

Math in Motion: Origami *Across* the Curriculum K-12 <u>The School District of Philadelphia-District Wide Conference</u>

Teacher Testimonials

You did an AMAZING workshop! All the teachers who attended your session came up to tell me how great your presentation was. I even heard from teachers who never comment. Hopefully, the opportunity will arise when you can offer other sessions for our teachers! -Tessie Varthas, Lead Academic Coach

You received rave reviews from yesterday's presentation. Can you send me some of your brochures about Math in Motion? The Director of our office wants one. -Emilee Taylor, National Board Certified Teacher

It was phenomenal. I have never sat through a professional development workshop with everyone so excited!

This was the best workshop in my 6 years of attending these programs.

Barbara Pearl has a lovely teacher voice and method of explaining information.

The information presented was exceptional. The quality of Barbara's style was soothing, yet direct. Creating math concepts using the origami techniques was a simple way of blending everything together with math and art, so our students could feel successful.

I am leaving with so many new ideas-thank you!

Organize an all day workshop with Math in Motion!

We need more time!!! This workshop was absolutely excellent! I teach origami to my students, but the way the presenter modeled techniques and strategies was invaluable (priceless!!). Please bring this workshop back for an entire day! There is so much that could be useful in terms of presenting that we can learn from Barbara.

I rate this workshop more than the highest score of 5. I rate it a 10 (in all the categories)!

I am actually a music teacher (violin). Still, I will enjoy using some of the connections with class ideas. You inspired me. I love how you teach with a growth mindset and mindfulness. You captivated everyone! I want to learn more about teaching with origami and you techniques. I will have my string students start writing down words. THANK YOU!!

This workshop was GREAT! I learned a lot of new ideas that I can incorporate into my classroom immediately!

This was a wonderful experience and one of the best workshops I have ever attended. Bring her back.

This was an excellent workshop. It opened my eyes to all of the cross-curricular opportunities for using origami.

We need more time-wish it were longer. Please schedule another workshop with Barbara on a Saturday.

More, more, more. Great workshop, great instructor, loved it-thanks!

Excellent job! Bring this workshop to *all* our faculty.

Student Evaluations- Sample Comments from: Rate My Professors Please see link for additional comments.

- Professor Pearl is an amazing math teacher. She makes math very easy for students that do not understand. All homework assignments are done online and if you answer some of the questions wrong she allows you to go back and correct it. She does not move on to another topic until the class understands that topic. I LOVE YOU!!!
- FANTASTIC, I cannot say enough about Prof. Pearl. She is so dedicated to her students. She will do everything in her power to make sure you learn and ENJOY algebra. She finds a way for each student to understand the material. Pay attention, practice, and ask questions and you will do fine. If you hate math, take her- she will make you love it!
- Professor Pearl is an awesome professor who enjoys teaching math. She is very dedicated and helpful and she will work with you one on one if needed, stay late or come in early. I highly recommend her. You will definitely gain knowledge.
- Prof. Pearl is one of the BEST at Bucks! She is extremely organized, always helpful and has a way of explaining things that makes it really easy. She got to me and made a world of difference. I actually looked forward to going to her class. I took this course other times and barely got a D. This time I got an A! She is awesome-you won't regret it.
- The best professor I've had at Bucks so far. She is the absolute best, very caring and motivational. She will always email you something inspirational or guide us to how we can accomplish our goals. I wish I could have her for every course I ever have to take.
- Prof. Pearl was the most inspirational professor I have ever had in all my four years as a student. I want to thank her for teaching this class!
- I can say nothing but great things about Professor Pearl! She truly cares about her students and wants to help you in any way she can. Ive been out of school for awhile so I was very nervous about math especially, but having Prof. Pearl eased all my fears. She is on your side and will be there for you all throughout the course. TAKE HER!
- I have gained more knowledge in this class than anywhere else. Prof. Pearl is the BEST, always available and extremely helpful! She takes her time and is willing to help explain the material step-by-step until you get it. She genuinely cares about all of us. I never thought I would say this but I enjoy coming to class and doing Math now!:)
- Truly one of the best math teachers here at Bucks! She wants you to do well, enjoy math, and understand the concepts. She breaks everything down into steps so its not confusing. I really disliked math before I had taken her class, but now I LOVE IT!! because I understand the concepts and basics! Thanks to Prof. Pearl! Take her! u will love it!
- Professor Pearl is a wonderful teacher she loves her job and she is so nice and so caring and so sweet! She truly cares about you and really wants people to learn and if it is hard she will try her best to help you understand it! She really is a blessing and a wonderful person!

Teacher TESTIMONIALS

Here are some testimonials. For more teacher comments, please visit the Math in Motion website at: wwww.mathinmotion.com. The origami crane is a symbol of international peace, healing, and hope. It is based on a children's story, *Sadako and a Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr.

The teachers **LOVED** your workshop! Your presentation was incredible and there are so many skills that you can connect to your math and origami program-the music, storytelling and drama all added a special creative experience for everyone. I cannot wait to learn more. Thanks again for being you, and sharing yourself with our educators. This Universe is so blessed to have you. Next year, we will plan to do an all day workshop with you. Your program was so engaging and the teacher response outstanding that when our Director of the Peace Center saw your presentation, she invited you to be our "Featured Children's Author' at our Peace Fair this year. We look forward to working together! http://www.thepeacecenter.org/ -Tracy Mulvaney, Coordinator, Peace Center, The Educator's Institute, Langhorne, PA

Thanks again for the wonderful presentation tonight. The children have been raving about it for the last few hours and my remaining origami books disappeared off the shelf after you left. Thanks for all the inspiration-we hope you will come back and visit us again soon!

- Chris Brown, Children's Librarian, Lawncrest Library, Philadelphia, PA

I was delighted to attend your workshop and discover a fun-filled, kinesthetic method of teaching mathematics and language arts that engages and inspires both children and adults. It was brilliant-the innovative and creative ways in which you incorporate language, vocabulary, and math terms with origami should be utilized in *every* classroom! The book, *Math in Motion* informs and explains origami patterns step-by-step while integrating so many concepts and ideas. Origami is a great educational tool for young and old alike, and Pearl's own creativity and teaching style is a wonderful example for *all* educators; I suggest every educator attend her workshop and get her book. It will energize classroom instruction, demystify and revitalize interest in teaching and learning mathematics and concepts like isosceles triangles and line of symmetry come to life! This method will also improve retention skills and develop higher order thinking in your students. **-Jean Kohl, Ph.D., Holy Family University and High School English Teacher**

I loved your workshop! Tapping into multiple intelligences that students bring with them, your workshop encourages success from each participant by building upon his/her strengths. You combine language, mathematics, art and culture in an engaging seamless web. I am reflecting on the box and heart that we constructed from your program as I write this e-mail and imagine all the uses I can make of both cultural artifacts in my writing class that I teach at the University. I can only imagine how in demand you are to share your message with students and teachers. I wish I could have participated in your full-day workshop and hope to have such an opportunity in the near future. --Janice Showler, Ph.D., Holy Family University, Recipient of the Pi Lambda Theta 2007 Research Grant

Your children's book, *Whale of a Tale* is a great story to read to young children that sparks their imagination and nurtures their creativity. I love the watercolor illustrations and large text that make it easy to show the book while you read it aloud. The bonus features include reading readiness activities and that you can make a whale and penguin after you read the story and dramatize it. I can't wait to read it to my students.

-Liz Douglas, International President, Pi Lambda Theta (PLT)

Comments from Phi Delta Kappa Math in Motion: Origami Across the Curriculum, Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, Summer Institute for Teachers

- -Barbara provided creative ways for me to enrich my math class, integrate math across the curriculum and help students retain math standards and concepts.
- -The most beneficial part of the training was the immediate use of ideas and extensions that was great for all my grades. Terrific ways to make cultural connections to the curriculum and foster equitable learning for all. Please come again!
- -Great connections to our framework. I enjoyed the calm, reassuring and non-threatening manner of the presenter-it inspired us to feel successful and help our students succeed.
- -Superb workshop, it actually went beyond my expectations!
- -So many practical and useful ideas for teaching geometry, social studies, and language arts. I now know how to use origami to teach!
- -The materials provided were excellent. Thank you to our school district for purchasing the Math in Motion resource kit for each of us. I will share it with our faculty!
- -The overall quality of the training was EXCELLENT. I would strongly recommend this workshop to other colleagues. I wish our whole staff could participate.
- -Barbara was outstanding and her knowledge and enthusiasm about the topic was contagious! I can't wait to use it in my classroom. Thank you for making it so engaging!
- -Barbara should be invited back again! This was one of the best workshops I ever attended. The best aspect of this session is that it .connected to my real life job!

Madison Elementary School, Irvington, NJ, Teacher In-service

- -Thanks for all the inspiration. You deserve a standing ovation!
- -This was the first workshop where I did not fall asleep-it was outstanding!
- -I learned so many creative ways to make math fun-my kids will love Math in Motion!
- -You gave us tools we can use immediately. I can't wait to try it.
- -This was incredible. You are fantastic. I called our Reform Facilitator during the workshop to tell her what a fantastic job you did! I can integrate this program into our Family Math Night too. This allows students to really be exposed to a lot of vocabulary in a fun way and empower them to embrace the joy of math.
- -This was the BEST workshop we ever had! You are terrific! Would love to be in Ms. Pearl's full day workshop.
- -This should be a two-day workshop. I loved the relationship to classroom methods.
- -I will be able use Math in Motion with my students right away.
- -I will definitely use this type of mathematics in my classroom!
- -It was beneficial to learn how to integrate origami into different areas of instruction.
- -I loved all the different ways to incorporate origami into subjects and creative problem solving. I enjoyed the multiple opportunities to collaborate and work in cooperative groups with other colleagues.
- -It showed me many new ways to encourage critical thinking to make math more enjoyable!

Phi Delta Kappa: Professional Development Teacher Workshop Comments, Nashville, TN Holy Rosary Academy, Grades K-3, Davidson Academy, Grades K-6, Title I, Special Education

- -- The workshop was applicable to so many different subject areas and great for hands-on learning!
- -I never knew you could use origami for so many different age groups including younger children. We learned how to really apply it to each grade level. I wish our *whole faculty* could experience Math in Motion.
- -This was the best workshop I ever attended--I can't wait for Part II!
- -Ms. Pearl's love of the subject served as an awesome catalyst.
- -Origami is so beneficial for demonstrating fractions and geometric shapes.
- -I loved the relaxing manner of Ms. Pearl and all the practical aspects of Math in Motion.
- -A one day in-service went by so fast--it was not long enough-please come again!
- -Excellent workshop! I would love another workshop in this area.
- -It was fun! Very creative and a great way to teach math across the curriculum.
- -Everything was terrific! I had no idea origami incorporated so much more math than I thought!