

Foundation Mathematics in Primary 6

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Sharing with Parents



Aims of Mathematics Education in Singapore

- Acquire and apply mathematical concepts and skills.
- Develop cognitive and metacognitive skills through a mathematical approach to problem solving.
- Develop positive attitudes towards mathematics.

Content Strands in Mathematics Syllabus

- Numbers & Algebra
- Measurement & Geometry
- Statistics

Topics under Numbers & Algebra

- Fractions
- Decimals: Multiplication & Division
- Percentage

Topics under Measurement & Geometry

- Area of Triangles
- Triangles, Squares & Rectangles
- Volume

Topics under Statistics

- Average
- Pie Charts

SEMESTER 1

6A Unit 1 – Fractions

6A Unit 2 – Decimals: Multiplication & Division

6A Unit 3 – Percentage

6A Unit 4 – Average

6A Unit 5 – Area of Triangles

SEMESTER 2

6B Unit 1 – Triangles, Squares & Rectangles

6B Unit 2 – Pie Charts

6B Unit 3 - Volume

Content to be Assessed at PSLE :

- Whole Numbers; Fractions; Decimals
- Percentage
- Rate
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Statistics



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PSLE Foundation Mathematics Examination Format

Paper	Booklet	Item Type	No. of questions	No. of marks per qn	Weighting	Duration
1 Cal. not allowed	A	Multiple-choice	10	1	10%	1 h
			10	2	20%	
	B	Short –answer	10	2	20%	
2 Cal. allowed		Short-answer	10	2	20%	1 h
		Structured	6	3 or 4	20%	
Total			46		90%	2 h

Key Points to Note

Paper 1: CALCULATORS NOT ALLOWED

Booklet A: 10 Multiple Choice Questions

- Select answer from the 4 given options and shade selected option in the OAS.

Key Points to Note

Booklet B: 10 Short Answer Questions

- To show workings clearly and write the correct answers in the spaces provided

Method	Answer	Mark Awarded
Correct & Shown	Correct	2 marks
Not shown	Correct	2 marks
Correct and Shown	Incorrect	1 method mark may be awarded
Incorrect	Correct	0 marks

- Answers must be given according to the Standard units of measurement provided on the answer blanks.

What your child can do & How you can help ...

- Master basic computational skills well
- Ensure good mental calculation skills
→ Practise mental calculation in daily life
- Work with **speed & accuracy**
- Teach possible shortcuts

Example:

$$\begin{array}{l} 7 \times 8 \times 5 \\ = (7 \times 8) \times 5 \\ = 56 \times 5 \end{array} \quad \text{vs} \quad \begin{array}{l} 7 \times 8 \times 5 \\ = 7 \times (8 \times 5) \\ = 7 \times 40 \end{array}$$

- Use the most efficient method

Paper 2: CALCULATORS ALLOWED

10 Short Answer Questions

- To show workings clearly and write the correct answers in the spaces provided
- Marks will be awarded similarly to Paper 1 Booklet B.

6 Problem Sums

- To show each step taken (number equations) and workings clearly so that method marks can be awarded accordingly
- Method marks will be awarded for each correct step/method even if the final answer is wrong.
- Where applicable, standard units of measurement must be indicated with final answers.

What your child can do & How you can help ...

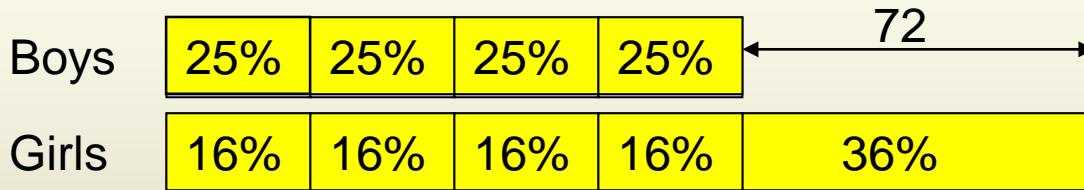
- Read the questions carefully, sentence by sentence.
- Highlight and tease out the information given from each sentence, then put the information together to obtain a better picture.
- Use the most efficient method.
- Show the method of solution (i.e. workings or number equations) used clearly and neatly.

Calculators

- Only calculators approved by SEAB will be allowed for use in the examinations.
- Approved list of calculators:
<https://www.seab.gov.sg/content/calculator/GuidelinesCalculators.pdf>
- To maintain continuity from primary to secondary education, these calculators can be used at the secondary level.

Presentation of Solutions

25% of the boys in a hall is equal to 16% of the girls. There are 72 more girls than boys. How many children are there in the hall?



$$36\% \text{ of girls} = 72$$

$$\begin{aligned} 64\% \text{ of girls} &= (72 \div 36) \times 64 \\ &= 128 \end{aligned}$$

$$128 \times 2 + 72 = 328$$

Wrong Mathematical Statement/Presentation

$$\begin{aligned} *36\% &= 72 \\ 64\% &= 128 \end{aligned}$$

Ans: 328

Presentation of Solutions

Things to Note:

- Include units of measurement

$$\frac{3}{5} \times 100\% = 60\%$$

$$3 \text{ kg} \times 4 = 12 \text{ kg}$$

- Use equal signs correctly

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{ of total amount} = \$45$$

- Clearly indicate the method of solution (working steps / number equations).
- Write final answers in the answer spaces provided.

Partnership with the school...

- Ensure that your child completes his homework daily.
- Encourage you child to attempt all questions in daily assignments even if he has absolutely no idea how to do it.
- Be cool. Avoid jumping to his rescue when he cannot solve a problem. Guide him through by getting him to verbalise and analyse his thoughts on how he can approach the question.
- Review mistakes made. Cover solution and re-attempt the question.

Partnership with the school...

- Practice Papers from school...
 - Ensure conducive working environment.
 - Insist that your child stick to the given time frame...nothing more and nothing less.
 - Good time management practice.

As a pillar of strength and support for your child...

- Praise, encourage and motivate
- Strategize – focus on areas of weaknesses
- Time Management
- **Ensure that mistakes made are corrected**
- More math...in other forms
 - Math Games → Coolmath.com
 - Math Literature → Math magazines
 - Daily life
- **Manage stress** – watch for change in behaviour

Best wishes

for the PSLE!!!