

Maths Around the World

Everyday Maths — Seeing mathematics in daily life

1. Maths Is Everywhere

Mathematics is not only found in textbooks. People use maths every day when they cook, shop, travel, play sport, build homes, read timetables, compare prices and plan their time.

Different countries may use different units, currencies, languages and traditions, but the mathematical thinking behind everyday decisions is remarkably similar.

Think Like a Maths Detective

Look around you. Can you find examples of numbers, measurement, shape, patterns, time, money or data? Every example is a chance to use maths.

2. Maths in Different Places

Home

Recipes, room measurements, electricity use and household budgets.

Market

Prices, quantities, discounts, totals and change.

Travel

Distances, speed, time, maps, tickets and schedules.

Sport

Scores, measurements, averages, timings and statistics.

Buildings

Length, area, angles, symmetry and scale.

Nature

Patterns, shapes, temperature, rainfall and growth.

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Everyday Maths — Real-life problem solving

3. Around-the-World Shopping

A family visits a market while travelling. They buy 2 notebooks at \$3 each, 3 pencils at \$1 each and a bag for \$12.

1. What is the cost of the notebooks?
2. What is the cost of the pencils?
3. What is the total amount spent?
4. If the family pays with \$50, how much change should they receive?

4. Cooking Maths

Recipes often need measurement. A recipe for 4 people uses 300 g of flour. The same recipe needs to be prepared for 8 people.

5. How much flour is needed for 8 people?
6. A drink recipe uses 500 mL of water. How much water is needed for 3 batches?
7. Why is accurate measurement important when following a recipe?

5. Travel Maths

8. A train travels 240 km in 4 hours. What is its average speed?
9. A family leaves home at 8:15 a.m. and reaches the airport at 9:05 a.m. How long is the journey?
10. A map uses a scale where 1 cm represents 10 km. Two places are 6 cm apart on the map. What is the real distance?

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Everyday Maths — Measurement, sport and data

6. Maths in Sport

Sport uses mathematics to measure performance and compare results. Athletes and teams may use distance, time, scores, averages, percentages and rates.

11. A runner completes 100 m in 12 seconds. What information does the time tell us about the runner's performance?
12. A basketball player scores 18 points in one game and 24 in the next. How many points were scored altogether?
13. A team wins 7 of its 10 matches. What fraction of the matches did it win?

7. Maths in Buildings and Design

Architects and builders use geometry, measurement, area, perimeter, angles, symmetry and scale. These ideas help people design safe and useful spaces.

14. A rectangular classroom is 8 m long and 6 m wide. What is its perimeter?
15. What is the area of the same classroom?
16. Why might symmetry be useful when designing a building, logo or pattern?

8. Data Around Us

A class records the number of books read by five students in one month: 2, 4, 3, 5 and 6.

17. How many books were read altogether?
18. Which student read the most books?
19. What is the average number of books read?

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Everyday Maths — Challenge and reflection

9. Real-Life Maths Challenge

You are planning a one-day city trip for a family of three. You have a budget of \$100.

Your plan

Transport: \$18

Lunch: \$30

Museum tickets: \$24

Snacks: \$12

Souvenirs: \$10

20. What is the total planned spending?
21. How much money remains from the \$100 budget?
22. The family wants to keep at least \$8 for an emergency. Is the plan within the budget? Explain.
23. Which part of the plan could be changed if the family wanted to save more money?

Maths Connects Us All

From homes and markets to sports fields, airports and buildings, people everywhere use mathematics to understand the world and make everyday decisions.

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Everyday Maths — Answer Key

Answer Key

1. \$6
2. \$3
3. \$21
4. \$29
5. 600 g
6. 1,500 mL
7. Accurate measurement helps ensure the recipe has the right balance of ingredients and gives consistent results.
8. 60 km/h
9. 50 minutes
10. 60 km
11. It gives a measure of how quickly the runner completed the distance and allows performance to be compared.
12. 42 points
13. 7/10
14. 28 m
15. 48 m²
16. Symmetry can help create balance, stability and attractive designs.
17. 20 books
18. The student who read 6 books
19. 4 books
20. \$94
21. \$6
22. No. The plan leaves \$6, which is \$2 less than the required \$8 emergency amount.
23. Answers may vary; for example, reduce souvenir or snack spending.