

Math Poems

The following poems were written by two students from Karen Beatty's class, at Cadarackque P.S., in Ajax, ON.

These poems use metaphors and similes to make neat math connections. Metaphors are phrases like 'Subtraction is a casino'. Similes are like metaphors but use the words *like* or *as*, as in 'Graphs are like a radio.' Metaphors and similes link two things that are not usually connected but do share some common elements.

As you read the poems, think about how the metaphors and similes make sense. Also, try to think of other metaphors or similes that could be used.

Graphs

Graphs are flowers, always growing
Different shapes, various types
Graphs are a bird soaring,
ascending and descending
Graphs are a friendship,
having up and down points
Graphs are human life,
starting low, ending high



Graphs are like a radio,
both can bring bad news
Graphs are like a telephone,
both communicate
Graphs are like a stop watch,
can record time
Graphs are like a camera,
both show actions



Graphs are like a library,
both help you learn
Graphs are as well done as a famous painting
Graphs are as interesting as a mystery
Graphs are as accurate as a road map
Graphs are as simple as addition



Graphs are as educational as researching
Graphs are extraordinary!

Jenn Weeks

1. Explain each of the following metaphors or similes in your own words.

a) Graphs are flowers.

b) Graphs are like a library.

2. Choose two other metaphors or similes that Jenn uses in her poem to describe graphs. Explain each metaphor or simile in your own words.

a)

b)

3. Create your own metaphors or similes about graphs by completing each statement. Explain each.

a) Graphs are

b) Graphs are

c) Graphs are

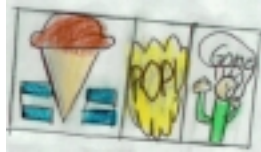
4. Use the metaphors or similes from question 3 to write another stanza for Jenn's poem about graphs.

Numeration

Numeration is a murderer,
7 ate 9,
When he got into court,
He said, 'I had to dine!'



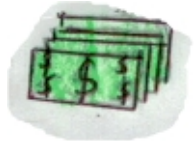
Subtraction is like ice cream,
They both disappear,
I know someone who likes them,
And he is a peer.



Subtraction is like geometry,
They both use line segments,
Line segments are used a lot,
They're on the monuments.



Subtraction is a casino,
You never come out with more,
When you do get some cash,
You'll use it at the store.



Addition is a birthday party,
You always get more,
You get a bit of money,
And presents galore.



Division is like friends,
You have to share with both
Both are essential
For your childhood growth.



Multiplication is a herd of animals,
It's always getting bigger,
But when one set hits another,
I think they'll merge together.



Operations are really cool,
It's one of the things I like,
Math and fishing are also great,
We measured my caught pike.

Vincent Kong



5. Explain each of the following metaphors or similes in your own words.

a) Addition is a birthday party.

b) Division is like friends.

6. Create your own metaphors or similes about numeration by completing each statement. Explain each metaphor or simile.

a) Addition is

b) Subtraction is

c) Multiplication is

d) Division is

7. Get ready to write a poem about fractions. Start by creating metaphors or similes like Jenn and Vincent did in their poems. Fill in the blanks below.

a) A numerator is

because

b) A reduced fraction is

because

c) Common denominators are

because

8. Write a poem about fractions.

9. Write a poem about your favourite math topic.