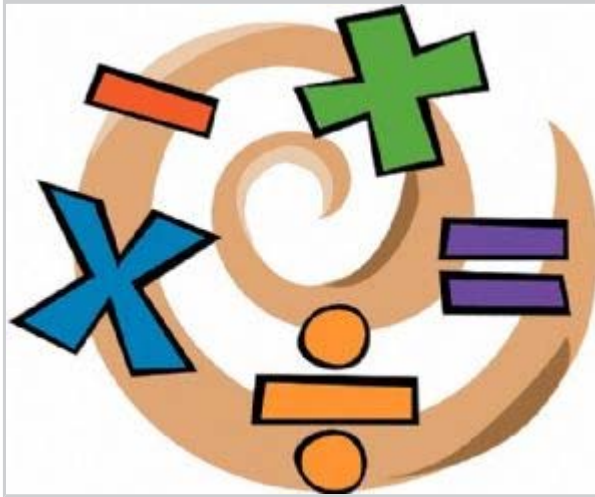


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Province Launching Mathematical Sciences Awareness Week



Newfoundland and Labrador is launching its first ever Mathematical Sciences Awareness Week, and the Scientific Director of MITACS (Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems), a Vancouver-based national research network, is offering a few tips to keep your math skills sharpened. Dr. Arvind Gupta is a professor at the University of British Columbia. He says there are a number of fun ways to keep up with math. Gupta says you can review the basics of math by using online programs that offer lessons, games, puzzles and information for parents and children. Gupta says you can strengthen problem-solving skills through games and puzzles, or any activity that exercises logic like Sudoku. Electronic games like Minesweeper or Lemmings might not look like math, but they help build neural pathways that flow between the areas of the brain that are involved with doing math. Gupta says improving

math skills not only benefits individuals on a personal level, but it can also play a central role in building the province's future knowledge economy.