



## “MATH MADE MAGICAL AND FUN” BOOKLIST

The Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat, by Theoni Pappas – Penrose, a cat with a knack for math, takes children on an adventurous tour of mathematical concepts from fractals to infinity. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> & up)

Amanda Bean’s Amazing Dream, by Cindy Neuschwander – Amanda Bean loves to count everything, from the books in the library to the popcorn in her bowl. If only she could count faster! Her teacher tries to persuade her of the virtues of multiplication, but Amanda remains unconvinced--until she has an amazing dream. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Anno’s Mysterious Multiplying Jar, by Masaichiro and Mitsumasa Anno – Makes the concept of factorials unforgettable through artistic pictures combined with clear text. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The Best of Times: Math Strategies that Multiply, by Greg Tang – Takes on the times tables, teaching kids innovative ways to multiply numbers without memorization. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>)

A Cloak for the Dreamer, by Aileen Friedman – In an entertaining introduction to the concept of geometry, a tailor's son attempts to create a cloak with only circles, with unfortunate results, and then works with his brothers to find a shape that works. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The Dot and the Line: A Romance in Lower Mathematics, by Norman Juster – The story of a straight line that falls in love with a dot. All of the line's romantic dreams were in vain, until he discovered...angles! (Grades Pre-K – 7<sup>th</sup>)

Fractals, Googols and Other Mathematical Tales, by Theoni Pappas – Explore mathematical concepts including real numbers, exponents, dimensions, and geometry in humorous ways. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> & up)

Further Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat, by Theoni Pappas – Penrose, no ordinary cat, takes off again on new adventures. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> & up)

Go Figure!: A Totally Cool Book about Numbers, by Johnny Ball – Investigates mathematical marvels such as why daisies always have 34, 55, or 89 petals, why the world's phone numbers appear in pi, and other patterns and paradoxes. (Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>)

The Grapes of Math: Mind Stretching Math Riddles, by Greg Tang – Using rhyming couplets, riddles and visual clues, this shows readers creative ways to use patterns and combinations of numbers to solve math puzzles quickly and effectively. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>)

The Greedy Triangle, by Marilyn Burns – Bored and dissatisfied with his life, a triangle visits a local shape-shifter to add another angle to his shape. Poof! He becomes a quadrilateral. But then he gets greedy and keeps adding angles until he's completely transformed. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The I Hate Mathematics! Book, by Marilyn Burns – Events, gags, magic tricks, and experiments to change one from a mathematical weakling into a mathematical heavyweight. (Grades 4<sup>th</sup> & up)

If You Made a Million, by David Schwartz – Marvelosissimo the Mathematical Magician is ready, willing, and able to explain the nuts and bolts -- as well as the mystery and wonder -- of earning money, investing it, accruing dividends and interest, and watching savings grow. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Math Appeal: Mind-Stretching Math Riddles, by Greg Tang – Underscores the importance of four basic rules in problem-solving. Keeping an open mind, looking for unusual number combinations, using multiple skills (like subtracting to add) and looking for patterns will guarantee any child success in math. (Grades Pre-K & up)

The Math Curse, by Jon Scieszka – Did you ever wake up to one of those days where everything is a problem? You have 10 things to do, but only 30 minutes till the bus leaves. An amusing book about dealing with numbers in everyday life. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> & up)

Math for All Seasons, by Greg Tang – Encourages all to open their minds and solve problems in new and unexpected ways. By looking for patterns, symmetries, and familiar number combinations within eye-catching pictures, math will become easier, quicker, and more fun than anyone could have imagined. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Mummy Math: An Adventure in Geometry, by Cindy Neuschwander – The Zills family helps to find the hidden burial chamber of an ancient pharaoh. But when they get trapped in a pyramid, they must use their math skills to locate the burial chamber—and the way out. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>)

On Beyond a Million: An Amazing Math Journey, by David Schwartz – Professor X and his dog, Y, teach kids how to count exponentially by powers of 10 (1, 10, 100, 1,000, etc.), beginning at 1 and working all the way up to a googol (a 1 followed by 100 zeros) and beyond. (Grades Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup>)

One Grain of Rice: A Mathematical Folktale, by Demi – The story of Rani, a clever Indian girl who outsmarts a very selfish raja and saves her village. When offered a reward for a good deed, she asks only for one grain of rice, doubled each day for 30 days. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Primary Grade Challenge Math, by Edward Zaccaro – Instills a deeper level of mathematical understanding and thinking skills in young children while nurturing a love of math. (Grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>)

A Second is a Hiccup, by Hazel Hutchins – Explains units of time in imaginative terms children can understand. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Secrets of Mental Math: The Mathematician's Guide to Lightning Calculation and Amazing Math Tricks, by Arthur Benjamin – These simple math secrets and tricks will forever change how you look at the world of numbers. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> & up)

Sideways Arithmetic from Wayside School, by Louis Sachar – The completely wacky, Mrs. Jewls, expects the students to add and subtract words! (Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>)

Sir Cumference and the First Round Table: A Math Adventure, by Cindy Neuschwander – Assisted by his knight, Sir Cumference, and using ideas offered by his wife and son, King Arthur finds the perfect shape for his table. Note: There are several other books in this series. (Grades 1<sup>st</sup> & up)

Spaghetti and Meatballs for All: A Mathematical Story, by Marilyn Burns – This book uses wit and humor to draw children into thinking about area and perimeter. (Grades Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Tiger Math: Learning to Graph from a Baby Tiger, by Ann Whitehead Nagda – Children learn to graph as they follow the growth of an orphaned Siberian tiger cub. (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>)

MAY YOUR MATH ALWAYS BE MAGICAL,  
MOSSMAN KNIGHTS!