



**Exploring the World of Mathematics: From  
Ancient Record Keeping to the Latest Advances in  
Computers (Exploring Series) (Exploring (New  
Leaf Press))**

*John Hudson Tiner*

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# Exploring the World of Mathematics: From Ancient Record Keeping to the Latest Advances in Computers (Exploring Series) (Exploring (New Leaf Press))

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Numbers surround us. Just try to make it through a day without using any. It's impossible: telephone numbers, calendars, volume settings, shoe sizes, speed limits, weights, street numbers, microwave timers, TV channels, and the list goes on and on. The many advancements and branches of mathematics were developed through the centuries as people encountered problems and relied upon math to solve them. For instance:

- What timely invention was tampered with by the Caesars and almost perfected by a pope?
- Why did ten days vanish in September of 1752?
- How did Queen Victoria shorten the Sunday sermons at chapel?
- What important invention caused the world to be divided into time zones?
- What simple math problem caused the Mars Climate Orbiter to burn up in the Martian atmosphere?
- What common unit of measurement was originally based on the distance from the equator to the North Pole?
- Does water always boil at 212? Fahrenheit?
- What do Da Vinci's *Last Supper* and the Parthenon have in common?
- Why is a computer glitch called a "bug"?

It's amazing how ten simple digits can be used in an endless number of ways to benefit man. The development of these ten digits and their many uses is the fascinating story you hold in your hands: *Exploring the World of Mathematics*.

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