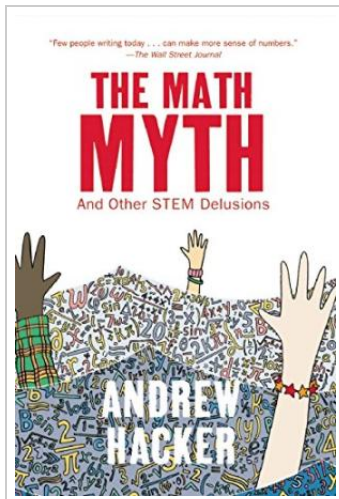




The Math Myth And Other STEM Delusions

By Andrew Hacker

New Press, The. Hardcover. Condition: New. 320 pages. Andrew Hackers 2012 New York Times op-ed questioning the requiring of advanced math in our schools instantly became one of the papers most widely circulated articles. Quite simply, he asked why we inflict a full menu of mathematics algebra, geometry, trigonometry, even calculus on all young Americans, regardless of their interests or aptitude. The Math Myth expands Hackers scrutiny of some widely held assumptions: that mathematics broadens our minds; that mastery of arcane concepts cosine, logarithms, the area of a sphere will be needed for most jobs; that the Common Cores single format should be required of every student. He worries that a frenzied emphasis on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) is diverting resources from other pursuits and subverting the spirit of the country. In fact, Hacker honors mathematics as a calling (he is also a professor of mathematics) and extols its glories and its goals. Yet he shows how mastery of higher math has prevented talents in other fields from being discovered and developed and acted as a barrier to graduation and successful careers in other areas. The Math Myth proposes alternatives including better teaching of the basic numeracy required for participation in civil...



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