

MATH CHAPTER BOOKS:

[*The Lemonade War*](#). Evan is people-smart and his younger sister, Jessie, is book-smart. Their sibling rivalry results in a summer contest to see who can earn the most money selling lemonade. Throughout the book both business and math calculations play an important role, but they never overwhelm what is essentially a story about a sibling relationship. *Also Available for Kindle.*

If you are familiar with [Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation](#) which raises money to fight childhood cancer, you may be interested to know that it sponsors [The Great Lemonade War](#), inspired by Davies' book in which schools compete to raise money. If you think your school would like to participate, you can find out more on [their official website](#).

[*Sideways Arithmetic From Wayside School*](#). Fans of the zany humor in Louis Sachar's [*Sideways Stories from Wayside School*](#) will enjoy the crazy take on mathematics in these two books. You know you've entered a strange school when your teacher can explain in mathematical terms how "she x he = sass." Each chapter acts as a very short stand-alone tale that centers around a logic problem requiring math skills. They are pretty wacky, but also quite clever (and frankly, challenging!). The books also include clues and solutions to each problem-puzzle.

[*7 x 9 = Trouble!*](#) and [*Fractions = Trouble!*](#). These two books were on my list of [Early Chapter Book Series about Boys](#). Third grader, Wilson is embarrassed that he struggles with math in school. He dreads timed tests and fears his friends will find out he has a tutor. There is much comic relief in the form of a hamster! My son loves these books and has reread them over and over. *Also Available for Kindle.*

[*The Candy Corn Contest*](#). In this installment of The Kids of Polk Street School series, the action centers around a contest to see who can guess the number of candy corn in a teacher's jar. As you might expect there is much discussion about estimating. However, like the rest of the series, the story also deals with kids overcoming their insecurities and learning the ropes of being a good friend. *Also Available for Kindle.*

[*The Toothpaste Millionaire*](#). The practical side of math is highlighted when sixth-graders Rufus and Kate decide to invent a superior toothpaste, sell it and make their fortunes. First published 40 years ago, Jean Merrill's book (she also wrote *The Pushcart War*) is still a highly entertaining celebration of the imaginative spirit. After reading this book, don't be surprised to see your kid start up a new entrepreneurial endeavor using his or her math skills!

[*The Math Wiz*](#). This is a book you can find on my list of [stand-alone early chapter books for boys](#). 3rd grader Marty looks at everything in his life as a math equation to be solved. Unfortunately, he doesn't seem to be able to solve his P.E. problem with any recognizable

formula. The text includes pictures of the creative ways Marty sees the world in mathematical terms. *Also available for the Kindle.*

[*The Phantom Tollbooth*](#). Oh, you thought *The Phantom Tollbooth* was just about grammar and word play? Don't forget Milo and Tock visit Digitopolis, chat up a Dodecahedron and explore curious mathematical concepts like infinity with a Mathematician. *Also available for Kindle.*

[*The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure*](#). This is an odd sort of book, translated from the German, but my 8 year old declared it a winner. 12 year old Robert has trouble with math and each night in his dreams he meets the Number Devil who helps him understand various mathematical concepts, some of which are quite advanced. Illustrations are in color, which is unusual for a chapter book and math concepts are visually displayed. *Also Available for Kindle.*

MATH SHORT STORIES:

[*The Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat*](#), [*Further Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat*](#) and [*Fractals, Googols, and Other Mathematical Tales*](#). Pappas' books each contain short tales narrowly focused on a particular mathematical concept. You name the concept, there's an explanatory story about it. The books include side notes, copious diagrams, thorough explanations as well as suggested activities. These are terrific books for math-obsessed kids but are also very useful for children who might need some help understanding a particular concept. *Also Available for Kindle (although many of the reviews indicate the Kindle versions have numerous scanning errors).*

[*The Man Who Counted: A Collection of Mathematical Adventures*](#). In ancient Arabia, Beremiz Samir dispenses his mathematical wisdom to solve problems, give advice and to inspire admiration wherever he goes. Math concepts and the history of important mathematicians weave through the adventures of one man during his travels.