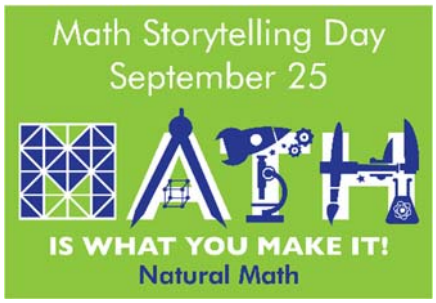
Chapel Hill Math Circle
Session 1 – September 23, 2023
Beginners' Group (grades 1-3), 10:30-11:30a
Mr. Barman – dilip@trianglemathinstitute.com
Supplies needed: rulers, yardsticks, paper, pencils

Welcome to Chapel Hill Math Circle! We're glad that you are here to have some fun!



Math Storytelling Day is on Monday. What stories do **you** know and love to share about math? What kinds of stories would you **want** to hear about math?

Today we will tell some stories about numbers, explore inside and outside to discover some stories waiting to be revealed about numbers, and start thinking about creating stories with measuring. We will do more with measuring in future weeks.

Your Favorite Number

What is your favorite number? Why? What gives it is power or magic? If you don't have a favorite number, do you wish you did? What would you like such a number to stand for?

Write your number down here:

(If you are not sure pick some number at random – you can try again if you have a different number.)

Why do you like this number? What are its superpowers or what would you hope its superpowers could be? Jot down a few ideas or pictures to remind you if you are called to share a story.

Your Number's Story

What is your story? Here are some other people's stories.

- Charlie's lucky number is 12. When he was little he would shop at a bakery with his dad and pick a dozen rolls; a dozen is 12 and that became his favorite number. Even in 2nd grade the number 12 reminds him of fresh baked bread.
- Manisha loves to bicycle. Last summer she was biking home with her mom after a swimming party. She saw a boy selling lemonade for $1.25 and was so lucky to find out that her mom had exactly $1.25 in her pocket – a dollar and a quarter. Since then 125 has been her favorite number.
- Aleksandr just loves everything about 0. When he was in Kindergarten he used to talk about finding 0 monsters, 0 airplanes, and 0 of so many other things in his classroom. One of his favorite stories is about being afraid of finding rotten tomatoes in his garden. So far he hasn't – he has found 0 rotten tomatoes!

What is your number's story?

Let's Explore!

Let's get up and look around. Depending on the weather we may go outside – or just look around inside. Your job is to find a number – your special number, another person's special number, something that inspires you about a number, or any old number – and tell a story about it. Maybe you notice a spider with 8 legs; do you have a fun story about 8 that might have to do with spiders – or nothing at all to do with spiders? Do you estimate a thousand leaves on a plant and does that make you think about a story about a thousand?

Let's Build Relations!

Write down the two numbers with which you have been working and relate them. Maybe your favorite number is 3 and you also used 3 in your exploration. How does 3 relate to 3? 3+0=3 … 3-3 = 0, 3 barbers and 3 customers = 3+3 happy people. Maybe you worked with 5 and 12. 5+12 = 17. 12-5 = 7. 12x5 = 60 – isn't that 5 dozen baked goods? See where your imagination goes in relating your numbers!

Measuring

What does it mean to "measure"? Draw something that you can measure and something that you can't measure (maybe it's too far away, too heavy, or something that you can't figure out how to measure like your feelings about a movie). If you come back in two weeks we will continue talking about measuring!

Have Fun!

Mr. Barman