

**Why study  
maths?**

Here are just a few reasons.....

✓ Maths earns  
you more money

A recent report by the Centre for Economic Performance made front page news in the Times Educational Supplement.

The report said that that young people with A level maths earn 10 per cent more than their mathematically challenged counterparts.

*Maths conferred a **clear advantage** even when taken by weaker students.*

*People who scraped a pass still enjoyed a **higher income** later in life*

*A shortage of highly numerate candidates in the jobs market means **employers pay a premium** for the problem solving and number crunching skills of mathematicians;*

*Maths skills learned at GCSE and A level, such as **logical thinking, problem solving and statistical analysis**, are usually closer to those actually used in the workplace than skills learned in other subjects.*

✓ Maths earns you more money

✓ **Maths makes you  
desirable**

Employers in all walks of life readily accept A level mathematics as a desirable qualification, and almost everybody requires GCSE mathematics (along with GCSE English).

If you want to go on to study at University then A level mathematics will open more doors than any other subject.

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- ✓ Maths makes you desirable

✓ **Maths teaches you  
logical thought**

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### **Answer**

You were one kilometre south of the North Pole when you started walking toward the North Pole. From the North Pole you can only walk south.

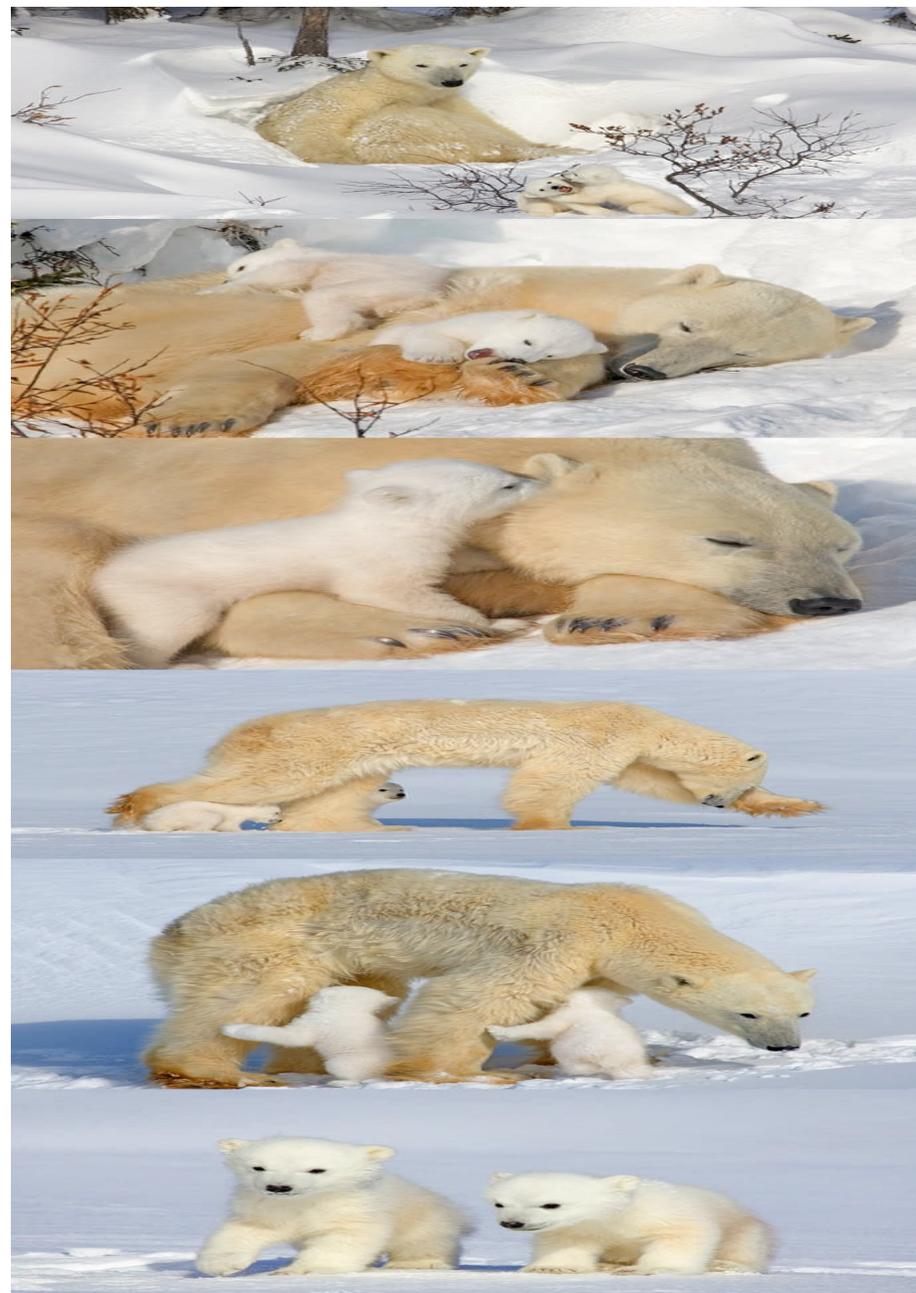
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*You may have seen one of these .....*



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✓ **Maths is  
beautiful**

The beauty lies, not in the shape  
of the symbols, but in the ideas  
behind them.

And there is also visual art.....

<http://www.fractalartcontests.com/2000/en/entry-004-7.htm>

<http://www.fractalartcontests.com/2000/en/entry-262-0.htm>

<http://www.fractalartcontests.com/2000/en/entry-037-0.htm>

<http://www.fractalartcontests.com/2000/en/entry-116-1.htm>

<http://www.fractalartcontests.com/2000/en/entry-132-3.htm>

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✓ **Mathematics is free**

Much of pure mathematical research is free of the pressures that abound in science and technology which have to worry about patents and making money.

Provided you don't claim someone else's work as your own, *you are free to write and discuss ideas with the world, and you don't need expensive equipment, just a piece of paper and a pencil.*

Of course, some mathematical research is done in military or commercial environments, and occasionally secrecy intrudes on pure mathematics as happened with cryptography (code breaking) but in the most part there's a free exchange of ideas and often collaboration - just like the internet in fact.

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And finally.....

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And finally.....

**Maths is the  
language of the  
universe**

Much of modern theoretical physics is mathematics. Quantum Theory or Relativity are mathematical theories that attempt to explain the laws of the universe. Of course relativity can be summarised in the one mathematical formula that almost everyone knows

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oT7bAuOz8ao&feature=related>

Adapted from <http://www.po28.dial.pipex.com/maths/study.htm>