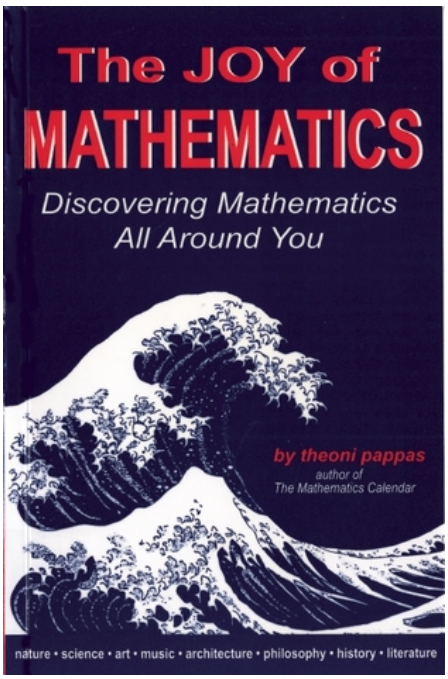

The Joy of Mathematics: Discovering Mathematics All Around You

Theoni Pappas

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The Joy of Mathematics: Discovering Mathematics All Around You Theoni Pappas
Part of the joy of mathematics is that it is everywhere-in soap bubbles, electricity, da Vinci's masterpieces, even in an ocean wave. Written by the well-known mathematics teacher consultant, this volume's collection of over 200 clearly illustrated mathematical ideas, concepts, puzzles, and games shows where they turn up in the "real" world. You'll find out what a googol is, visit hotel infinity, read a thorny logic problem that was stumping them back in the 8th century.

THE JOY OF MATHEMATICS is designed to be opened at random...it's mini essays are self-contained providing the reader with an enjoyable way to explore and experience mathematics at its best.

The Joy of Mathematics: Discovering Mathematics All Around You Details

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Author	:	Theoni Pappas
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Genre	:	Science, Mathematics, Nonfiction, Education

From Reader Review The Joy of Mathematics: Discovering Mathematics All Around You for online ebook

R. C. says

The children and I are going slowly through this dense and diverse paperback as we are guided by their homeschool math program, http://www.livingmath.net. The one to two page illustrated vignettes are about math concepts as diverse and unlikely as "zero" or "the Fibonacci sequence" and "electronics and computing." It's an excellent way to tempt even this non-mathy mom into pursuing math questions.

Brian Sison says

Good, but not great. This books has tiny little snippets of fascinating concepts... each 2-4 page section could be elaborated into a full book. Coming from a mathematical background, I found little to no material in here new or surprising. But this book would be good for a non-math-nerd. It has enough data to present ideas simply, yet concisely; and it doesn't delve disgustingly deep into the minutiae of the math.

Judy says

The book is composed of short explanations about math concepts in nature. The same author writes the 'Penrose, Mathematical Cat' books. My question remains: How does one make math discoveries? Science discoveries are well documented; did I miss the majesty of math discoveries along the way? Theoni Pappas is certainly changing books about math! I am hoping my grandson will someday find this book as fascinating as he does Penrose; at two, he has not understood the math but he loves these books about a mathematical cat for some reason.

I am reading this book again as a 'short stories in math' book. Scientists always seem to be sharing interesting tidbits of history about concepts but my colleagues in math rarely do this professionally. How interesting it is to see the 'pi' relationships outside of the circle. As much as I love learning, I feel deprived that I missed so many exciting links of mathematics. Watching a PBS special recently on fractals sparked my interest in patterns. Let the blind see! Way to go Theoni!!

Vi says

As someone who works with teenagers, I am always looking for new ways to introduce STEM topics into bite sized bits of conversation. The essays are brief, the math is not too difficult and the topics diverse enough for me to be able to use it year round. The bit about the infinite area of a snowflake, hell, we can talk about that during this weeks' crafts.

Ha Vu says

Ni?m vui Toán h?c (The Joy of Mathematics) là cu?n sách g?m r?t nhi?u fun facts, l?ch s? ra ??i và ??nh ngh?a m?t cách ??n gi?n các ??nh lý, hi?n t??ng Toán h?c ph? thông mà h?u nh? t?t c? chúng ta ??u bi?t ??n b? m?t ch? không hi?u ??n chi?u sâu. Ch? cu?n sách này r?t to, có hình minh h?a sinh ??ng, ?úng tính ch?t vui v? s?ng khoái c?a vi?c h?c Toán l?y vui ch? không vì ngh?a v?.

Jun Nguy?n says

M?c dù ch? gi?i thi?u ??n gi?n v? ?ng d?ng (ch? y?u là hình h?c) c?a toán h?c lên t?t c? các l?nh v?c c?a cu?c s?ng, nhi?u nh?t là ki?n trúc, t??ng ch?ng không liên quan nh? âm nh?c c?ng có. Ch?n 1 ch? ?? có th? ???c coi là xuyên su?t cu?n sách, thì là hình ch? nh?t vàng. Nh?ng xét trên ??i t??ng mà cu?n sách h??ng t?i là thanh thi?u niên, d?n truy?n khá khô và n?i dung thì h?i cao tay.

Heather says

Just a lot of fun little facts and ideas. A wonderful introduction to the cool side of math. If more people found math through books like this instead of through flashcards and "mad minute" worksheets, I think Barbie would have never coined the sentiment "Math is hard."

I would give it to a 10 year old to interest them in math.

Julie Suzanne says

FYI, this won't make you appreciate the joy of math unless you already do. I "liked" math in school, but I guess I don't have a mind for math. This book just gives you a brief description of myriad mathematical marvels such as the patterns, the equivalent of mathematical optical illusions, puzzles, riddles, "fascinating" tricks like "If you take any two numbers, and you do this, then this, then this, isn't it amazing how they eventually turn into a palindrome? " Well, no, actually, I couldn't care less. However, I do recommend this to people have a natural fascination with patterns and riddles (and the history of the number system), but this won't convert any literary-minded person into delighting in math. I haven't given up yet, though. I think I'll find a book that inspires me; there are plenty of them on my to-read list.

Caroline Kipps says

Some poor editing here and there, and the book is starting to look dated, but for the most part my two sons, 13 and 10, and my husband, really enjoyed this. I read a couple pages each night; most entries are about a page long. Pappas covers tidbits on the history of math, famous equations and discoveries, and famous math puzzles. It was a fun and convenient enrichment for my boys who love math.

Carlos says

Unfortunately this book was a huge disappointment. After reading it I can only describe it as a math coffee book, as in a book that you pick up, peruse briefly and put down. This makes for an extremely unpleasant reading experience if one tries to read it from cover to cover, as any reader who was been unfortunate enough to unwarily read a coffee book will confirm. The book has no cohesiveness whatsoever from chapter to chapter and the “chapters” are usually little more than a page and usually with unnecessarily large figures. I fully understand what the author was trying to do, expose the general reader to several mildly interesting problems in the history of math and hope that one of those will get the reader interested enough to read a book about that aspect in particular. However, despite introducing some interesting stories about the parallel development of math in the other cultures, like the Chinese man who discovered “Pascal’s” triangle 300 years before Pascal’s birth, this book is rather unreadable.

Alex Kartelias says

I wish someone would have shown me these things when I was young: would have made high school a lot more bearable. After reading this, I know right off the bat I have no interest in doing math other than for the sake of contemplating these beautiful patterns that show up in nature from the Platonic Solids, Magic Squares, Golden Ratio, Fibonacci sequence, etc. It's amazing how none of these beautiful things get talked about in school and I wish it could be changed. This books proves that mathematics is not for elites and is available to all who are patient and have an open mind.

Jacob says

This book is packed with tons of knowledge about math. I learned quite a bit along the way, even though I didn't understand some of it. Along with information this book is full of math puzzles.

Skedatt says

I would concur with another reviewer. It would be an awesome bathroom book. The concepts are self-contained with a little historical background all on 1-2 pages.

I wish that I had been introduced to math this way instead of as an isolated subject. But now (and I am not a math person) I actually can understand why certain things work the way that they do because it is presented in context.

It is math for someone who prefers to read.

Tsering says

The book has some great information on Mathematics, that's probably overlooked during school.
You can read it anytime and it won't bore you down.

Nicole says

I expected this to be better. And perhaps it would have been if I didn't already know much of the math bits that Pappas shares. None go into detail, so it's really just an introduction to a variety of math related topics. Good for someone interested in math, but hasn't done much reading in it yet.
