of the TouchMath Program. All of the research provides evidence of improved achievement for general education and special education students at all levels.

To view the studies, please visit touchmath.com/research
Get Going with TouchMath University

A growing body of research continues to validate the TouchMath system and point to a common conclusion: our multisensory approach and focus on the CRA sequential strategy improves math comprehension and mastery. And in order for students to conquer math with our resources, we are here to make sure educators are well-prepared to teach with them.

TouchMath University approaches professional learning differently. Our programs are interactive and combine job-embedded knowledge with ongoing support for general and SPED educators, leaders and administrators. We believe if we give educators the skills and knowledge they need to help students gain a better conceptual understanding of math, everyone wins.

TouchMath University Live!

Join our team of Special Education and math experts, for live professional learning experiences customized to meet your individual needs. Onsite, virtual, and blended training options available with over 20 courses to choose from. See course offerings and descriptions at touchmath.com/tmuniversity.

- TouchMath Jumpstart
- TouchMath Refresher
- TouchMath PRO
- TouchMath Pre-K
- TouchMath K–2
- TouchMath 3–Algebra
- TouchMath & Distance Learning
- TouchMath Train-the-Trainer
- and a whole lot more!

Open Enrollment Classes

Join other TouchMath educators for one of our live, online open enrollment professional Learning courses. Led by the TouchMath University team, these 2-hour sessions are designed to help you implement and teach TouchMath with ease. Whether you are new to TouchMath, or looking to brush up on your skills, these timely and targeted sessions are suitable for all experience levels, including Math Teachers, SPED Teachers, Instructional Coaches, and Homeschool parents. See upcoming courses and register online at touchmath.com/tmuniversity.

Worktable Webinars

The TouchMath University team periodically offers free webinars on timely topics. You can browse available webinar recordings on-demand on our Webinars page. Sign-up for TouchMath emails, visit our News & Events page, or follow TouchMath on social media to stay up to date on upcoming Worktable Webinar events.