



BETWEEN THE PAGES

Huntsville Public Library Monthly Newsletter

November 23rd is National Fibonacci Day! **BY JOSH SABO, IT SERVICES COORDINATOR**

It has always seemed to me that the majority of people’s eyes glaze over when you start talking about math. According to a study commissioned by Texas Instruments and conducted by Research Now Group Inc., 46% of the 1000 respondents said they liked math. 24% stated that they hated or disliked math, and the remaining 30% were indifferent. Of those surveyed, a 68% majority said they would like math better if they better understood how math applied to their lives outside of the classroom. Since one of my majors in college was math, and I love math, I wanted to share a fascinating mathematical concept and discuss the mathematician that (probably) discovered it to hopefully take some of the hesitancy away from the subject.

Every November 23rd, we have National Fibonacci Day in honor of arguably the most influential mathematician of the Middle Ages, Leonardo Bonacci. He was born in Italy and was also known as Leonardo of Pisa and Leonardo Fibonacci. Leonardo has been credited with discovering the Fibonacci Sequence. However, historians are unsure if he was actually the first person to discover it. The pattern is simply adding the previous two numbers together in the sequence, starting with zero and one. The formula for the sequence is $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ where n is the n th term in the sequence. Any number that is included in the sequence is also called a “Fibonacci Number”. It starts {0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233,...} This sequence continues on until infinity. The Fibonacci Sequence is used all the time in advanced mathematics, economics, science, engineering, art, and nature. The most famous example of the Fibonacci Sequence is the Fibonacci Spiral. It is seen in the pattern of seeds in a sunflower, the number of petals on a flower, pinecones, tree branches, snail/nautilus shells, the shape of a hurricane, and many more!

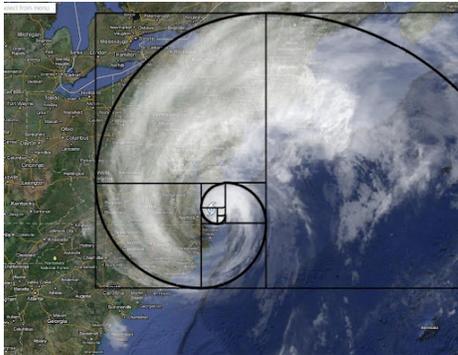


Image via study.com

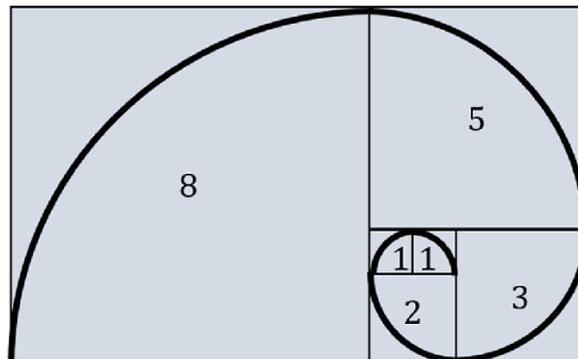


Image via researchgate.net



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FIBONACCI, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

If you take the ratio, i.e. divide any two consecutive numbers in the sequence, you will get what is referred to as the “golden ratio” or the Greek letter phi (ϕ). This is seen in the music of famous composers Bartók, Debussy, and Satie to name a few. The golden ratio is also known as the “divine proportion” and is represented in the proportions in our bodies and faces.

It would be difficult to name everywhere that the Fibonacci Sequence appears. It just so happens that the Huntsville Public Library has some great books on the subject! One that I personally recommend is *The Golden Ratio: The Story of Phi, the World’s Most Astonishing Number* by Mario Livio. Happy learning!

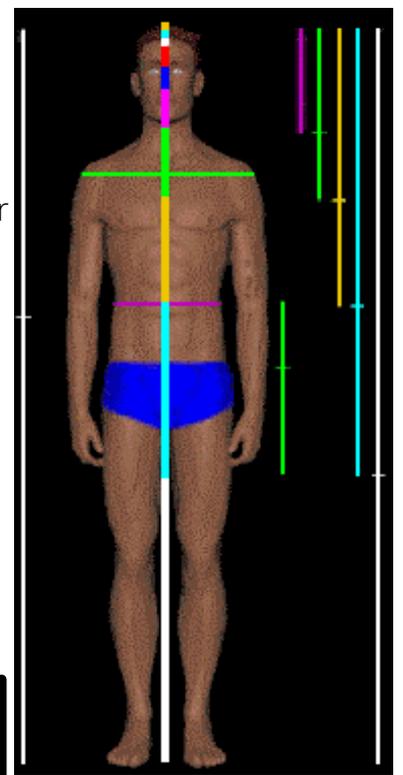


Image via goldennumber.net

Sittercise!

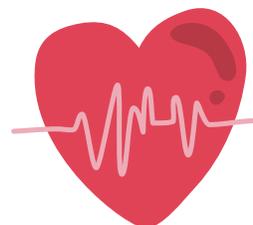
BY MARY KOKOT, ADULT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Use it or lose it! Everyone has likely heard this old axiom. Unfortunately, it’s true - especially when it comes to strength and physical conditioning. As America’s baby boomers become senior citizens, many realize their former fitness methods are no longer possible due to certain medical or physical conditions. What can someone in this situation do? To help maintain one’s physical mobility and independence, a seated form of exercise might be just the answer. Sittercise has become more and more popular as an excellent option to help meet the fitness needs of our senior community and classes currently meet in the Staggs Community Room at the Huntsville Public Library from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Beginning in November, a third class is being added from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays. It’s a safe way to get a great cardiovascular workout, which is also adaptable to different levels of motor skills and flexibility.

Another benefit to senior fitness exercise is that it elevates mood and boosts the immune system. The mind-body connection has been undisputedly linked to better health, happiness, and mobility. So whether it’s a simple foot shuffle movement to test body and mind coordination or a more vigorous leg stretch and kick part of the routine, expect good things to result: a kick-start to the metabolism, increased strength, and improved joint flexibility throughout the day. Please consult your doctor before starting any new exercise program. Liability waivers are required to participate and are available from the instructor. The class is free and open to adults ages 18 and older. Register online and visit www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com for a complete list of class dates.



WORKOUT





Timeless Tales of Heroes and Villans

BY BAILLIE PRETZER, CHILDREN'S COORDINATOR

Fairy Tales, Folklore, and Fables have remained central and relevant to every culture throughout history, regardless of societal and technological progressions. They capture our imagination, reflect cultural heritage, and express universally acknowledged truths. Oftentimes, these stories are intended to warn against the Seven Deadly Sins. Greed, lust, sloth, envy, pride, gluttony, and anger are all very strong tendencies, which can lead to our own downfall if ever left unchecked. Throughout the Golden Age of Children's Literature, stories such as *Tom Sawyer*, *Peter Pan*, and *Alice in Wonderland* have breathed new life into age-old themes based on virtues, vices, and the shortcomings of each. These stories have fallen short, however, in that they have too often caused us to unquestionably accept the heroes in these stories as always most noble, and the villains as always untrustworthy and indisputably deserving of whatever ill fate befalls them.



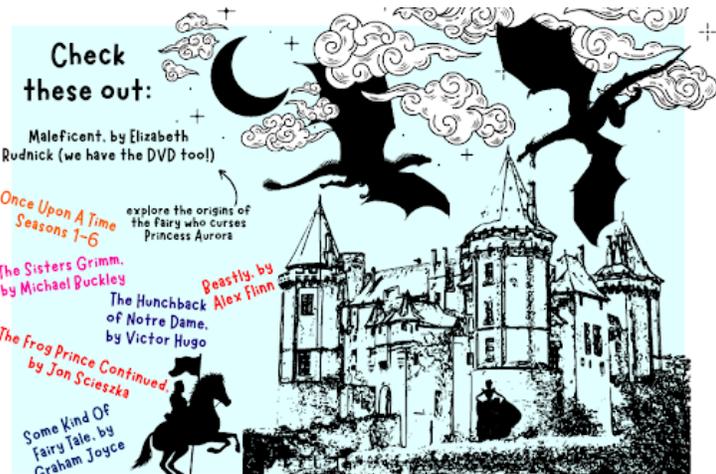
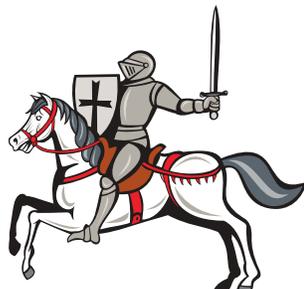
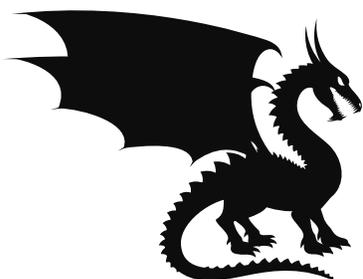
Image via *Smithsonian Magazine*



Image via *JoannaDeVoe.com*

From *Cinderella* to *The Lion King*, the consequences of these seven sins are embodied in the villains - or so we have always been led to believe. While the Disney films we have all grown to love have always hinted at an otherwise unexamined troubled past of its villains, the fairy tale company countered this singularly ingrained acceptance with its production and release of *Maleficent*, the notoriously foul villain of *Sleeping Beauty*. Though wildly simple, this new and unexplored territory of experiencing the entire story from a more neutral, outsider's perspective has led the villain's perspective to be welcomed with fervor across the general public - regardless of language, ethnicity, gender or age. Other films that have followed suit are *Maleficent II*, DC Comic's *The*

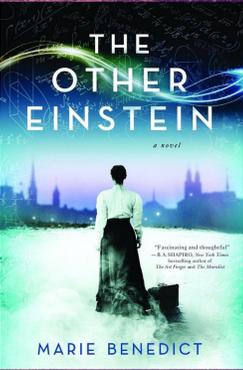
Joker, and most recently *Cruella*. What remains true of these everlasting tales and folklore is that no matter how well we think we know the stories, there will always be more facets waiting to be uncovered.



Some things happening this month:

Piney Woods Page Turners
BOOK CLUB
 Join virtually or in person
November 11TH, 11:00 am
Huntsville Public Library
Nash Board Room

For more information or to become a MEMBER call Mary Kokot, Adult Services Coordinator, at (936)291-5471.




 **Microsoft Word Classes**  **FOR AGES 18+**

TUESDAYS 11 AM TO 12 PM & THURSDAYS 5 TO 6 PM DURING NOVEMBER

Topics include typing, making corrections, formatting text, working with pictures and graphics, and using tables and outlines with bullets.

Register online at myhuntsvillelibrary.com or call 936-291-5485 for more information

Polish Texans

Monday, November 8
10:30 am to 11:30 am

Register at: myhuntsvillelibrary.com
 Light refreshments will be provided



The Piney Woods Writers Group 

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 6

REGISTER ONLINE AT MYHUNTSVILLELIBRARY.COM OR VISIT THE GROUP'S FACEBOOK PAGE "PINEY WOODS WRITERS GROUP"

 For more information, please contact Resource Coordinator Linda Huff at 936-291-5912 

 **Need help with your device?**

BOOK-A-TECH IS BACK!

 You can book a 30 minute one-on-one appointment with a library tech by calling (936) 291-5485 or by going to www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com



STORYTIME
 FOR AGES 5 & UNDER

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY 10:45 AM **TUESDAY 5:30 PM**

 Huntsville Public Library 

The Walker County Genealogical Society (WCGS) and the Huntsville Public Library are beginning a joint, community-wide project to preserve the local history of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Preserving Your Story   

 Email your story to info@wcgen.com or mail it to WCGS, P.O. Box 1295, Huntsville, TX 77342-1295.

If you need help writing down your memories, contact the Adult Services Coordinator, Mary Kokot, at the library, (936) 291-5471 

 **FamilySearch workshop**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
 Weekly on Wednesdays
 Huntsville Public Library

