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Greg Tang

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Greg Tang : Math Potatoes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Math Potatoes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy funAs described -- fast shipping -- thank you!!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Donna R RiordanGreat0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CYNTHIA SERNAAmazing!

Greg Tang is back with his bestselling approach to addition and subtraction: problem solving. By solving challenges that encourage kids to "group" numbers rather than memorize formulas, even the most reluctant math learners are inspired to see math in a whole new way! Math Potatoes is full of Tang and Briggs' trademark humor, wit, and extraordinary creativity. Tang has proven over and over that math can be fun, and this new addition to his acclaimed series of mind-stretching math riddles is sure to be another hit.

From School Library JournalGrade 3-6ndash;Tang's seventh entry in a series that includes The Grapes of Math (2001) and Math-terpieces (2003, both Scholastic) is another winner. Each spread includes a poem consisting of neatly rhymed couplets that first set a scene (I gaze into the evening sky,/Think great thoughts and wonder why) and concludes with a hint or suggestion as to how the objects on the opposing page might most efficiently be grouped to arrive at a sum (When you look up to the heavens,/Try to think in groups of sevens!). There are no overt patterns so that, as Tang says in his author's note, children are challenged to combine numbers in smart ways, not just obvious ways. The book concludes with clear diagrams and succinct explanations providing the solutions. Briggs's computer-generated art is crisp, clear, and delightfully quirky. For example, Sock Hop features a loafer on guitar, work boots on drums, and a high-heeled pump on keyboard. Puzzle-loving kids will pick this up on their own, and teachers could pair it with Jon Scieszka's Math Curse (Viking, 1995) for an energizing departure from the standard math lesson.ndash;Grace Oliff, Ann Blanche Smith School, Hillsdale, NJ Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistGr. 3-5. The seventh in Tang's math series, which includes The Grapes of Math (2000), this picture book uses all kinds of visual tricks to demonstrate how to make arithmetic faster and easier. On each double-page spread, a rhyming verse has fun with a variety of subjects. Most rhymes are about foods--including pickles, potatoes, and "flat-jacks"--and the bright, computer-generated pictures are as playful as the words. This goes far beyond the usual simple counting book. The games are complex, the visuals are tricky, and although the rhyme seems straightforward ("Instead of adding row by row / Columns are the way to go"), readers must think carefully about adding, subtracting, and multiplying. "Imagine eight in every row / Just subtract and you will know." The spacious, illustrated answer pages at the back explain the puzzles, which will be fun for

classroom use as well as for kids trying to find shortcuts in the counting jungle. Hazel Rochman Copyright copy; American Library Association. All rights reserved Booklist 5/1/5-05 The seventh in Tang's math series, which includes The Grapes of Math (2000), this picture book uses all kinds of visual tricks to demonstrate how to make arithmetic faster and easier. On each double-page spread, a rhyming verse has fun with a variety of subjects. Most rhymes are about foods-including pickles, potatoes, and "flat-jacks"7--and the clear, bright, computer-generated pictures are as playful as the words. This goes far beyond the usual simple counting book. The games are complex, the visuals are tricky, and although the rhyme seems straightforward ("Instead of adding row by row/ Columns are the way to go"), it requires readers to think carefully about adding, subtracting, and multiplying. "Imagine eight in every row / Just subtract and you will know." The spacious, illustrated answer pages at the back explain the puzzles, which will be fun for classroom use as well as for kids trying to find shortcuts in the counting jungle.-Hazel Rochma

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