fxNEWS
Support for all Casio fx-9860G models

eActivities

Introduction

To quote the Casio world site, "The innovative eActivity functions of the fx-9860G series allow the students, not to mention teachers, to create their own problems or study materials. With this function, students can learn at their own pace and study more efficiently at school or at home. By making full use of the superb features of the eActivity function, motivation for learning and understanding can be greatly improved."

This edition of fxNews contains 3 new eActivities.

DGLINEAR could be seen as an investigative type of problem. The eActivity explores linear functions through a mix of *graphing* and *dynamic graphing*.

GP would fall into the category of study notes. The eActivity contains *notes*, *solve* with general GP formulas, *recursion*, *spreadsheets* and *run*. All present different ways of working with GP's on the fx9860 and give users a choice of methods to explore such sequences.

INTEREST would also fall into the category of study notes. It provides a summary of simple interest, compound interest and effective interest rate formulas in *solve* and a *spreadsheet* set up for reducible interest.

Easy to customise.

Once in their own fx9860, all eActivities can be modified by teachers or students to suit their own personal requirements. Examples can be deleted, notes can be edited or added to and so on.

Working with eActivities

After loading into your fx9860 (see feature 'How to load fxNews from CD into your fx-9860'), choose eACT from the Main Menu. Highlight the FXN06V1 folder, tap EXE, highlight the eActivity you require and tap EXE again.

Scroll down through the eActivity. When you arrive at a 'strip' it will highlight itself. Tap EXE to jump into the application and work on it, just as you would if you had entered through the main menu. Note that each strip is an individual and unique copy of one of the applications available from the Main Menu.

To return to the eActivity tap SHIFT then → (the arrow key below the tan key).

Once within a strip, to jump to another strip tap SHIFT then , (the comma key below the cos key).

To leave an eActivity tap EXIT. You will be asked whether you want to save changes to the eActivity. To leave the eActivity unchanged, tap F6 (No).

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eActivities in this edition

Below is a brief description of each of the included eActivities.

Name	Description
DGLINEAR	This eActivity uses Dynamic graphing to explore the relationships between the coefficients m and c and the graph of y=mx+c. Only a small amount of experience is needed with dynamic graphing. Once on a dynamic graph strip, tap EXE to see all pre-loaded functions. With experience, you may choose to modify the variable (VAR) and the settings (SET) associated with the variable. Initially these modifications are not required. Simply continue by tapping EXE twice to generate the dynamic graphs. To stop, tap AC. Once stopped, it is then possible to 1. return to the eActivity (by tapping SHIFT, →) 2. modify the speed settings (eg Tap F1 to be in stop & go mode – each graph is drawn after a tap on EXE) 3. modify other parameters (by tapping EXIT once or twice) Some of the dynamic graph strips leave a shadow of the graphs drawn. This is achieved in the SetUp (SHIFT MENU) and choosing Locus: On.
GP	This eActivity summarises the basics of geometric progressions. Ways to work with GP's are illustrated in solve, recursion, run and spreadsheets. As well as finding Tn, Sn and sum to infinity, methods for dealing with GP's such as 210-x, 3x, x+15 are noted. Reference is also made to the GP program, included in the programs in this edition.
INTEREST	Ways of working with simple and compound interest are featured in this eActivity. A spreadsheet is used to illustrate a reducible interest table and an effective interest rate formula is set up in solve. Whereas the GP eActivity included notes and examples, this is an example of a basic collection of tools to solve interest related problems.

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