World’s Largest Math Event

Each year NCTM celebrates Mathematics Education Month in April. Make plans now for your school’s celebration of the World’s Largest Math Event scheduled for the last Friday in April as the concluding event for Mathematics Education Month. The Council produces a colorful poster and an activity booklet, full of mathematics, investigations, and notes for teachers that help bring WLME to life in their classrooms and schools. This year the theme is Entertaining Mathematics. Mathematical explorations will focus on the entertainment industry.

Discover the ratio of Big Bird to an average-sized man. Figure out the logic behind the Oscars. In April, these and other WLME 8 activities will be available on NCTM’s web site. WLME activities from past years are available online at www.nctm.org/wlme.

Missouri π Day - March 14

Governor Holden is scheduled to sign a proclamation in February declaring March 14 as Pi Day. This day is an opportunity to have fun while investigating mathematics concepts from all levels and celebrate mathematics in your school. A packet of activities will soon be available at the MCTM website (www.MoCTM.org). A list of Pi Day activities for elementary through high school can also be found at: http://mathwithmrherte.com/pi_day.htm. Pi Music (several digits of π converted to base 12 and assigned a musical note) can be found at http://www.musicofpi.com. Using the Pi Birthday Calculator (www.facade.com/legacy/amiinpi/) students can search for their birthdate in pi.

FAME Grants

MCTM’s Fund for the Advancement of Mathematics Education offers $500 grants for projects that will enrich or develop mathematical skills or concepts. Contact Marybeth Swartz at mswartz4@pop.kcpt.org or download application materials for 2002-2003 www.MoCTM.org. Applications are due by April 15.

Upcoming Conference Dates

Details regarding these and other conferences/workshops can be found at the MML web site.

Feb. 21-23 NCTM Regional Conference
Oklahoma City, OK
Feb. 21-23 DESE Interface A, K-6
Tan-Tar-A
Feb. 24-26 DESE Interface B, 7-12,
Tan-Tar-A
Mar. 15-17 Teachers Teaching with
Technology, Calgary, Canada
Apr. 4-6 Show Me Conference
Atlanta, GA
(Standards-based middle grades
mathematics curriculum showcased)
Apr. 21-24 NCTM 80th Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, NV

Speaker Proposal Forms are now being accepted for the April 9-12, 2003 NCTM Annual Meeting - Building Mathematical Communities to be held in San Antonio, Texas. Proposal forms can be completed online at www.nctm.org/meetings. All completed forms must be received by May 1, 2002.

Mathematics Contests
Apr. 13 GPML State Contest, 9-12
Rock Bridge High, Columbia
Apr. 27 MCTM State Contest, 4-6
Rock Bridge H.S., Columbia
Apr. 27 MCTM State Contest, 7-8
Gentry Middle School, Columbia

Check out the MML Web site:
http://matheud.missouri.edu
The MML’s Newsletter is now accessible online.

Share this information with teaching colleagues in your building!

MML is funded by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.
Interested in NSF funded curricula?  
Open registration will be held for the 2002 summer regroup of the Missouri Institute for Improving Student Performance in Mathematics. NSF funded curricula and implementation models will be examined at each grade band. Contact Marilyn Soucie, MML@missouri.edu for more information.

Webquests: Mathematics and Technology
Bernie Dodge defines a webquest as "an inquiry-oriented activity in which most or all of the information used by learners is drawn from the web. WebQuests are designed to use learners' time well, to focus on using information rather than looking for it, and to support learners' thinking at the levels of analysis, synthesis and evaluation." Find an introduction to webquests, design tips, and many sample mathematics related quests at http://edweb.sdsu.edu/webquest/webquest.html. Sample titles: Help Cinderella Get to the Ball (K-3), Harry Potter Quidditch Match (6-8) and Buying Your First Car (9-10)

Web Resources
http://matti.usu.edu/nlvm/enu/navd/index.html
The National Library of Virtual Manipulatives is hosted by the Utah State University with funding by the National Science Foundation. This three-year project has developed a library of interactive, web-based virtual manipulatives, and concept tutorials for mathematics instruction (K-8 emphasis). The manipulatives are sorted by math topic and grade level. Lesson plans aligned with NCTM standards are included.

http://sami.lanl.gov
The Science and Mathematics Initiatives is a database of resources, funding, and curricula for mathematics and science teachers. Help for the first year teacher and video clips of classrooms are also included.

New from the Show Me Center
Modeling Middle School Mathematics, featured at the show me center web site (http://showmecenter.missouri.edu), now provides teachers with video lessons and web-based internet materials related to each of the five NSF funded middle school curricula. You can access the Modeling Middle School Mathematics Project through the related projects menu of the Show Me Center site or at http://mmmproject.org. Video clips and lessons may be viewed online or purchased for professional development.

Have You Read?
Young Mathematicians at Work: Constructing Number Sense, Addition, and Subtraction (ISBN: 032500353X) by Catherine Twomey Fosnot and Maarten Dolk reveal what they learned after several years of intensive study in numerous urban classrooms through the Mathematics in the City Project. This is the first in a three-volume set and focuses on young children between the ages of four and eight as they construct a deep understanding of number and the operations of addition and subtraction. The authors describe teachers who use rich problematic solutions to promote inquiry, problem solving, and construction of mathematical understanding.

Book two in this set, Young Mathematicians at Work: Constructing Multiplication and Division (ISBN: 0325003548), focuses on how children develop an understanding of the big ideas related to multiplication and division in grades 3-5. Strategies are provided to help teachers turn their classrooms into math workshops that encourage and reflect mathematizing. This volume also describes how to strengthen performance and portfolio assessment.

What's Your Preference?
If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by e-mail for easy sharing with colleagues, please send a note to mml@missouri.edu and we'll be happy to make the change. We would also appreciate a note from you if you receive duplicate copies of mailings or need an address updated.