What Do I Do If I Finish Early?

When you think you are faced with nothing to do (OH NO—NOT POSSIBLE):

FIRST, ask yourself, "Is there anything else I need to finish?" If the answer is "no," THEN choose something from this list that we brainstormed.

- Practice keyboarding
- Arithmetwists
- Illustrate a story you've written
- Play a quiet math or language game
- Write a morning message for a class
- Practice your cursive or calligraphy
- Read—comics, letters, books, poetry, encyclopedias, etc.
- Help someone else (this is NOT an opportunity to chat)
- Work on an independent study of your choice
- Find out how to say your spelling words in Spanish
- Pick something from the X Factor Volunteer Board to do
- Use your imagination and creativity to challenge yourself
- Write—a letter, poetry in your Writer's Notebook, a story, a comic, etc.

Source: Judy Rex, Scottsdale, AZ. Used with permission.

From Carol Ann Tomlinson's *Fulfilling the Promise of the Differentiated Classroom*, 2003.