

# MATH IS MONUMENTAL

Happy Thanksgiving!

## November

**Monthly Goals:**  
 K-2nd= **900 minutes**  
 (45 minutes/day)  
 3rd-5th= **1,200 minutes**  
 (60 minutes/day)  
 6th-12th= **1,500 minutes**  
 (75 minutes/day)



*Aztec Ruins*

The ruins contain Pueblo structures from the 11th to 13th centuries with more than 400 masonry rooms which were misidentified by early American settlers as Aztec. It lies within the World Heritage Site of Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	<b>Thanksgiving Break!! Free Goal Minutes!!</b>		

WEEKLY

\* if necessary, see your advisor to set up an alternative method of tracking goals

- **Record your math minutes daily.** (include time for lessons, seat work, quizzes, etc.)
- **Add up each week's minutes in the Weekly column.**
- **At the end of the month, add up weekly minutes and enter "Total minutes" for the month!**
- **Drop off, send in, fax, or email to Twindly. Drop off in person for a prize! Reach your goal for the month and earn a monthly prize!**



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# How To Develop Mathematicians

## Why Do Students Do Poorly?

Tips for Teaching a “Hated” Subject

By: David P. Thompson

Every year the majority of students, male and female, that wander into the first day of school are afraid of math, don't like math, or are just convince that they're not good at math. The last item bothers me the most. For some reason, it's acceptable in society to tell everyone that you're not good at math. People nod sympathetically and often will volunteer that, “I know, I'm not good at math, either.” You hear this said as some kind of badge of honor. Are people as willing to volunteer that they don't read well? No, that is not acceptable in our society because literacy is held up as beneficial to all. Math, however, is acceptable to do poorly in.

Where does this fear of math come from? Who is suggesting to our students that it is acceptable to be poor at math? Are parents who struggled with math telling this to their children? Are teachers who prefer teaching the language arts rather than math contributing to this? I don't know. I do know that many students come to class with this concept already ingrained.

### **Math Hatred**

“I hate math.: Admittedly math is not a particularly “lovable” subject. There are students who do like math and for that reason alone excel at it. Many don't. Convincing them that math is fun is a fruitless task. So, I shock all my students by telling them that I hated math in sixth grade too and I understand why they hate it. Math is presented as a never-ending series of rules and tricks for manipulating numbers. If you have a good memory and can remember a lot of rules and tricks, you can usually do well. If not, math becomes interminable slog through abstract unconnected algorithms that you forget as soon as the test on them is over.

Next month... **The Snow Shovel**