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**New Free App for Elementary Mathematics Education | Number Pieces for Building Computational Skills**

Portland Oregon, March 14, 2013 – Number Pieces, a new free elementary education math app released from The Math Learning Center (MLC) ([www.mathlearningcenter.org](http://www.mathlearningcenter.org)) and Clarity Innovations ([www.clarity-innovations.com](http://www.clarity-innovations.com)) helps students develop a deeper understanding of place value while building their computational skills with multi-digit numbers. Young learners manipulate virtual base 10 pieces to represent multi-digit numbers, regroup, add, subtract, multiply, and divide. Number Pieces also gives them a drawing tool to label representations and show their understanding.

Number Pieces is the third app in the growing MLC collection, joining the Geoboard and Number Rack apps released in the spring of 2012. The Geoboard has already topped 100,000 downloads and is currently featured in the Middle School Zone within the Education section of the Apple App Store. Additional virtual manipulatives are planned for release this year.

These free tools reflect MLC’s commitment to inquiry-based learning. The flexible, open-ended design makes them ideal for any learning environment that uses iPads, iPhones, or iPod Touches. Web versions are also available for use on interactive whiteboard or computers. This series of apps complements the lessons and activities of MLC’s recently revised Bridges in Mathematics K-5 curriculum.

First grade teacher Shelly Scheafer says, “I love the virtual manipulatives from MLC because they are versatile, engaging, and fun. They incorporate technology in meaningful, developmentally appropriate ways and enable students to deepen their learning.”

“We are thrilled by the positive response to these learning tools” said Dan Raguse, executive director of MLC. “Our goal is to create open-ended virtual manipulatives that preserve the powerful learning potential inherent in the physical models while adding the benefits of technology.”

Development of these apps is made possible by a generous contribution from Dr. Dave Moursund, a pioneer in education technology and a founding MLC board member. The apps were designed and built in collaboration with Clarity Innovations Inc., a consulting firm specializing in solutions that blend expertise in technology and education.

To download the apps and access web versions, visit The Math Learning Center:

<http://catalog.mathlearningcenter.org/apps>

**The Math Learning Center** (MLC) is a nonprofit organization serving the education community. Our mission is to inspire and enable individuals to discover and develop their mathematical confidence and ability. We offer innovative and standards-based mathematics curriculum, resources, and professional development. Our products and services are used by educators throughout the United States and in many international locations.

**Clarity Innovations** is a professional services firm that helps clients create solutions to improve the process and practice of teaching and learning. Drawing on a diverse background of expertise in education and technology, we offer strategic consulting to inform product and marketing strategy as well as capacity and expertise in instructional design and content development to deliver results.

## For More Information

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