



**Total Communication Therapy Pte Ltd**

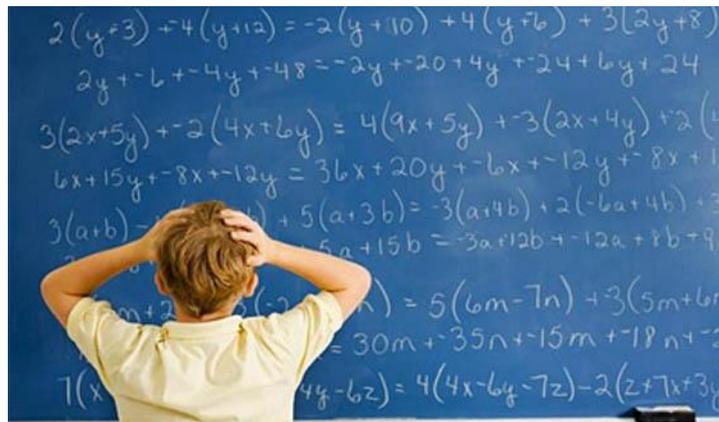
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## Algebra @ The Gym



“One often approaches Mathematics from the point of view of whether or not a student understands a mathematical problem. In reality, it is so much more than that. To understand mathematics, one really needs to have the pre-requisites of a range of reasoning skills. It also involves knowing how one concept is related to another, and how one concept builds upon another. It is pointless and rather difficult anyway to memorise formulas without knowing what they stand for. Without those discrete pre-requisite skills, a student may find learning math an uphill task. So the question parents have to be asking is “Has my child acquired enough of the different skills and abilities to solve complex math problems?”

**Nicole Loy, Educational Therapist**

Algebra @ The Gym recognizes that the population that will encounter difficulties with algebraic equations. These include:

- Students who have a history of sensory processing difficulties
- Students who have attention deficiencies
- Students with a history of specific language impairment or learning differences
- Students with weak reasoning skills, and symptoms of motor dyspraxia
- Students who generally find conventional methods of teaching to be ineffective for their learning



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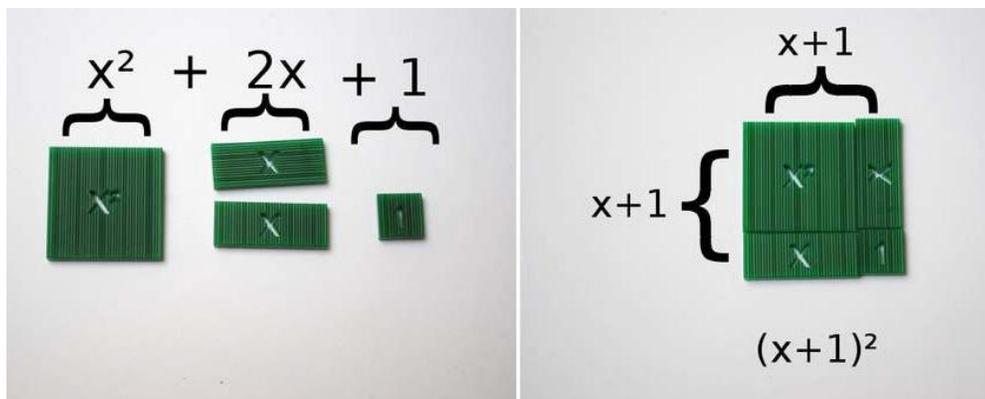
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Algebra @ The Gym is an integrated weekly math program uniquely constructed to help students battle their fear of algebra. Individuals who are undergoing specialized math therapy programmes will benefit from Algebra @ the Gym as a “add on” – for it allows the therapist to work on current, challenging topics in a group setting.



Breaking down learning processes gives students solid foundation upon which to build increasingly complex skills, thus making it less likely to forget. The programme revolves around these central ideas:

- ❖ Fostering mathematical thinking through movement, kinaesthetic and tactile approaches
- ❖ Practical hands on involvement in everyday themes
- ❖ Addresses challenging topics (from local and international schools in a different approach)
- ❖ Transference of understanding from broad movement activities to table-top activities
- ❖ Group based learning (in groups up to 3)
- ❖ Effective study skills to help prepare for exams
- ❖ Eliminating fear of math in a systematic approach

**Why Algebra?**

Algebra is an ancient branch of knowledge that one could use to answer questions about unknown quantities. It is a way of moving beyond calculating and into abstract reasoning. Algebra is the Language of Mathematics and is also the most frequently encountered difficulty in math genres. Algebra also exists over a broad range of topics for the average students in both the local and international schools, who will have to contend with this enormously challenging subject for a prolonged period of time while in school.





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**Does it replace individual sessions?**

No. This programme is designed as an “add on” for those with individual sessions at our centre. To clarify:

**Individual sessions** - Focus on the individual weakness in clarifying gaps of understanding. The therapist goes to the level by which the student has not achieved competence in particular math topics and works from there. The therapist is not likely to go on to another level until competence is achieved – very much like layering bricks to build a building. You can’t build the third storey until you have build the foundation and second storey.

**Group Session – Algebra @ The gym** - These sessions will go on in a weekly thematic approach addressing key concepts while activating math processing skills. This is what the programme and objectives look like:

**Algebra @ The Gym**

Program	Duration	Outline of Program/ 1.5 Hour
Algebra basic foundation	3 months	15 min: Concept Revision
Algebra & Proportions	2 months	45 min: Project Work & Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Real world experience</li> <li>• Problem Solving Activities</li> </ul>
Algebra & Geometry	2 months	15 min: Algebra & My favourite subject <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students take turn to decide on their favourite chapter/ topic</li> <li>• Discuss and share the application of algebra used in their favourite topics</li> <li>• Themes open to a wide range: media, history, geography, English literature, solar system, ...</li> </ul>
Algebra & Measurement	2 months	
Algebra & Graphs	2 months	15 min: Quiz / Competition

**Objective**

By the completion of this, the student is expected to develop in these areas:

- A deepening of conceptual understanding: comprehension of mathematical concepts, operations and relations
- Procedural fluency: skills in carrying out procedures flexibly, accurately, efficiently, and appropriately
- Strategic competence: ability to formulate, represent, and solve math problems
- Adaptive reasoning: capacity for logical thought, reflection, explanation and justification
- Productive disposition: habitual inclination to see mathematics as sensible, useful and worthwhile, coupled with a belief in diligence and one’s own efficacy.

All these skills are essential for **true algebraic competence** so that it is no longer about memorizing Math.



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Terms and conditions

**Fees:**

\$95 per session (in groups of up to 3 students) for those who have individual sessions at this centre and \$105 for those who do not. (rates to be confirmed)

Prepayment in the form of cheque or credit card.

Because this is a group session, there is no refund for sessions that are missed by the student. Grouping of lower secondary school and upper secondary school students.

Time of sessions

2.30 pm to 4.00 pm (Lower Secondary) Every Tuesday

10.00am to 11.30 pm (Upper Secondary) Every Saturday

Duration 1.5 hours

**About the Trainer**

**Nicole Loy**

**Bachelor of Psychology (University of Buffalo, USA) – Magna Cum Laude**  
**Recipient of Lee Kwan Yew Award in All Round Excellence (Year 2005)**

Nicole Loy, our math trainer is passionate about helping individuals maximize their potential in Math. As an avid sports person herself (a black belt karate expert and a wake-boarding captain), Nicole understands what it takes to build resilience – that is by helping the student manage small bite-size chunks of information in a way in which they could see their application. As a therapist, Nicole has the ability to see understand the sequential steps of learning in math and to help students meet those stages.

Nicole's other training are in varied and these add up to her personality and work profile. She was trained in PECS, Metaphon Therapy and is currently training in Gestalt Play Therapy. She also placed in charge of the Lindamood Bell - **Seeing Stars** programme in this centre for those with Surface Dyslexia.