

NEWSLETTER

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SMP 2011



SUMMER MATHEMATICS PROGRAM

Teachers often complain about the lag in learning when students come back from the summer holidays. There really doesn't need to be a lag if learning continues over the summer in a fun and engaging way. Especially so with math.

Summer Mathematics Program (SMP) is prepared in 20 schools round Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama Municipalities. Youth Volunteers that are undergraduates from the Science/ Mathematics department of the University of The Gambia join the league of the Youth Care Foundation in the exciting program.

Experiences garnered in 2010 help to promote the program. It reached out to 845 students. The SMP 2011 will reach out to more than 1000 students. It takes the dream to the Upper and Senior schools. The drive in the youth volunteers is splendid. It going to be fun! Math fun!!

SMP is purported to introduce and promote self discovery and students'-view concept on mathematics syllabus, to build self-confidence, encouraging enthusiasm for mathematics and to treat past questions to give the students general overview towards GABECE and WASSCE.

The SMP 2011 provides outstanding students an opportunity to develop their talents to the fullest. By presenting intriguing puzzles, challenging problems and powerful ideas, the program stimulates curiosity, develops the intellect, and lays a strong foundation for future work in mathematics, the sciences, or science related careers.

UTG Students in Summer Maths Program (SMP) 2011

- Interaction between secondary schools and university students. **A big FUN!**
- What's SMP 2011: Science Club members serve as instructors, teaching assistants or counselors.



Visit: www.youthcarefoundation.org

Algebra Discoursed:

It is a branch of mathematics that concerns with the study of rules of operations and relations, and the constructions and concepts arising from them, including terms, polynomials, equations and algebraic structures.

It introduces the concept of variables representing numbers. Statements based on these variables are manipulated using the rules of operations that apply to numbers, such as addition. Addition and multiplication can be generalized and their precise definitions lead to structures such as groups, rings and fields, studied in the area of mathematics called abstract algebra.

QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH

1. A bottle and a cork together cost GMD 110.00. The bottle costs GMD 100.00 more than the cork. How much does the cork cost?
2. If it takes 5 machines, 5 minutes to make 5 mud-bricks, how long will it take 100 machines to make 100 mud-bricks?

Send answer to: youthcarefd@yahoo.com

Algebra may be divided roughly into the following categories:
Elementary algebra, in which the properties of operations on the real number system are recorded using symbols as "place holders" to denote constants and variables.

- **Abstract algebra**, sometimes also called *modern algebra*, in which algebraic structures such as groups, rings and fields are axiomatically defined and investigated.
- **Linear algebra**, in which the specific properties of vector spaces are studied (including matrices);
- **Universal algebra**, in which properties common to all algebraic structures are studied.
- **Algebraic number theory**, in which the properties of numbers are studied through algebraic systems. Number theory inspired much of the original abstraction in algebra.
- **Algebraic geometry** applies abstract algebra to the problems of geometry.
- **Algebraic combinatorics**, in which abstract algebraic methods are used to study combinatorial questions.