



# Math Tidbits

*Maryland Common Core State Curriculum Framework  
Maryland School for the Deaf*

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Dear Teachers,

Chances are, your students already know how you feel about math. And we all know it's important to be enthusiastic about what you're teaching in the classroom. A positive attitude is often what we remember most about our favorite teachers!

On Monday, we celebrate the arrival of Christopher Columbus in our corner of the world with a day off from work. If you're looking for something to read during your day off, this newsletter has some interesting articles about mathematics which will hopefully spark some enthusiasm in your teaching!

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## Math Articles

### **“Mathematics Talk” for Five-Year-Olds**

<http://mathoverflow.net/questions/108505/mathematics-talk-for-five-year-olds>

*A Mathematician asks for advice on talking about math to his daughter's kindergarten class, and is deluged with many wonderful suggestions well worth checking out!*

### Me, Myself and Math

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/category/me-myself-and-math/>

*A fantastic six-part blog series that takes a humorous look at the math in our everyday lives.*

### Pi in the Sky Mathematical Skywriting

<http://www.digitaltrends.com/lifestyle/pi-in-the-sky-mathematical-skywriting-of-the-first-thousand-digits-of-pi/>

*It only took 100 miles roundtrip, but the first thousand number of PI was written in the sky*

### The Fastest Way to Crack a 4-Digit PIN Number

<http://www.popsci.com/technology/article/2012-09/infographic-day-fastest-way-crack-4-digit-pin-number>

*Did you know that 1234 accounts for 10 percent of all PINs used? Read on to find how to make your secret pin more secure.*

### Math Anxiety Causes Trouble as Early as First Grade

<http://news.uchicago.edu/article/2012/09/12/math-anxiety-causes-trouble-students-early-first-grade>

*Research at University of Chicago shows that students are affected by math anxiety as early as in the first grade.*

## Math Articles

### [Math Ability Requires Crosstalk in the Brain](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/08/120829103516.htm)

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/08/120829103516.htm>

*How well the hemispheres in the brain communicate with each other can be a predictor for arithmetic performance.*

### [Centenarian Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw](http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=dame-kathleen-ollerenshaw)

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=dame-kathleen-ollerenshaw>

*A fascinating look into the life of a 100-year-old mathematician who's still going at it strong.*

### [How Math Can Help Save a Dying Language](http://discovermagazine.com/2012/jun/31-how-math-can-help-save-a-dying-language)

<http://discovermagazine.com/2012/jun/31-how-math-can-help-save-a-dying-language>

The math may be over your head, but this article explains how important of a role mathematics can play in preserving an almost extinct language.

### [Fighting Crime with Mathematics](http://discovermagazine.com/2011/jan-feb/60)

<http://discovermagazine.com/2011/jan-feb/60>

*Mathematicians can be superheroes too!*

### **[20 Things You Didn't Know About Time](http://discovermagazine.com/2009/mar/20-things-you-didn.t-know-about-time)**

<http://discovermagazine.com/2009/mar/20-things-you-didn.t-know-about-time>

*Time will eventually stop and cease to exist? Read on to find more things you never knew about time.*