

Collection Development Area Bibliography: Math

Alznauer, Amy. *The Boy Who Dreamed of Infinity*. Candlewick Press, 2020. ISBN: 978-0-7636-9048-9

Summary: Srinivasa Ramanujan grows up with unusual ideas in his head- ideas so grand that he fears he will never find someone he can share them with. Others find Ramanujan hard to relate to leaving him with one constant companion: his notebook full of numbers, theories, and questions. Mathematician, number theorist, and author Amy Alznauer tells the story of Ramanujan's childhood of poverty in India and adulthood in academic London. Her interest in this genius whose theories eventually contributed to the invention of computers, String Theory, and the discovery of black holes, began when her own father discovered Ramanujan's Lost Notebooks in the Wren Library at Cambridge University.

Curricular Use: This title would make a good addition to a variety of text sets. As a math biography, it could be paired with recent titles featuring great mathematical thinkers such as *The Girl With a Mind For Math*, *Counting on Katherine, Queen of Physics*, and *Grace Hopper: Queen of Computer Code*. As a book about an abstract thinker, it would pair nicely with *Count On Me*, another title in this bibliography that also emphasizes the importance and value of those who think outside-the-box or in ways that seem different to others. Ramanujan's life story includes rich detail of life in India

making it somewhat of a cultural study alongside the math related content.

Audience: 4-6

Brunetti, Ivan. *Three Times Four with Annemarie*. Toon Books, 2018. ISBN: 978-1-943145-34-8

Summary: A comic book meets a picture book that reinforces mathematical concepts in this colorful tale of Annemarie's class assignment to draw 12 things in sets. While Annemarie considers her options, a secondary storyline in comic box format shows the different ways her classmates tackle the same assignment. In the end, a range of thinking is displayed reinforcing the idea that there is more than one way to solve a problem. The author's note shares helpful parent tips for reading and enjoying comic books with readers.

Curricular Use: Math teachers and math students alike will enjoy this text that gives concrete examples of grouping numbers in different ways. It could be used alongside the teaching of that specific skill or as a stand alone read aloud for grades K-3. This text also encourages individuality in thinking and problem solving.

Audience: K-3

Tanco, Miguel. *Count on Me*. Tundra Books, 2019. ISBN:

978-0-7352-6575-2

Summary: A young girl claims math as her passion and illustrates how math is found everywhere in the world around us. The joy she expresses towards everyday math may be why a Booklist review calls *Count on Me* “a thoughtful counterpoint to math anxiety”. Part story, part math journal, this book's unique format makes it a collection treasure.

Curricular Use: *Count on Me* would make a great beginning of the year read aloud for middle grades. It sets the stage for mathematical thinking and even explains concepts such as fractals, polygons, and concentric circles. The whimsical illustrations and concrete examples might even help reluctant mathematicians warm up to math.

Age: At first glance, this text appears to be a picture book for the K-3 range. However the math concepts and vocabulary would make it more of a read aloud fit for grades 4-6.

Additional Considerations:

Danielson, Christopher. *Which One Doesn't Belong? : Playing with Shapes*. Charlesbridge, 2019. ISBN: 978-1-58089-946-8

Imafidon, Ann-Marie. *How to Be a Math Wizard*. DK Publishing, 2020. ISBN: 978-1-4654-9303-3

Völker, Sven. *A Million Dots*. Cicada Books Limited, 2019. ISBN: 978-1-908714-66-4

Hot Off the Press

These two titles are very new releases worth looking into.

Johnson, Katherine. *One Step Further: My Story of Math, the Moon, and a Lifelong Mission*. National Geographic Kids, 2021. ISBN: 978-1-4263-7193-6

Reid, Megan. *Maryam's Magic: the Story of Mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani*. Balzer & Bray, 2021. ISBN: 978-0-0629-1596-2