



## OneInMath Pilot Soars @ San Jose Public Library

OneInMath is a volunteer run math tutoring program offered at the Berryessa and Evergreen branches of San José Public Library. Kids in grades K-2 learn simple ways to add and subtract. This helps them understand math concepts quickly. Volunteer, Urvi Gupta and her team of teen volunteers provide video instruction and face-to-face tutoring at both locations.

Urvi, a sophomore at The Harker School, approached the Evergreen Branch Library about starting a tutoring program in the library. Impressed with her creativity and enthusiasm and with strong support from branch manager, Candice Tran, we offered math tutoring as a pilot program (once a week on Saturdays) at the Berryessa Branch Library in October 2011 with an initial audience of five kids. The program grew rapidly and by April 2012, Urvi had twenty kids registered in her program.



Urvi then offered the same program as a six week intensive course in the summer of 2012 at the Evergreen Branch Library. Kids would meet twice a week over the summer to brush up on their math skills. The program was so successful that Urvi had to rely on a group of teen volunteers from the Evergreen Branch to help provide the same level of service to an increasing number of students.

In the fall, we assisted Urvi in recruiting and training more than twenty teen volunteers to provide tutoring in math concepts. Each teen would provide face to face tutoring to a group of 5-6 kids. Urvi now concentrates on tracking student progress, creating lesson plans and coordinating volunteer schedules. Librarians are responsible for program support and marketing and the Friends of the Evergreen Library provide funding for supplies (mainly paper and pencils).

A truly successful collaborative effort by librarians and volunteers, the program is now offered at both the Berryessa and Evergreen Branch libraries and has grown to include more than 125 registered participants. This program has both parents and kids excited about learning math and will be expanding to the Hillview Library in February 2013.

*Vidya Kilambi & Nina Petrova, Librarians*

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