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"The Common Core Standards in Mathematics are a disgrace to our students. In my experience as a third grade teacher, the first year of standardized testing, students are disconnected and frustrated in trying to meet the ridiculous standards. The problem with the common core is that it never fully allows students to master the skill, the basic computation, the MATH. Instead, we are forced to expose students to multiple strategies before they even have a concept of the skill itself. Why do you think kids can't add and subtract single digit numbers? Why can't they use place value and regroup? They are unable to master these basic concepts because they are expected to run before they can walk. They are expected to represent the skills using various strategies before they even understand what they are doing it and why they are doing it. To mark a student incorrect on an exam because he/she represented a drawing of 5 groups of 3 instead of 3 groups of five is bizarre. In what world is  $5 \times 3 = 15$  and  $3 \times 5 = 15$  not understood as the commutative property of multiplication? How can that be wrong? That is a world and a future we should be afraid of."