Lower MS Math Syllabus

Younger Middle School (5th–6th)

2026–2027

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor	Email	Room Location	Class Days & Time
Luke Hegelund	Luke@rivertech.me	Younger Middle School Room	Monday–Friday, 8:45–9:35 am
Charlotte Tebow	—	Younger Middle School Room	Monday–Friday, 8:45–9:35 am

COURSE OVERVIEW

Math is workbook-centered. Every student works through one book, at their own level, at their own pace. The class is built this way on purpose, because not every student is here five days a week.

The goal for the year is simple and non-negotiable: one book finished, more if the student is behind.

WHAT A CLASS PERIOD LOOKS LIKE

- **First 5 minutes.** One interesting problem, method or concept demonstrated on the board.
- **Next 30 minutes.** Focused workbook progress.
- **Last few minutes.** Multiplication and arithmetic games.

PLACEMENT

Placement was set in the first week of school from three things: the student's age and the grade that goes with it, where the student remembers leaving off last year, and a paper placement test.

Students were told to work through the test until they got stuck, and to leave the rest blank. The blanks were the point — they show where to start. Placement can be adjusted during the year if a student is clearly in the wrong book.

PACING

Each book has a dated page plan written into it, spreading the required pages across the school year. Progress is checked against those dates regularly.

If a student falls behind, we will contact you and agree on a realistic catch-up pace rather than let it drift.

ASSESSMENT

- **Weekly math test, Thursdays.** This is the only weekly math test.
- Workbook progress against the dated page plan.
- Participation in class.

Tests sit on Thursday because that is a day the full group is present.

HOW TO HELP AT HOME

- **Check the dated page plan in the book.** It is the single best indicator of whether your student is on track.
- Short and regular beats long and occasional.
- Ask what the interesting problem was that day. It is a fast way to find out whether anything landed.

CONTACT

Mr. Luke — Luke@rivertech.me