

“WE ARE NOT TEACHING MATH, WE ARE TEACHING THINKING THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF MATH.”

-Dr. Yeap Ban Har, Singapore Ministry of Education

Why Singapore Math?

Simply put, it's the world leader. Start with the best, do it right, and then look to improve.

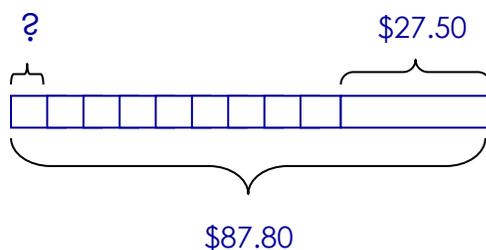
- Highly successful national math program taught in the country of Singapore since 1982.
- Singapore students have been the top scoring country since 1995 on the Trends in Math and Science Study given to 50 countries every 4 years.
- A Singapore Math approach teaches fewer concepts annually, but each concept is taught to mastery with a greater depth of understanding.

Singapore Math's Recipe for Success

- **Manipulatives and hands-on activities that build conceptual understanding.**
 - Students learn **why** the math works, along with **how** it works.
- **Strategies based on theory that build from year to year.**
 - Less time needed for review means more time to focus on key concepts!
 - Emphasis on number sense and mental math
 - Bar modeling helps students visualize multi-step word problems:

$$\begin{array}{r} 27 + 15 = ? \\ / \\ 3 12 \\ \hline 30 + 12 = 42 \end{array}$$

After paying for 9 mugs, Tom had \$27.50 left. If he had \$87.80 at first, how much did he pay for each mug?



$$\$87.80 - \$27.50 = \$60.30$$

$$\$60.30 \div 9 = \$6.70$$

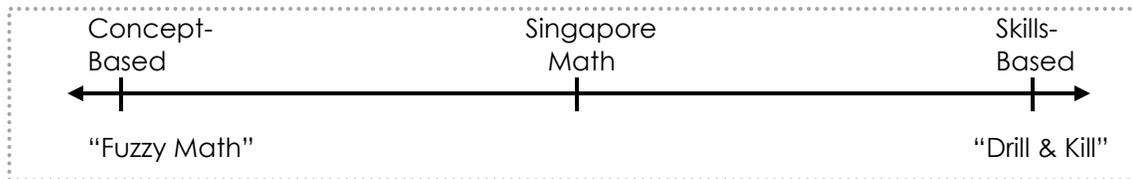
He paid \$6.70 for each mug.

- **User friendly student texts and workbooks.**

Simple language with pictures and minimal distractions on the page make it easier for all students to focus on the key concepts being taught.

How to Help Your Child at Home

If you put the Singapore curriculum on a continuum, you would find it between concept-based curricula, and skills based "traditional" curricula.



Keep in mind that a Singapore Math curriculum teaches the **why** before the **how** of mathematical concepts.

Support your child:

- You may see home enjoyment with fewer but more challenging problems.
- Allow your child to work the math using Singapore Math methods *which may seem unfamiliar to you.*

Work with your child to:

- Recall from memory:
 - ✓ Addition & subtraction facts through 20 (2nd grade and up).
 - ✓ Multiplication & division facts through 10's (mid-3rd grade and up).
- Use strategies to mentally add and subtract within 100.
- Count coins.
- Tell time on an analog clock.
- Measure - let your children help in the kitchen, supermarket or on planning and building projects.

Resources:

- www.mathplayground.com/thinkingblocks.html (Bar Modeling practice)
- *Arithmetic for Parents* by Ron Aharoni
- *Mindset* by Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D.

Interested in learning more about Singapore Math?

Visit the links at SingaporeMathSource.com for research, news articles, websites, and apps that support the curriculum.

Problem-Solving with Bar Modeling

A man sold 227 balloons at a fair in the morning. He sold another 66 balloons in the evening. How many balloons did he sell in all?

134 girls and 97 boys took part in an art competition. How many more girls than boys were there?

After giving away $\frac{3}{5}$ of her shell collection, Jane had 24 shells left. How many shells did she give away?

The sides of a triangle are in the ratio of 3:5:7. If the perimeter of the triangle is 90 cm, find the length of the shortest side.