**Grade 8 Math Course Outline**

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Welcome to Grade 8 Math !

The Manitoba Grade 8 Math curriculum targets the following 4 strands:

* *Number Sense* (Ratio and Rate, Square Roots and Perfect Squares, Percent, Fractions, Integers)
* *Patterns and Relations* (Linear Relations)
* *Shape and Space* (Surface Area, Volume, Pythagorean Theorem, Tessellations)
* *Statistics and Probability* (Representing Data, Probability)

Virden Junior High School currently uses the Grade 8 *Math Links* textbook, which does an excellent job of following the provincial curriculum. *Math Links* will be used as the primary source for teaching and learning the outcomes, but other grade appropriate sources will be used as a supplement.

Methods of instruction will vary in order to accommodate different learning styles and also to provide students with several methods for checking their work and demonstrating their knowledge. Differentiated instruction will include:

* traditional use of textbook teaching methods
* use of concrete objects and manipulative materials
* graphic organizers (drawing pictures, making charts)
* bodily kinesthetic approaches (e.g. physical demonstrations of concepts)
* projects (linking concepts to students’ prior knowledge and daily lives)
* Mathletics® (this program can be used by students at home)

Assessment

While traditional paper/pencil testing will be used in assessment, a great deal of assessment will take place on a daily basis using a variety of sources, including:

* daily work
* student conferencing with teacher
* hands on demonstrations
* anecdotal evidence
* entrance/exit slips
* special projects

Your child will need a calculator but it need not be expensive. Please make sure it has the square root function on it.

Parents will be able to check the VJH website to keep updated on work that is currently taking place in the classroom. Whenever possible, simple suggestions for supplementing the math curriculum at home will be offered.