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To begin, I am the parent of a kindergartener and a 3rd grader in the public school system, as well as a 2nd grade teacher (I was not able to select both above). I believe strongly that Common Core went far off track mainly because educators were not included in the development of the program. Children should be investigating topics deeply in order to become free thinkers, but the breadth of the topics covered, especially in math, which is the main program in place in our district, is developmentally inappropriate for the children and actually does the opposite of the claimed intention: instead of learning, for example, good number sense and thoroughly understanding place value and the concepts of addition and subtraction, we are having to move at a ridiculous pace in order to "cover" the other 5 modules that we must "get to" during the school year. The children are not afforded the time and practice they need to gain deep understanding, and if everything is not "gotten to" than they will be starting the next year behind, as the subsequent grades also contain too much information for one year and is just as inappropriate. We cannot forget that we are educating people, not machines, no matter how inconvenient it may be.