



### Door Decorating Contest

Each homeroom was given a sheet of white paper and two different color markers. These were the only materials that could be used in the contest. The winner? the homeroom that created the best poster about pi, using only the materials given. Homeroom winner:



### *Math Rap*

IF I GAVE YOU A 3  
AND A 1,4,15  
YOU'D HAVE THE START  
OF THE GREATEST NUMBER ALIVE

IF PI WERE REDUCED  
TO A MERE 3  
THE CIRCLES OF THE WORLD  
WOULD BE HEXAGONAL, YOU SEE

WHAT MAY SEEM MINDR  
JUST MIGHT BE BIG  
SO GRAB SOME PIE  
AND DO SOME TRIG!

### Pi Digits Contest

If you decide to conduct a Pi Digits Contest, you might be surprised at the results - as was a friend of mine. This is his Pi Digits Contest story. He offered a huge, very huge, stuffed cloth bear as a prize to any student in his first-year algebra classes who could accurately recite the most digits of pi.

The lull of winter had taken its toll and Pi Day was an excellent chance to re-energize the class. He announced the contest and offered the prize. It worked, the class snapped into a frenzy of excitement. Pi Day came; the contest began. No one in the class, nor in the school, and certainly not the teacher could believe who won – the most difficult student in the school – straight Fs, straight zeros, and absolutely no cooperation. The presence of this young man walking to the front of the room uncomfortably quelled the class. He cautiously began reciting the digits of pi. They were transfixed with each digit; no one dared break his concentration. After missing on the 221st digit, there was a very brief moment of silence, then the class stood, cheered and applauded. He knew he had changed.

Imagine the sight of your school's tough guy reciting 220 digits of pi and clutching an over-sized stuffed teddy bear. What a transformation! Perhaps, this will happen to you.

Now, let me share how Elaine Harke, at Hazelwood West, conducted her Pi Digits Contest last year. She announced that the contest would take place during 6th period on Pi Day. A few weeks before the eventful day, she distributed a sheet with 1,000 digits of pi.

On Pi Day, students went to the Commons, signed in, and were called before a panel of four cheerleaders to recite. The panel checked the accuracy of the digits and recorded results. Each student was given two attempts. Some students selecting the option of writing the digits were moved to the Wildcat Café managed by a few other cheerleaders.

At the end of the period, a trophy, a Pi Day T-shirt, and McDonald's Apple Pies were awarded to the top students. I believe that first place went to a student who recited 126 digits. Everyone had some fun and gained respect for each other.

**Plan to hold a Pi Digits Contest for your students.**

### PIZZA Best Buy

Find out what is the best buy for your money, a small, medium or large pizza.

First, take the radius of your pizza and find the area. (Remember  $A = \pi r \times r$ .) Next, divide the cost of your pizza by the answer of the area, that is the square inches. This will give you the price per square inch of your pizza.

For example, if your radius is 10 inches, the Area =  $3.14 \times 10 \times 10$  or 314 sq. in. Now divide the cost, say, \$20 by 314. The answer is \$0.063 or \$0.06 per square inch. You would do this for a small, medium and large pizza. Compare the cost per square inch for each of these and you will be able to determine the best value for your money.

