

# Student How-To Guide

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This guide begins with a description of the computer environment you need to use Agile Mind services. It then describes how to perform all of the tasks you need to know including:

- Downloading Microsoft Internet Explorer® software
- Downloading Macromedia® Flash® Player software
- Getting Assignments
- Using the Instructional Components
- About Assessments and Tests
- Getting Reports

## Computer Environment Requirements

Agile Mind services are delivered in an application service provider (ASP) model. These are web-based services operating from a central data center so that your school doesn't have to invest heavily in technical support or additional infrastructure.

All content is accessed at the Agile Mind website and delivered via the Agile Mind Internet servers. Students and educators access Agile Mind services via personal computers with standard Internet access at a minimum connection speed of 28.8kbs using standard Internet browsers.

## Technical Requirements: 2006-2007

### For PCs

- Pentium II 266 MHz processor or faster

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- 20MB of available disk space
  - Sound card with speakers and microphone or headset (teachers only)
  - 28.8 Kbps or higher internet connection
  - Windows 95 / 16 MB RAM
  - Windows 98 / 16 MB RAM
  - Windows ME / 16 MB RAM
  - Windows NT / 64 MB RAM
  - Windows 2000 / 64 MB RAM
  - Windows XP / 128 MB RAM
  - Windows Vista / 512 MB RAM
  - Internet Explorer IE 5.0 or higher
  - Flash 6.0 or higher
  - Adobe 5.0 or higher

#### **For Macs**

- MAC OS 9
- Power PC, G3, G4
- 64 MB RAM
- 50 MB of available disk space
- Sound card with speakers and microphone or headset (teachers only)
- 28.8 Kbps or higher internet connection
- Mozilla browser
- Flash 6.0 or higher
- Adobe 5.0 or higher

- MAC OS X
- Power PC, G3, G4, G5
- 128 MB RAM
- 50 MB of available disk space
- Sound card with speakers and microphone or headset (teachers only)
- 28.8 Kbps or higher internet connection
- Firefox 1.0 or higher
- Flash 6.0 or higher
- Adobe 5.0 or higher

## Technical Requirements: 2007-2008

### For PCs

#### New Technical Requirements

Internet Explorer IE 6.0 or higher  
Flash 8.0 or higher

#### Not Supported

Windows 95  
Windows 98  
Windows ME  
Internet Explorer IE 5.0 or higher  
Flash 6.0  
Flash 7.0

### For Macs

#### New Technical Requirements

Firefox browser 1.5 or higher  
Flash 8.0 or higher

#### Not Supported

OS 9  
Mozilla browser  
Flash 6.0  
Flash 7.0

## Downloading Microsoft Internet Explorer®<sup>1</sup> Software

Internet Explorer, version 5.0 or later is the recommended browser. To obtain this browser for free:

1. Navigate to Microsoft's download site for Internet Explorer  
<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/default.asp>
2. Click **Download Now**.
3. Select language and click **Go**.
4. Click **Internet Explorer 6 Service Pack 1**. The download imports and installs a 479 KB setup file, ie6setup.exe.
5. When prompted, if desired, choose the type of installation preferred. Download for a typical installation is about 25 megabytes (MB). Setup downloads only the files necessary for the specific installation, so size varies from 11 MB to 75 MB.
6. Restart the computer to complete the installation. (If using AOL 8.0 or lower for Internet access, the recommended procedure for using this browser is: Sign on to AOL; minimize it; then open Internet Explorer browser from the start menu or the desktop.)

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1. Microsoft Internet Explorer is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation.

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## Downloading Macromedia® Flash® Player Software

Macromedia Flash Player 6 software is required. To obtain this software for free:

1. Navigate to Macromedia's download site for Flash Player 6:  
[http://www.macromedia.com/shockwave/download/index.cgi?P1\\_Prod\\_Version=ShockwaveFlash](http://www.macromedia.com/shockwave/download/index.cgi?P1_Prod_Version=ShockwaveFlash)
2. Click to automatically download and install Macromedia Flash Player 6 software into Microsoft Internet Explorer® browser.
3. Depending on the computer's security settings, a Security Warning dialog box may appear. Click **Yes** to accept the ActiveX control.



## Getting Assignments

1. Open a web browser (such as Microsoft Internet Explorer®). Go to the AgileMind or ThinkFive district URL. (Do not use "www" in the URL (example: <http://district.thinkfive.com>). Disable any pop-up blocker software. (Otherwise, the next site will not be visible.)
2. On the login page, enter the **User ID** and **Password** that was provided by the teacher. Passwords are case sensitive. Then click **Sign In**. When prompted to close the window, click **yes**.

**Welcome to Agile Mind**

**User ID**

**Password**

-  **Need student support?**
-  **Need educator support?**
-  **Forgot your password?**

3. From the **My AgileMind** tab, go to the left navigation menu to **My Information** heading. Click **My profile**.

4. Choose a hint question from the **Choose a hint** list.

**My contact information**

The contact information you provide here will only be used by Agile Mind to assist you when you forget your password. If you choose a hint and an answer, we can use that information to verify who you are, so you can request your password on the Sign In page.

**Print this page for your personal AgileMind access information.  
Keep your User ID & Password CONFIDENTIAL**

**Browser Address** http://dev.agilemind.com  
**User ID** 123456  
**User Password** TildeFlags  
**Choose a hint** What is the name of your first pet? ▾  
**Type your answer** Sunny

5. Enter the answer to the hint question in the **Type your answer** field.

6. Click the **Update** button.

"Your contact information has been updated" will appear at the top of the page.

7. Print this page for your AgileMind access information.

8. Click **Today** in the left navigation menu of the **Agile Mind** tab.

This takes you to the AgileMind home page.

9. On the AgileMind home page, read any **Community Announcements** (from AgileMind staff) and **Class Announcements** (from your teacher).

**Class Announcements**

**teacher1 - algebra1**

**New Assignment**

A new assignment has been posted - please complete by May 6th

**Class Calendar**

Click on each calendar entry to learn more...

May 16, 2006



**teacher1 - algebra1 assignment**

3. Variables and functions

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10. Beneath the current date is the list of current assignments. To see the details of an assignment, click the text or colored button in that row.

May 16, 2006 ◀ S M T W T F S ▶

teacher 1 - algebra 1 assignment  
3. Variables and functions

<b>Assignment</b> 3. Variables and functions	Algebra I Topic 3 All non-test components
<b>Start date</b> May 16, 2006	
<b>End date</b> May 16, 2006	
<b>Description</b> Complete this problem by the end of class.	
<b>Assigned to</b> class	

11. Write down the description of the assignment from the detail area.

## Using the Instructional Components

Each topic has several instructional components: an **Overview**, several **Explorings**, and a **Summary**. The sections below describe how to use them.

### Accessing a topic

Here is one way to access a topic and its instructional components.

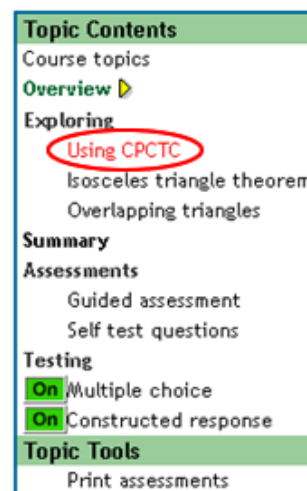
1. Click the course tab.

My Classes Algebra 1 **Geometry**

2. Click the name of the topic you want. (Note: From the list of course topics, you may also click directly on any assessment or test. Those marked "On" are current assignments.)

	Self test questions
<b>10. Using congruent triangles</b>	
	Guided assessment Self test questions
11. Compass and straight-edge construction	

3. The **Overview** appears. To access a different component, click it in the left navigation menu.



4. To select a different topic, click **Course topics** in the left navigation menu. To return to the class assignments and calendar, click on **My Classes** tab at the top.

### Moving within components

Moving from page to page is easy. Look for the navigation arrows.

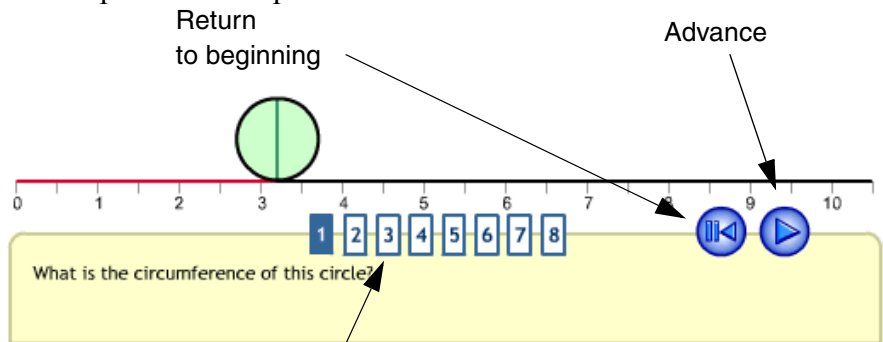


- Click the arrows to go forward or backward.
- Click any number to move to that screen.

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## Using animations

Many instructional components contain animations and simulations that help you understand important concepts. Here is how to use them.

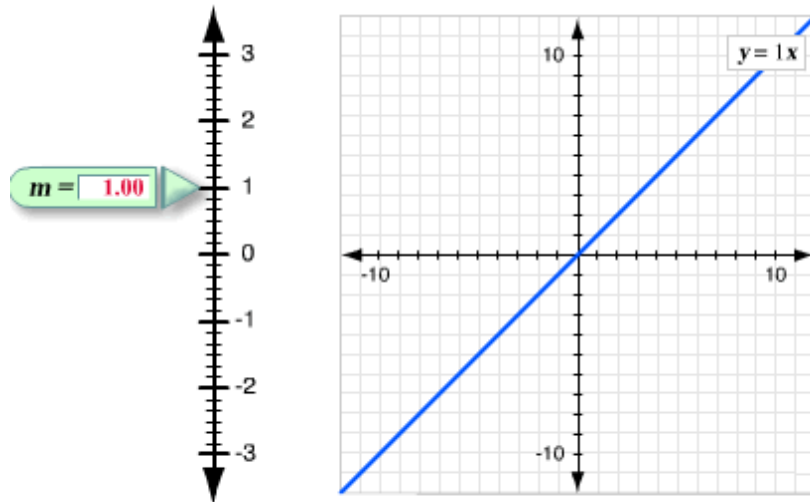


Click any number to start that panel (available on some animations)

Click to stop animation



On special interactive animations, you control what happens on screen. Each operates in its own way. Here is a sample.



Drag the  $m$  slider along the number line, and notice how the graph changes when the slope value,  $m$ , changes.

## About Assessments and Tests

Agile Mind Course-support services contain four forms of assessment and testing:

- Assessments
  - Guided assessment

- Self test questions
  - Testing
    - Multiple choice
    - Free response or Constructed response
- Multiple items of each type are included in every topic.

### Printing assessment and test items

If your teacher indicates, you may print one or more items.

1. Click **Print assessments** in the left navigation menu.
2. Follow the steps that appear in the window to print what you need.

*Printing your assessments is done in three steps, as follows:*

**Step 1.** Check which assessment or test you wish to print on an accessible display.

- Self test questions
- Multiple choice

**Step 2.** Indicate which questions you wish to print:

First question to print: 1

Last question to print: 10

**Step 3.** Generate the PDF (portable document format) file and request hardcopy printing:

Print assessment

3. Click **Print Assessment**. This generates a printable version in Adobe Acrobat PDF format.
4. Use the browser's **Print** function to print the document. **Be sure to choose ADVANCED: PRINT AS IMAGE** in order for math type fonts to print properly.

### Working with assessment questions

**Guided assessment**, **Self test questions**, and **Multiple choice** have the same ranges of question types. This section describes how to respond to each one.

- **Multiple choice** Select the button next to your choice. Sometimes, the instructions indicate that you should select all choices that apply.

Suppose you try to feed  $4.8 \times 10^9$  people with  $4.5 \times 10^{11}$  kilograms of food. How many kilograms of food will each person receive? Your answer should be in scientific notation.

- $9.38 \times 10$ 
  $0.9375 \times 10^2$   
  $2.16 \times 10^{20}$ 
  $21.6 \times 10^{20}$

Hint Submit Answer

- **True/False** Select the button next to your choice.

Every bisector is a perpendicular bisector.

- True
  False

Hint Submit Answer

- **Fill in the blank** Use the keyboard to enter your solution.

Now complete the following sentence.

Through any three *noncollinear* points (points that do not all lie on one line), there exists exactly one .

Hint Submit Answer

- **Puzzle and Drag and Drop** Drag tiles into slots to complete your solution. You may use a tile in more than one slot.

A data set has a mean of 100 and a standard deviation of 10. Drag each of the following observations to its corresponding *z*-score.

110	115	70	92	100
0	-0.8	1	1.5	-3
?	?	?	?	?

Hint Submit Answer

### About Guided assessment

In a **Guided assessment**, you are asked to solve problems of varying types. The purpose of these problems is to assess not how well you are likely to perform on an accountability exam but rather your understanding of the ideas presented.

**Select or create your answer.** If you are uncertain of the answer, you may click on **Hint**. You may change your answer before clicking the **Submit** button. Then click **Submit Answer**.

If your answer is correct, you will get correct feedback. This confirms your choice, with supporting information. If your answer is incorrect, you will get automatic feedback designed to help you understand the item or its relevant mathematics concepts better.

For all except true/false items, you can take up to three tries per question in submitting an answer. If the third attempt is not successful, the correct answer and explanation appear onscreen.

You can access a Guided Assessments report that shows your results on this assessment. Your teacher can also access these results.

### About Self test

**Self test** questions work in the same way as **Guided assessments**, except no one else sees your scores, including your teacher. The purpose of Self test questions is to give you a comfortable opportunity to learn and improve your understanding of key concepts.

**Select or create your answer.** If you are uncertain of the answer, you may click on **Hint**. You may change your answer before clicking the **Submit** button. Then click **Submit Answer**.

If your answer is correct, you will get correct feedback. This confirms your choice, with supporting information. If your answer is incorrect, you will get automatic feedback designed to help you understand the item or its relevant mathematics concepts better.

For all items except true/false, you can take up to three tries per question in submitting an answer. If the third attempt is not successful, the correct answer and explanation will appear onscreen.

You can access an Item Analysis report on your performance on each individual item, and no one else sees your scores. The teacher can view a report that indicates which students logged on to Self test questions for a specific topic.

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### About Multiple choice

**Multiple choice** is designed for testing and test preparation, so it gives no hints or feedback. Because it simulates a practice test, you receive only one opportunity to answer each question. Multiple choice questions are in a format similar to the end-of-course exam you will be taking.

**Select your answer.** Then click **Submit Answer**. The response will be simply **Correct** or **Incorrect**. Only your teacher can give you the correct answers, although you will know your score.

You can access an Item Analysis report that shows whether you answered each Multiple choice item correctly or incorrectly.

### About Free response or Constructed response

**Free or Constructed response** items provide test practice. The questions are written in the same format as the corresponding exam. They are designed for written, paper-and-pencil response. Make sure to answer each part of the Free response or Constructed response, and label each answer with its correct letter label (a, b, c, or d).

#### Constructed response

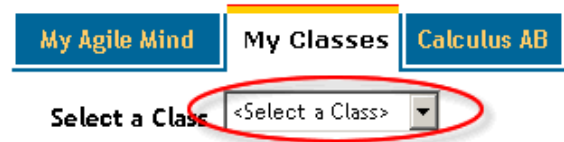
- a. Consider these three equations: Equation A:  $2(x + 3) = 3(x + 2) - x$   
Equation B:  $2(x + 3) = 3(x + 1) - x$  Equation C:  $2(x + 3) = 3(x + 1) - 2x$ . One of these has no number in its solution set, one has exactly one number in its solution set, and one has all the numbers in its solutions set. Use your graphing calculator to solve each equation. Sketch your graphs, and use them to explain how you can tell what type solution set an equation has by looking at its graph.
- b. Solve each of those three equations by hand. Show your work. Explain how your work tells you what type of solution set each equation has.
- c. Suppose you made a table of values for both sides of each of those three equations. What would you expect to see in the table for Equation A? For Equation B? For Equation C?

### Getting Reports

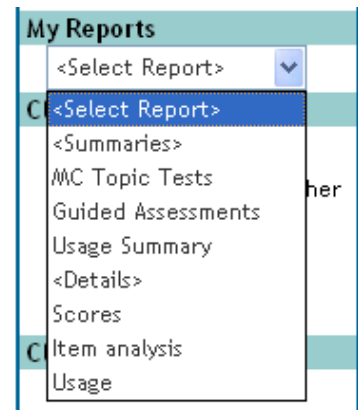
1. Log in.
2. Click the **My Classes** tab.



3. Click the desired class in the **Select a Class** list.



4. Click the My Reports (On the left navigation menu) list to show available reports.



The reports are as follows:

- **MC Topic Tests** Summary of your performance on all Multiple Choice tests, with number of items attempted, correct, and incorrect for each topic
- **Guided Assessments** Summary of your performance on all Guided Assessments, with number of items attempted and number correct on first, second, and third response, for each topic
- **Usage Summary** The number of minutes you spent on each component of each topic in the course
- **Scores** Summary of results for any specific selected topic, for Guided assessment, Self test questions, and Multiple choice, with number assigned, tried, correct and incorrect, including multiple attempts where relevant
- **Item Analysis** Detail of item results for any specific selected topic, for Guided assessment, Self test questions, and Multiple choice
- **Usage** The number of minutes spent on each component for a specific topic; this report shows number of logins for entire class

