

## Poems about Math

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In my GED class, I shared a poem I wrote about my relationship with Math. I called it *Me & Math*. After sharing the poem—which students enjoyed—students wrote their own poems about their relationship with mathematics. This was an excellent way of getting them to talk about how they were feeling, and for me, to check in on whether they were feeling frustrated, anxious or empowered at that time. We wrote the poems on a giant newspaper sheet and posted them at the back of the room. Students reference lines from the poems during moments of triumph or stress. Here is a sampling of the math poems, starting with the one I wrote.

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### Me & Math

By Phillip Howard

I have a problem ... a math problem  
Math is always throwing problems at me  
I solve 1 and Boom Math throws a harder 1  
A Brain Buster ... so I rage  
But I can't GIVE UP MATH  
Math is in my blood ... PROBLEMS CALL 2 ME  
I want 2 BREAK THE HABIT ... but I can't  
So I push MATH  
I push on the WEB  
I push on the STREETS  
I push in the CLASS  
I push MATH 2 YOU  
So YOU 2 have a MATH PROBLEM

### Math & Me

By Leonidis

I have a serious Problem with math,  
I solve one, then another and yet another.  
But still the day passes, the sun sets,  
The moon rises and the night falls and by then so  
Much has transpired.  
So much in fact that I forgot what I've learned and solved to an extent.  
But I can't give up, for you see the dawn  
Breaks and the sun rises, I awake and I know  
I can count on Phill to lend a hand  
And reiterate on this new day.

## **Math & Me**

By Richard

When it comes time to do math  
I always get a little scared  
That's when my conscious comes into play  
And suddenly I have no-fear  
I put my best foot forward as if I've already passed  
I think I can,  
I know I can defeat this task called math  
My brain starts revving up,  
My pounding heart slows down,  
But still remain a lion  
I'll drag this sum around get upset and lose this battle, something I just can't allow.  
I read examples, follow the rules and learn ways to succeed  
I do this 'til I'm tired and math submits to me ...

## **Me & Math**

By Teresa

Me and math have a love and hate relationship.  
I hate math but love it when I find the answer to a math problem.  
I get excited when I realize that I solved it.  
The discouragement I feel, when I get to the next problem  
and see that this problem is not like the last.  
What the hell is this!!  
Inhale, exhale. I think, I research.  
Finally, I understand, now I can explain it.  
Multiply, divide, add, subtract, and conquer  
I'm going to beat this math with math.  
Integers, percentages, I got it.  
Love you now, hate you later  
What's next, so that we can continue this relationship.

## **Math & Me**

By Sha\_nice

My relationship with math is complicated.  
We always butt heads when it comes to fractions and percentages.  
The math always wins and I'm tired of it.  
So we will continue to have an up and down relationship until I get it.  
That day is coming real soon.  
Cause I will have a better understanding of the fractions percentages  
and that's that!!!