



Students explaining their understanding of the concept besides using the Math Journal to develop thinking and reasoning skills for SG Math.



Students using measuring tape to go around the school and measure objects in groups. They also did a weighing activity where they weighed numerous objects that were below 1kg as part of their Learning Experience Activity.

Photos credit to Invictus International School (Centrium)

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## **► SINGAPORE**

## **MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics is an important foundation for various disciplines, including the Sciences and Social Sciences. It also serves as a foundation for many current and future innovations. In addition, it plays a significant role in our daily activities, including making sense of information and managing personal finances.



**Attitudes** 

Beliefs

Interest

Skills

Appreciation

Confidence

Perseverance

Data analysis

Measurement

Estimation

14159

## **Singapore Mathematics**

Singapore has consistently achieved high results in international benchmarking assessments, such as the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) for Mathematics. Singapore adopts the following framework in teaching Mathematics in Singapore's elementary schools.

#### Metacognition

- Monitoring of one's own thinking
- Self-regulation of learning

# Mathematical **Problem Solving** Numerical calculation Algebraic manipulation Spatial visualisation Use of mathematical tools

#### **Processes**

- Reasoning, communication and connections
- Applications and modelling
- Thinking skills and heuristics

#### Concepts

- Numerical
- Algebraic
- Geometric
- Statistical
- Probabilistic
- Analytical

Source adapted from: Singapore Ministry of Education

The framework stresses conceptual understanding, skills proficiency and mathematical processes, and gives due emphasis to attitudes and metacognition. These five components are inter-related.

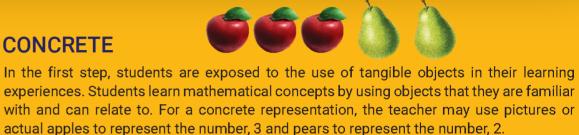
Singapore uses a spiral curriculum in elementary math education, revisiting and advancing concepts over time. The Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract (CPA) approach aids in understanding and problem-solving, utilizing tools like number bonds and the model method. Students also learn heuristics and mental calculation techniques.

## The CPA Approach

Let's illustrate the use of the CPA approach using the simple example of adding 3 + 2 to get 5.



#### **CONCRETE**





#### **PICTORIAL**



The second step involves students drawing pictorial representations of the mathematical concepts taught. Students learn to visualise numbers and word problems using visual aids like the bar-models (as shown below) or pie-charts to represent the numbers.



#### **ABSTRACT**



In the lower grades, the focus is on the first two steps – Concrete and Pictorial. Students then solve mathematical problems abstractly by using numbers and symbols at the higher levels. In the Abstract stage, students will be ready to use mathematical symbols  $(+, -, x, \div)$ and notations (a,b, c, x,y,z) to solve mathematical problems. For example, the bar-model above will be translated to 3 + 2 = 5.

### **Learning Mathematics at Invictus Schools**



INVICTUS

At Invictus schools, we adopt the same approach that Singapore uses to teach Mathematics in their elementary schools. By adopting the Singapore Mathematics approach in our Invictus schools, we help our students gain confidence and become more resourceful after learning mathematics. Thus they will become more successful problem solvers because of their deep conceptual understanding of mathematical concepts and problem-solving heuristics.

Our Mathematics lessons in our elementary schools are conducted during curriculum time and the duration can stretch between 3 – 4 hours per week.