

# ‘Math Magic’

Media Reports on ‘MathLab’



# 'Snapshots of MathLab'



## **'Touch-Feel-See and Manipulate' Mathematics**

The school curriculum governing body, the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT), through the National Curriculum Framework has indicated that Mathematics subject will be treated as a prime focus area in schools, till 2010, with an emphasis on making the subject more visually appealing and an enjoyable learning experience for students. In line with this mission, CBSE, the apex body for secondary education in schools has issued directives to all schools following the CBSE curriculum, to install a Math Lab for promoting the subject. Additionally, CBSE has directed that 20% of the marks will be allocated to each student from the Lab Assessments, towards the final marks.

NIIT's "MathLab" enables school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as 'The Geometer's Sketchpad', together with hands-on activities using a wide variety of mathematical models. This is a dynamic construction and exploration tool that spans the mathematical curriculum and is being made available to Indian schools, jointly by NIIT and Key Curriculum Press.

'MathLab' offers Multiple Teaching and Learning Aids comprising of Technology Applications, Videos, Manipulative, Measuring Instruments, Tables and Chairs, to schools. Based on the three pillars of 'Imagination, Investigation and Interaction', NIIT's MathLab provides an opportunity to students to understand, internalize, discover and verify the basic mathematical and geometrical concepts through concrete objects and situations, thus building interest and confidence in students learning the subject. The laboratory also allows and encourages the students to think, discuss amongst themselves as well as with the teacher, and assimilate concepts.

In addition to providing greater scope for individual participation in the process of learning and becoming autonomous learners, the Math Lab also enables the teacher to demonstrate, explain and reinforce abstract mathematical ideas by using concrete objects, models, charts, graphs, pictures, posters, etc.

# Media Coverage



## Mathematics made easy



**E**MINENT educationist C Ramaiah launched Andhra Pradesh's first ever 'NIIT eGuru Math Lab' at Delhi Public School in Nacharam recently. This initiative aims at making the subject of Mathematics simpler, easier and fun to learn. Speaking on the occasion C Ramaiah said Mathematics does not mean numerals, it means a way of solving problems. He advised teachers not to merely teach or explain problem-solving abilities, instead to help the child think. "Explain reason behind the subject. What you teach in the class must have relevance to the outside of the class," he said. M Komariah, Chairman, DPS Secunderabad, L Balasubramanian, President, School Learning Solutions, NIIT Ltd, T Bheemsen, Vice Chairman, DPS, Secunderabad, Dr N M Rao, former lecturer in Mathematics at AMU Aligarh and Komaresan, Professor of Math, Hyderabad Central University graced the occasion.

Hindu Business Line  
Hyderabad  
July 2, 2009

Business Standard  
Hyderabad  
July 6, 2009

### NIIT's math lab

*Hyderabad, July 1*

**T**he 'NIIT eGuru Math Lab' was launched by educationist Mr C. Ramaiah at Delhi Public School, Nacharam, Hyderabad. NIIT, a leading software training company, said that mathematics learning should be joyful rather than painful; the aim of this lab is making mathematics simpler, easier and fun to learn for school students. Mr Ramaiah said mathematics does not mean numerals; mathematics means a way of solving problems. He advised teachers not to merely teach problems but help the child to think. - **Our Bureau**

### 'NIIT eGuru Math Lab' in Andhra

**Hyderabad:** 'NIIT eGuru Math Lab', a concept enabling school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using tools such as the Geometer's Sketchpad, was launched in Hyderabad. "NIIT believes in providing impactful learning solutions for students. NIIT eGuru Math Lab is another initiative to make the present curriculum interesting and interactive thereby bringing back the joy of learning Mathematics," L Balasubramanian, president (school learning solutions), NIIT, said in a release. NIIT eGuru Math Lab offers multiple teaching and learning aids comprising technology applications, videos, measuring instruments, tables and charts to schools. The laboratory also allows and encourages the students to think, discuss amongst themselves as well as with the teacher, and assimilate concepts.

## 'NIIT e-GURU Math Lab' programme organised

■ Teachers appreciated the new teaching methods and requested the organizers to hold a session exclusively for the principals of their school

### ■ Business Bureau

A ONE-DAY seminar and launch programme 'NIIT e-GURU Math Lab' solution was organized by NIIT for the principals and HOD's, Maths, of Nagpur schools at Hotel Tuli International, recently. The programme was attended in large numbers by most of the school teachers from the city, as it was an innovative concept in teaching Math.

'NIIT e-GURU Math Lab' solution which has been implemented in 16 schools nation wide, so far is fast catching up in most of the schools due to the ease with which the concepts of Math can be taught to students. The teachers were taken through a presentation and live

demo in a virtual Math Lab, specially erected inside the Hotel.

A 45 minutes, session was devoted to all the participants and each one could explore the various teaching methods with the support of thin servers. The teachers were demonstrated the use of tools such as 'Geometer's Sketchpad' for teaching theorems to students. There were endless other manipulative possibilities of making abstract ideas and concepts clear in the minds of class VI to X, by the use of models, objects, charts, pictures and posters. The teachers appreciated the new teaching methods and requested the organizers to hold a session exclusively for the principals of their school, as implementation of 'NIIT e-GURU Math Lab' solution would be made fast.

The idea saw its necessity to be conceptualized when NCERT indicated that Mathematics be treated as a prime focus area in Indian schools till 2010. NIIT in association with Key Curriculum Press USA, has come up with this 'NIIT e-GURU Math Lab' solution.

The Hitavada  
Nagpur  
July 9, 2008

## New experience in schools through NIIT Maths labs

### ■ Business Bureau

PROVIDING the most innovative solutions for Indian Schools, NIIT in association with Key Curriculum Press, USA has come up with 'NIIT e-GURU Math-Lab' solution.

It's an innovation which will enable students to learn and explore mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as 'Geometer's Sketchpad' as well as hands on activities using a wide variety of mathematical models.

Maths Lab will offer multiple teaching and learning aids comprising of technology applications, teaching aides, manipulative measuring instruments and a Maths learning ambience.

It also enables the teacher to

demonstrate explain and reinforce abstract mathematical ideas by using concrete objects, models, charts, graphs, pictures and posters, informs a press release issued here.

The idea saw its necessity to be conceptualised when NCERT indicated that Mathematics be treated as a prime focus area in schools till 2010, the press release stated.

'NIIT e-GURU Math-Lab's launch programme is at the Hotel Tuli International from 9.30 am onwards on July 9 in slots of 45 minutes each. Principals and HOD's of Mathematics in large numbers will be experiencing this new concept in the world of Mathematics.

This will help the school to implement the National Curriculum Framework.



# Help at hand

The NIIT has launched a path-breaking initiative that aims at making maths simpler and more enjoyable for students.

**Promila Roychoudhuri** has details

**M**ATHEMATICS is an important subject not only in schools and colleges but also for most competitive examinations. Many students have a hidden fear for the subject that they develop at an early age. With a view to addressing this problem the NIIT has launched a breakthrough initiative that aims at making maths easier, simpler and more enjoyable for students.

The acclaimed institute inaugurated the first ever NIIT eGuru Math Lab on 25 June, in collaboration with Ballygaunge Shiksha Sadan in Kolkata, which

marked the establishment of a first of its kind Math Lab in eastern India. H P Malpani, president, managing committee, Ballygaunge Shiksha Sadan, along with L Balasubramanian, president of School Learning Solutions, NIIT Ltd, and Debdas Banerjee, deputy general manager, NIIT, eastern India, graced the occasion as guests of honour.

Sketchpad. This innovative concept will make learning enjoyable and visually more appealing to enable students to learn better. In addition to helping students learn the tricks of the trade, the Math Lab will also enable teachers to demonstrate and explain abstract mathematical concepts by using concrete objects, model, charts, graphs, pictures, and, more importantly, the geometric Sketchpad software. The software will help teachers to draw accurate figures like triangles, rectangles and circles, thus making the process of drawing a little less time consuming.

Said Sen, "Maths is generally looked upon as a vapid, boring and technical subject. They will now have the opportunity to understand, internalise, discover and verify basic mathematical and geometrical concepts. This laboratory will help build interest and encourage students to think and discuss problems more freely with teachers."

The entire package comprises the set up of the Lab with a capacity of 60 students. They will be provided computers, different models and objects that are being imported, as well as a three-year contract of support, maintenance and upgradation along with teachers' training. The whole package will cost around 1.2 million. "Teachers should have a good grounding in the new technology in order to make the venture a big success," said Balasubramanian.



Sunita Sen, principal of Ballygaunge Shiksha Sadan, together with G K Khaitan, the secretary of the school and Nirmal Khaitan, member of the managing committee of the school, were also present.

The NIIT eGuru Math Lab is expected to enable students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems with the help of software like geometrical





# Education Express



Geometer's Sketchpad is a construction and exploration software that can be used both by the teachers as a teaching tool and by the students as a learning tool

**F**OR most of us, Mathematics might be a nightmare. But with the introduction of Math Labs in schools, the study of maths will be more like playing a game.

NIIT, joining hands with US-based Key Curriculum Press Inc., a leading provider of software research and development for Mathematics Education, is introducing Mathematics Laboratories in Indian Schools. The novel concept, Math Lab launched on the occasion of Children's Day, will enable school students to learn and explore Mathematical concepts and verify Mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as 'The Geometer's Sketchpad' (GSP) and wide variety of mathematical models.

According to NCERT's National Curriculum Framework, Mathematics will be treated as a prime focus area in schools till 2020, with an emphasis on making the subject more visually appealing and an enjoyable learning experience for students. The CBSE has also issued directives to all schools following CBSE syllabus to install a Math Lab for promoting the subject. "We have conducted pilot

## Math magic

A Children's Day gift from NIIT makes Mathematics easier

studies in India and will be launching the programme from the next academic year. This Math Labs in CBSE schools and, eventually, in other schools will be a major learning tool towards enhancing the Mathematics learning capability of the students," said L Balasubramanian, president, School Learning Solutions, NIIT.

With Geometer's Sketchpad, students will be able to construct an object and explore its mathematical properties through an exciting visual process; a process that would capture and hold

the student's attention, helping them build a strong foundation in Euclidean and Non Euclidean Geometry, Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre Calculus and Calculus.

"It is a construction and exploration software that can be used both by the teachers as a teaching tool and by the students as a learning tool. For example, in GSP, we don't have an option to create a 3D model. But a student from China had created a beautiful 3D model using it. Here, students are not passive learners. They should be like

programmers, not the recipients of somebody else's creativity," said Steven Rasmussen, CEO of Key Curriculum Press, while talking to *Education Express*.

Comparing the maths education both in India and US, Steven added that India had a strong base in Mathematics when compared to US. "But here, it is still a paper-pencil work. In 21st century, students need to combine their mathematical knowledge with creativity and technological skills to become powerful problem solvers," he added.

When you construct objects in Sketchpad, you can drag points and lines with the mouse. As shapes and positions change, all mathematical relationships are preserved, allowing the students to examine an entire set of similar cases in a matter of seconds.

Visually appealing learning method is the main feature of GSP. Concepts that may be initially difficult for the students to understand become very clear when they see visual representations on the screen and interact with them using Sketchpad.

Launched in 1991 in the US, Geometer's Sketchpad is being used by over 25 per cent of the secondary schools in the United States. Sketchpad has been localised and published in Japanese, Arabic, French, German, Spanish, Korean, Danish, Slovenian, Czech, Swedish, Hebrew and Hungarian. When quizzed if there is any plan to launch in Indian languages, CEO of Key Curriculum Press said, "We would recommend the use of English language as it would be very helpful to understand mathematical terms. But, if there is a need for it to be translated to any Indian language, NIIT can decide on that."

— K P Riyas



# Learning it right

“Do not worry about your difficulties in Mathematics, I assure you that mine is greater” — Albert Einstein

**M**ATHEMATICS is a tool especially suited for dealing with abstract concepts of any kind and there is no limit to its power in this field. If you ask mathematicians what they do, you always get the same answer. They think. They think about difficult and unusual problems. They do not think about ordinary problems: they just write down the answers. Math is generally associated with abstract, impossible formulas wracking the student's brains to the

power of infinity. People learn Math best by doing it and using it in their lives. Learning is easier if it is pleasurable as well as practical.

Imagine a Math Lab that has been designed so that you can experience

math and solve it with more fun. It's not a dream but a dream come true because has made it possible. With the aim to create tools to visualize and feel math and to help school students learn and experience, this lab is full of interactive lessons, math magic, games, humor, math gym and lots more. Math lab will enable school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as 'Geometer's Sketchpad', together with hands-on activities using a variety of mathematical models. The dynamic construction and exploration tool spans the mathematical curriculum and is being made available to Indian Schools, jointly by NIFT and Key Curriculum Press. RIE(Regional Institute of Education) did an in-depth research on some of the major problems faced by contemporary

school students regarding Mathematics..

The conclusion drawn was a list of endless, confused, vague minds which included Lesser recall, low self-esteem, low attention span, stress (due to curriculum load) and specifically its abstract nature. Therefore to emphasise learning math by applied reasoning Math lab will offer multiple teaching and learning aids comprising of technology applications, videos, manipulative, measuring instruments, tables and chairs to schools. Based on the three pillars of imagination, investigation and interaction, the math lab provides an opportunity to students to understand,

internalize, discover and verify the basic mathematical and geometrical concepts through concrete objects and situations, thus building interest and confidence in students while learning the subject. It facilitates

collaborative peer-peer learning, knowledge sharing and promote out of the box thinking while at the same time giving students the opportunity to question the answer and explore. The laboratory allows and encourages the students to think, discuss and assimilate concepts amongst themselves as well as with the teachers. Some of the major schools participating in this demo were Don Bosco Park Circus, Loreto House, La Martiniere, Apeejay School, Modern High and Birla High School. In addition to providing greater scope for individual participation in the process of learning and becoming autonomous learners, the Math Lab also enables the teacher to demonstrate, explain and reinforce abstract mathematical ideas by using concrete objects, models, charts, graphs pictures, posters, etc.

— ZUBINA AHMED



The Economic Times  
New Delhi  
November 20, 2007

# SNAPSHOTS

## NIIT brings 'Math Lab' for Indian schools on children's day

NIIT, has announced a strategic alliance with US based Key Curriculum Press, a leading provider of software research and development for Mathematics Education, to introduce 'Mathematics Laboratories' in Indian schools. Math Lab will enable students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools.

NIIT will bring its expertise and reach in schools while Key Curriculum Press will offer its globally popular proprietary software 'The

and encourage the students to think, discuss amongst themselves as well as with the teacher, and assimilate concepts.



Geometer's Sketchpad' as part of the active tool in 'Math Lab', through this joint initiative. The partnership aims at offering this revolutionary learning solution for the subject of Mathematics, to students in India. NIIT's 'Math Lab' will offer Multiple Teaching and Learning Aids comprising of Technology Applications, Videos, Manipulatives, Measuring Instruments, Tables and Charts, to schools. It will provide an opportunity to students to understand, internalise, discover and verify the basic mathematical and geometrical concepts through concrete objects and situations. The laboratory will also allow

BRIEF

## Learning math online

Imagine kids learning the Pythagorean theorem at school on the computer. Thanks to the initiative of NIIT and its association with US-based Key Curriculum Press, Indian schoolkids might soon be learning the art of math online.

Math Lab, the entire package of learning mathematics will be provided by NIIT based on a MoU that it will sign with NCERT and other individual schools across the country. Currently, CBSE and a thousand other schools have already added Math Lab to their curriculum in India.

Under the agenda for providing interactive education to children, L. Balasubramanian, President-School Learning Solutions, NIIT said, "We are pleased to partner with Key Curriculum Press for this breakthrough initiative that aims at making the vital subject of mathematics simpler, easier and fun to learn."

The JV looks at providing the solution called "The Geometer's Sketchpad" along with various other physical math models to Indian schools. "We have already approached nearly 3,500 schools and with the help of NCERT adding this to its curriculum the solution shall be implemented by March 2008," said Balasubramanian. Currently NIIT has a data-

base of 25,000 schools that will be approached by the company for including interactive "Mathematical Laboratories" to the curriculum.

Explaining the working of the model, Steven Ramussen, CEO, Key Press Curriculum Press Inc., informed that The Geometer Sketchpad is compatible with Macintosh and Windows. "We did build a version of the Sketchpad that was compatible with Linux, but there was not much demand for that solution," said Ramussen. Geometer Sketchpad 4 is the current version and R&D has begun on version 5 that shall be launched globally by 2010-11. The Geometer Sketchpad is already being used in China and Europe apart from the US.

Speaking on the reason why Key Curriculum Press Inc., chose NIIT to be its Indian partner for Math Lab solutions, Ramussen said, "Our primary intention for having a Joint Venture with NIIT was to utilize their expertise in the Research and Development side for e-learning solutions and also their reach in the Indian sub-continent to market the product."

Under the proposal that has been presented to NCERT, CBSE and other schools, NIIT shall provide the initial investment of nearly Rs 4 to 8 lakhs that shall be required depend-



NIIT signs a MoU with Key Curriculum Press, USA to provide software for Math Labs that will be included in the NCERT and CBSE curricula

ing on the infrastructure in each school in return for a fee of Rs 50 to Rs 100 per month per student by the school.

Speaking about the future for solutions provided in mathematics by the Key Curriculum Press Inc., Ramussen said that The Geometer's Sketchpad should be available in downloadable and home versions in coming years.

So the next time you visit a school near you to have a peek at whether your children are solving math equations at their desk do not be surprised if the classrooms are locked. They might just be in one of the Math Labs solving the same problems, but this time, on a PC.

The Hindustan Times  
New Delhi  
March 26, 2008

NEWS BUZZ

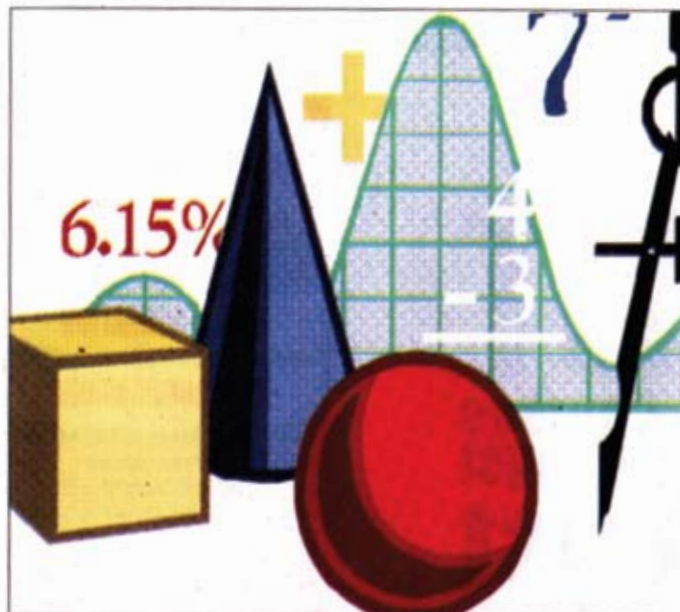
## Experimenting with Maths

NIIT has come up with a new concept of introducing Math Labs in schools

Cara Gupta Sarkar

**The** National Council for Educational Research and Training has indicated in its National Curriculum Framework that Mathematics will be treated as a prime focus area by 2010. It has recommended that all schools set up a Math Lab for promoting the subject and that 20 per cent of the final marks for each student would be from assessments of Math Lab work.

Keeping in tune with the NCERT's suggestion, NIIT has come up with a new and revolutionary concept of introducing Math Labs in schools. It aims to cater to students from classes six to ten. Like physics or chemistry laboratories, the Math lab will also help students to visually experience mathematics.



For many students, mathematics is an abstract subject and they just cannot relate to it. Low self-esteem, stress, low attention span and lesser powers of recollection, are the main disabilities, which make some students perform worse than other classmates. To bridge this gap between a 'good student' and an 'average' one, the NIIT math lab provides the 'three I approach'. The three 'I's' are Imagine (thinking out of the box), Investigate (question and explore) and Interact (to work collectively and share knowledge). A math lab will be set up in schools with NIIT's assistance to enable teachers to demonstrate, explain and reinforce abstract mathematical ideas using concrete objects models, charts, graphs, pictures and posters.

The labs will have computers equipped with software like Geometric Sketch Pads (GSP) -- a special tool, which promotes a child's understanding of geometrical concepts. There will be 31, 57, 30, 70, and 35 activities designed for the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th classes respectively.



# Getting innovative in the math class

A tangible, visual way to explore and understand abstract mathematical concepts.

India's school curriculum governing body, the National Council of Education Research and Training, has made mathematics a prime focus area in schools. Its goal is to make the subject a more visually appealing and enjoyable learning experience. In line with this mission, the country's Central Board of Secondary Education has directed all schools following the CBSE curriculum to install a Math Lab.

## Easily adaptable

Mathematics is the eternal bugbear for most students. For all those teachers, despairing how best to get across numerical concepts to students, hope is at hand. The U.S. based Key Curriculum Press, a mathematics publisher of inquiry-based textbooks, mathematics software and supplementary materials for middle-school and high-school students, is partnering with NIIT Ltd. to introduce Math Labs featuring The Geometer's Sketchpad to India schools.

The programme is a construction, demonstration, and exploration tool that adds a visual



MAKE IT INTERESTING: New innovative methods. PHOTO: H. VIBHU

dimension to the study of mathematics. A concept that may be initially difficult to understand becomes clear when they see visual representations on screen and interact with them using Sketchpad. Teachers can give students a tangible, visual way to explore and understand abstract concepts in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, pre-calculus, and calculus since it

allows the building and investigation of mathematical models, objects, figures, diagrams, and graphs.

The sketch plane draws new objects using the point, compass, and text tools. Using the selection arrow tool, teachers can select figures and use the menus to reformat measure or construct new objects. It seeks to provide a

faster and engaging way to demonstrate mathematical concepts. Sketchpad can help teachers and students quickly understand variables and relationships. When objects are constructed in Sketchpad, you can drag points and lines with the mouse. As shapes and positions change, all mathematical relationships are preserved, allowing teachers and students to examine

an entire set of similar cases in a matter of seconds.

Sketchpad can be used across mathematics curriculum, so different software is not required for each class, concept, or grade level. The software has the flexibility to help meet teaching needs regardless of the subject matter, technological expertise, or curriculum. The subject-specific, ready-to-use activity books can be used or customised based on specific activities and demonstrations to differentiate learning for all students. It works easily with the LCD projector, classroom computer, or SMART Board.

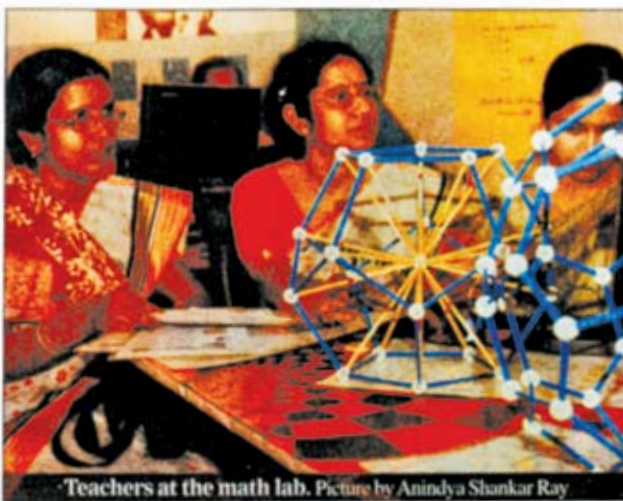
The best thing is that it can quickly and easily generate teaching aids such as worksheets, tests, reports, and presentations with accurately measured figures by exporting Sketchpad files to word-processing programs and spreadsheets, other drawing programs, and the Internet.

Email [shivanjali.singh@niit.com](mailto:shivanjali.singh@niit.com) or visit [www.niit.com](http://www.niit.com) for more details.

P.P.

The Telegraph  
Kolkata  
March 6, 2008

# Maths made fun



Teachers at the math lab. Picture by Anindya Shankar Ray

Maths need not be only about memorising formulae. Teachers and principals of city schools were introduced to innovative techniques of teaching mathematics at a workshop organised by NIIT at Taj Bengal on February 27.

Recently the Central Board of Secondary

Education (CBSE) has directed its schools to install "math labs" to help students learn by applied reasoning.

"We want to create a set of tools by which every student can visualise and feel maths," said Mohan Kumar who conducted the NIIT math lab.

He demonstrated how 22 petals can be drawn in seven revolutions, thus demonstrating the value of "pi" as the ratio of the circumference and the diameter of a circle as 22/7.

Even the furniture used in the workshop were in geometrical shapes to add to the excitement. "We would like to start such a lab in our school too," said Mitali Guha Sarkar, maths teacher at Ballygunge Siksha Sadan, at the end of the seminar.

**Chandreyee Bhaumik**  
Second year, English Honours,  
St Xavier's College

Indian Express  
Hyderabad  
November 15, 2007

## NIIT, US firm sign MoU for setting up Maths lab in schools

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

Mumbai, Nov 14: NIIT Ltd has forged a strategic alliance with US-based KeyCurriculum Press Inc to introduce 'Mathematics Laboratories' in Indian schools.

Key Curriculum Press (KCP) is a leading international player specialising in software research and development for mathematics and science educational materials. A MoU towards this alliance was signed on Wednesday between L Balasubramanian, president School Learning Solutions division of NIIT and Steven Rasmussen, CEO of KCP.

Announcing the new initiative, Balasubramanian said that the maths lab concept would enable school level students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and

verify mathematical facts and theorems using various technology tools developed by KCP.

Explaining one such tool, 'The Geometer's Sketchpad' which explains the problems to the student with hands-on activities using a wide variety of mathematical models, Balasubramanian said that it was a dynamic construction and exploration tool that spans the mathematical curriculum customized for Indian schools.

Balasubramanian said that the school curriculum governing body, the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT), through the National Curriculum Framework has indicated that mathematics subject will be treated as a prime focus area in schools, till 2010, with an emphasis on making the subject more visually appealing,

and an enjoyable learning experience for students.

In line with this mission, CBSE, the apex body for secondary education in schools, has issued directives to all schools following the CBSE curriculum, to install a 'Maths Lab' for promoting the subject. Additionally, CBSE has also directed that 20 per cent of the marks will be allocated to each student from the Maths Lab assessments. "Thus NIIT's math lab in CBSE schools and eventually in other schools will be a major learning tool towards enhancing the mathematics learning capability of the students," he said.

NIIT, through its school learning solution division, is reaching 1.5 million kids annually in government and private schools, mostly in rural areas, Balasubramanian added.



Indian Express  
Chennai  
November 15, 2007

# Schools will now have 'Math Labs'

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

**Chennai, Nov 14:** After language labs, schools can now have their very own labs for mathematics.

"Mathematics has not been an interesting and enjoyable subject for many a student. The idea is to promote an interactive method of learning and teaching the subject," said L Balasubramanian, president, School Learning Solutions, NIIT.

Launching the 'Math Lab' concept, in association with US-based Key Curriculum Press Inc here on Tuesday, he said that the lab would be integrated into the academic calendar

from January, 2008.

On the idea behind this initiative, Balasubramanian explained that the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) had directed all the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) schools to treat Mathematics as a prime focus area till 2010. The CBSE had also directed that 20 percent of the final marks for each student be allocated from the assessments at the lab.

With the launch of this initiative across the nation, NIIT expected to make the subject visually appealing.

The Math Lab will enable

school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts, verify facts and theorems using technological tools such as the 'geometer's sketchpad', together with hands-on activities using a wide variety of mathematical models.

"We will hold discussions with the State Government and individual schools following the Stateboard or matriculation syllabus on the need to have one such lab," he said.

The Math Lab, which would be in use for students from standard VI to X, would be intergrated with the prescribed textbook.

"The lab will offer multi-

ple teaching and learning aids comprising technological applications, videos, manipulatives, measuring instruments, tables and charts for schools, which are based on the three pillars of imagination, investigation and interaction," said Steven Rasmussen, CEO, Key Curriculum Press Inc.

It would allow the student to think, discuss and assimilate concepts, in addition to enabling the teacher to demonstrate, explain and re-inforce abstract mathematical ideas by using concrete objects, models, charts, graphs, pictures, posters and the like.



Prabhat Khabar  
Kolkata  
Februray 28, 2008

## नित ने सिखाया शिक्षकों को गणित का फंडा

कोलकाता : बच्चों को सरल व सुबोध तरीके से गणित सिखाने के लिए शिक्षण संस्था एनआइआइटी ने आज महानगर के कई बड़े स्कूलों के दो सौ से अधिक गणित शिक्षकों व प्रधानाध्यापकों को प्रशिक्षण दिया. इस अवसर पर एनआइआइटी के उपमहाप्रबंधक (पूर्वी भारत) देवदास बनर्जी ने बताया कि नेशनल काउंसिल आफ एडुकेशन रिसर्च एंड ट्रेनिंग (एनसीईआरटी) ने सभी शिक्षण संस्थानों में पठन-पाठन के लिए राष्ट्रीय दिशा निर्देश तय किये हैं, जिसे सभी शिक्षण संस्थानों को वर्ष 2010 तक लागू करना है. इस दिशा निर्देश के अनुसार, सभी संस्थानों को बच्चों पर विषय का मनोवैज्ञानिक दबाव बनाये बिना उसे सरल तरीके से सीखने के लिए उत्प्रेरित करना है. कार्यशाला में एपी बिड़ला, लारैटो समेत कई विद्यालयों के शिक्षकों ने हिस्सा लिया.

Indian Express  
Mumbai  
Februray 28, 2008

### **Mathology rules**

ALL those school children, who wish to wipe all the Maths phobia, then attend this event. NIITs K12 business unit is going to host a Roadshow targeted at schools where they are going to showcase their revolutionary concept of teaching Maths in schools through installation of Maths Lab on February 29 at the Mumbai Regency ball room at Hyatt regency, Andheri (E) from 9.30am onwards. 'Math Lab' will be offering Multiple Teaching and Learning Aids comprising of Technology Applications, Videos, Manipulative, and Measuring Instruments. Based on the three pillars of 'Imagination, Investigation and Interaction', the students will be able to understand, and verify the basic mathematical and geometrical concepts through concrete objects and situations. The first session starts at 09.30 am to 10.15 am.

The Asian Age  
New Delhi  
November 15, 2007

## ***NIIT, US firm plan interactive math lab***

**By OUR CORRESPONDENT**

**Chennai, Nov. 14:** NIIT has entered into a strategic alliance with US-based Key Curriculum Press, provider of software research and development for mathematics education, to introduce *Mathematics Laboratories* in Indian schools.

Math Lab is a concept where technology tools will be used to teach mathematics.

Announcing this at a press conference, Mr L. Balasubramanian, president, school learning solutions, said, "NIIT is committed in making education more impactful and interactive, by leveraging IT and ensuring that tools and resources are made available to millions of school students."

He said, "NIIT, will bring its expertise and reach schools while Key Curriculum Press will offer its globally popular proprietary software The Geometer's Sketchpad as part of the active tool in Math Lab, through this joint initiative."

"The partnership aims at offering this revolutionary learning solution for the subject of mathematics, to students in India," he said adding that it will be implemented from January 2008.

HT Next  
New Delhi  
November 15, 2007

## Math Lab to instil interest, confidence in students

● **Siddhartha P Saikia**  
New Delhi, November 14

STUDENTS, WHO have been scared of the complex mathematical problems, may soon start loving the subject. 'Math Lab'— a concept that would enable school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as 'The Geometer's Sketchpad', was launched by NIIT on Children's Day.

The 'Math Lab' will offer multiple teaching and learning aids comprising of technology applications, videos, manipulatives, measuring instruments, tables and charts, to schools. Based on the three pillars of 'imagination, investigation and interaction', it would also provide an opportunity to understand, internalise, discover and verify the basic mathematical concepts through concrete objects and situations, thus building interest and confidence in students. The Lab also allows and encourages the students to think, discuss amongst themselves as well as with the teachers, and assimilate concepts.

The Hindu Business Line  
New Delhi  
November 16, 2007

## NIIT, US co to introduce 'Math Lab'

**Our Bureau**  
Chennai, Nov. 15

NIIT Ltd, an IT training company, has announced an alliance with the US-based Key Curriculum Press Inc, a provider of software research and development for Mathematics Education, to introduce 'Mathematics Laboratories' in Indian schools.

An MoU to this effect was signed between Mr L. Bala-

subramanian, President-School Learning Solutions, NIIT, and Mr Steven Rasmussen, CEO, Key Curriculum Press, here. 'Math Lab' is intended to enable school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as 'The Geometer's Sketchpad', together with hands-on activities using a variety of mathematical models.



# Business Standard

Friday, May 02, 2008

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## NIIT ties up with US firm for math labs

BS Reporter / New Delhi November 14, 2007

NIIT, a global talent development corporation, has announced a strategic alliance with US-based Key Curriculum Press, to introduce 'Mathematics Laboratories' in Indian schools.

'Math Lab' will enable school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as 'The Geometer's Sketchpad', together with hands-on activities using a wide variety of mathematical models.

Announcing the new initiative, L Balasubramanian, president-School Learning Solutions, NIIT said: "NIIT is committed to making education more impactful and interactive, by leveraging IT and ensuring world's best tools and resources are made available to millions of school students. We are pleased to partner with Key Curriculum Press for this breakthrough initiative that aims at making the vital subject of Mathematics simpler, easier and a fun way to learn."

NIIT's 'Math Lab' will offer multiple teaching and learning aids comprising technology applications, videos, manipulatives, measuring instruments, tables and charts, to schools.

Math Lab is being made available to Indian schools, jointly by NIIT and Key Curriculum Press.



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## Math Lab: Fun Way To Explore Mathematical Concepts

### NIIT partners with US firm for Mathematics Laboratories.

EFY News Network

Thursday, November 15, 2007: NIIT has introduced Mathematics Laboratories (Math Lab) for Indian schools, in association with US-based Key Curriculum Press Inc., a provider of software research and development for mathematics education. Math Lab will enable school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as Key Curriculum's proprietary software The Geometer's Sketchpad, together with hands-on activities using a wide variety of mathematical models.

NIIT's Math Lab will offer multiple teaching and learning aids comprising of technology applications, videos, manipulatives, measuring instruments, tables and charts, to schools. Based on the three pillars of 'Imagination, Investigation and Interaction', NIIT's Math Lab provides an opportunity to students to understand, internalise, discover and verify the basic mathematical and geometrical concepts through concrete objects and situations.

Announcing the new initiative, L. Balasubramanian, president, school learning solutions, NIIT, said, "NIIT is committed to making education more impactful and interactive, by leveraging IT and ensuring world's best tools and resources are made available to millions of school students. We are pleased to partner with Key Curriculum Press for this breakthrough initiative that aims at making the vital subject of Mathematics simpler, easier and a fun way to learn."

"In the 21st century, it is no longer sufficient for students whether in India or any other country to be proficient in traditional mathematics. Students need to combine their mathematical knowledge with the creativity and technology skills to become powerful problem solvers that the future will pose. Our collaboration is designed to help Indian students to achieve that higher goal," shared Steven Rasmussen, CEO, Key Curriculum Press Inc.

EFY News Network

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- One of the major (disappointment) ...
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### Practical classes for Maths too



Sam Daniel

Sunday, November 18, 2007 (Chennai)

Good bye to the tough maths classes and welcome to maths labs a refreshing way to explore mathematics the practical way.

Its a blend of IT and visually appealing mathematical models designed after fifteen years of research. The aim is to make mathematics simpler, easier and a fun way to learn.

As a first step, labs like this are soon to be set up in CBSE schools.

L Balasubramaniam President of NIIT Ltd said, "We are giving the computer software for teachers to interact and students can practice as many as 240 activities."

Steven Rasmussen CEO of Key Curriculum Press said, "The idea of maths lab is to unlock their creativity."

School children welcome this many say that scoring a centum may not be so difficult for them.

Sarala a student said, "Not just Geometry we can learn even algebra, graph and so many." Nitin another student said, "Like science we can learn maths practically."

This is like a children's day gift for kids across the country.

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**EDUCATION**



**NIIT brings 'Math Lab' for Indian Schools**

News

NIIT has announced a strategic alliance with US-based Key Curriculum Press Inc., a leading provider of software research and development for mathematics education, to introduce 'Mathematics Laboratories' in Indian schools.

An MoU to this effect was signed between L Balasubramanian, president - School Learning Solutions, NIIT, and Steven Rasmussen, CEO, Key Curriculum Press, in Chennai on November 14, 2007.

'Math Lab' — a novel concept, launched on the occasion of Children's Day — will enable school students to learn and explore mathematical concepts and verify mathematical facts and theorems using technology tools such as "The Geometer's Sketchpad", together with hands-on activities using a wide variety of mathematical models. This is a dynamic construction and exploration tool that spans the mathematical curriculum and is being made available to Indian schools jointly by NIIT and Key Curriculum Press.

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- உடைந்த பற்களை ஒழுங்குபடுத்துதலும் முகச்சீரமைப்பும்
- "கனியாட்டம் போடும் பாடல்"!
- சாம்பன் பதில்கள் - 38

School curriculum governing body, the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT), through the National Curriculum Framework, has indicated that mathematics will be treated as a prime focus area in schools, till 2010, with an emphasis on making the subject more visually appealing and an enjoyable learning experience for students. In line with this mission, CBSE, the apex body for secondary education in schools, has issued directives to all schools following the CBSE curriculum, to instal a Math Lab for promoting the subject. Additionally, CBSE has directed that 20 per cent of the marks will be allocated to each student from the Lab Assessments, towards the final marks.

Announcing the new initiative, Balasubramanian said, "NIIT is committed to making education more impactful and interactive, by leveraging IT and ensuring the world's best tools and resources are made available to millions of school students. We are pleased to partner with Key Curriculum Press for this breakthrough initiative that aims at making the vital subject of mathematics simpler, easier and a fun way to learn."

NIIT, which offers computer and computer-aided education to 1.5 million students across over 5,000 schools, will bring its expertise and reach in schools while Key Curriculum Press will offer its globally popular proprietary software "The Geometer's Sketchpad" as part of the active tool in 'Math Lab' through this joint initiative. The partnership aims at offering this revolutionary learning solution for the subject of mathematics to students in India.

Steven Rasmussen said,"We are pleased to work with NIIT to make our technology and materials available to schools across India. In the 21st century, it is no longer sufficient for students, whether in India or any other country, to be proficient in traditional mathematics. Students need to combine their mathematical knowledge with creativity and technology skills to become powerful problem solvers... Our collaboration is designed to help Indian students achieve that higher goal."

NIIT's 'Math Lab' will offer multiple teaching and learning aids, comprising technology applications, videos, manipulatives, measuring instruments, tables and charts, to schools. Based on the three pillars of 'Imagination, Investigation and Interaction', NIIT's Math Lab provides an opportunity to students to understand, internalise, discover and verify the basic mathematical and geometrical concepts through concrete objects and situations, thus building interest and confidence in students learning the subject. The laboratory also

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allows and encourages the students to think, discuss amongst themselves as well as with the teacher and assimilate concepts.

In addition to providing greater scope for individual participation in the process of learning and becoming autonomous learners, the Math Lab also enables the teacher to demonstrate, explain and reinforce abstract mathematical ideas by using concrete objects, models, charts, graphs, pictures and posters.

Founded in 1971 by mathematics educators, Key Curriculum Press is the leading mathematics publisher of inquiry-based textbooks, dynamic mathematics software and supplementary materials for middle-school and high-school students.

Key materials incorporate effective use of technology with careful concept development and an inquiry-based approach. Key's award-winning educational software line includes "The Geometer's Sketchpad", the leading mathematics software in grades 6 to 12, and two data analysis programs, Fathom Dynamic Data™ software for students in grade 8 to college and TinkerPlots™ Dynamic Data Exploration software for students in grades 4 to 8.

In 1996, Key affiliated with 'Springer', one of the world's largest and most prestigious scientific publishers and, later, founded Key College Publishing, a higher education division that publishes innovative texts and courseware in undergraduate mathematics, statistics and mathematics and statistics education.

Key Curriculum Press is a sister concern of Springer India, which is a part of Springer Science and Business Media, headquartered in New Delhi. Headed by Sanjiv Goswami as its managing director, the company is engaged in the publication of scientific books and journals including electronic versions and represents Key Curriculum Press in the Indian subcontinent.

**R Rangaraj**

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Published on Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007

# 'Snapshots of MathLab'





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