Concepts – Decimals to Thousandths

Teacher Notes:

Decimals (Thousandths)

- Each student will need a large cube, about 10 flats, about 10 rods, and about 20-30 units.
- Explain to the students that the large cube represents one whole, the flat represents 1/10, the rod represents 1/100 and the unit is 1/1000.
- Have the students build various representations of decimals to the thousandths place, such as 0.11, 0.111, 0.101, 0.001, and so on.
- Each time you give a decimal to build, ask how many tenths, hundredth, and thousandths they have represented. Illustrate how to write and have students write the numbers.

- To practice ordering and comparing decimals give the students two decimals, such as 0.33 and 0.303. Each pair of students will make one of the decimals on his/her flat. They will then write the comparison   0.33 > 0.303
- Have the students in groups of three to four, and give as many decimals to place on their flat. The students write these in order from least to greatest.

- To practice addition, give the students two decimals to build. For example, ask the students to build 0.12 and then build 0.204. Have them combine the two and find the number represented. Continue with other decimal numbers.

- For subtraction, ask the students to build 0.237 on the flat and then take-away 0.021. Continue with other decimal numbers.