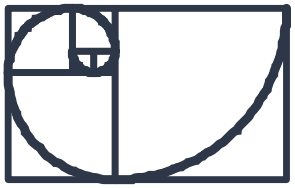
Name _____ Date _____

Fibonacci Poems

Read about Fibonacci. Then answer the questions.

Leonardo of Pisa



More than 800 years ago, a boy named Leonardo lived in Pisa, a city in Italy. Today many people call him **Fibonacci**. When he was young, his father went to work in a busy port in North Africa. Later, his father sent for Leonardo to join him.

In North Africa, Leonardo learned to write numbers with ten **digits**, 0 to 9. These digits were first used in India. Arabic writers then spread them to many lands. Back in Italy, people still used **Roman numerals**, like XII for 12. Roman numerals are hard to add and multiply.

In 1202, Leonardo wrote a big book about the new digits. It showed how to add, subtract, multiply and divide with them. Slowly, people all over Europe began to use them. We still use them today.

---

1. Leonardo lived in a city in ___ **India** **Italy** **Egypt**

2. Leonardo's book was about Roman numerals. **true** **false**

3. In Roman numerals, XII means ___ **20** **7** **12**

4. Why did people like the new digits?

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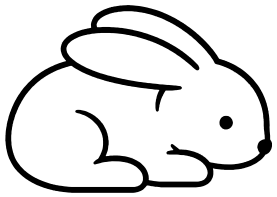
Name _____ Date _____

Fibonacci Poems

Read Fibonacci's puzzle. Then answer the questions.

The Rabbit Puzzle

In his book, Leonardo asked a puzzle about rabbits. Here it is, as it is often told today. It is a pretend puzzle, since real rabbits do not grow this way. Start with one pair of baby rabbits. After one month, they are grown up. After that, every grown-up pair has a new pair of babies each month, and no rabbits ever leave.



How many pairs are there each month? Count them: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, and on and on. Each number is the sum of the two numbers before it: 5 + 8 = 13.

These numbers are called the **Fibonacci numbers**. People celebrate them on **Fibonacci Day**, November 23. In the United States, that date is written 11/23, and 1, 1, 2, 3 are the first four Fibonacci numbers.

1. What comes next? 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ____ **26** **20** **21**

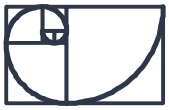
2. Each Fibonacci number is the sum of the two before it. **true** **false**

3. Fibonacci Day is on ____ **November 23** **November 11**

4. Why is Fibonacci Day on November 23?

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Name _____ Date _____



Fibonacci Poems

Read the two Fibs aloud. Clap the syllables of each line.

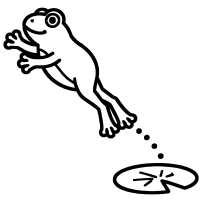
Fib Poems

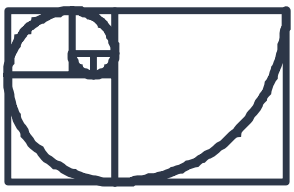
The Frog

Frog	1
jumps.	1
Big splash!	2
Ripples spread.	3
Lily pads wobble,	5
the pond is still and calm again.	8

Fall Leaves

Leaves	1
fall.	1
Red, gold.	2
Wind blows them.	3
Crunch, crunch under feet,	5
then a pile to jump in, all mine!	8



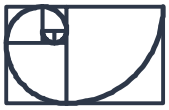




A **Fib** is a short poem of six lines. The lines have 1, 1, 2, 3, 5 and 8 **syllables**, the first six Fibonacci numbers. A syllable is a beat in a word: rab-bit has two. The numbers at the right of each line count its syllables.

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Name _____ Date _____



Fibonacci Poems

Clap each word. Circle how many syllables it has.

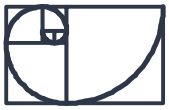
A syllable is a beat in a word. **Leaf** has one: leaf. **Pumpkin** has two: pump-kin. Clap each word as you say it.

1.	leaf	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
2.	rabbit	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
3.	elephant	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
4.	Fibonacci	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
5.	pumpkin	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
6.	seed	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
7.	butterfly	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
8.	caterpillar	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
9.	number	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
10.	November	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
11.	pinecone	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
12.	watermelon	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**

13. Write a word of your own with three syllables. Split it into its beats.

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Name _____ Date _____



Fibonacci Poems

Write a Fib. Tick a circle for each syllable.

Ideas: *a* pet, the *rain*, *a* pumpkin, the moon, *a* friend, your town, *a* snowy day.

Title _____

1 ○

1 ○

2 ○○

3 ○○○

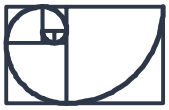
5 ○○○○○

8 ○○○○○○○○

Draw a picture for your poem.

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Name _____ Date _____



Fibonacci Poems

A longer Fib: add a line of 13 syllables, the next number.

Pick *a* big idea: the ocean, *a* storm, *a* long trip, the stars. Let each line grow.

Title _____

1 ○ _____

1 ○ _____

2 ○○ _____

3 ○○○ _____

5 ○○○○○ _____

8 ○○○○○○○○ _____

13 ○○○○○○○○○○○○○ _____

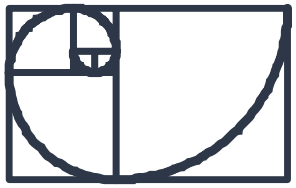
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2. Leonardo's book was about Roman numerals. **true** **false**

3. In Roman numerals, XII means ___ **20** **7** **12**

4. Why did people like the new digits?

They are easier to add and multiply with than Roman numerals.

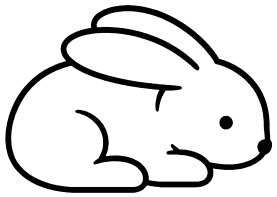
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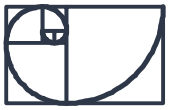
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to-ma-to

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