FOR MAXIMUM VIEWING PLEASURE, GO TO "VIEW" MENU AND THEN CLICK ON "FULL SCREEN"



Kumon Maths and Reading Center

Medan Angsana, Farlim Center 32-B Medan Angsana 2 **Bandar Baru Air Itam** 11500 Air Itam, Penang

Contact: Mobile: 019-4728768; E-Mail: kongsf@pc.jaring.my; Website: http://kongsf.tripod.com/kumon/kumon.htm

Contact Person: Mr. Kong Seong Fatt



Mr. Kong Seong Fatt **Center Instructor**

Location of Center



Operating Days and Time

Days	Time
Mondays	5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. &
	7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.
Tuesdays	5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. &
	7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.
Wednesdays	CLOSE
Thursdays	5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. &
	7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.
Fridays	5.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. &
_	7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.
Saturdays	3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.
Sundays	CLOSE

CONTENTS OF DOCUMENT

- A brief history of Kumon Method of Learning
- 2. The Main Aim of Kumon Programs
 - 2.1. Mathematics
 - 2.2. English
- 3. Core Strength of Kumon Programs
 - 3.1. Individualized Learning
 - 3.2. Self Learning
 - 3.3. Daily Study (Consistency)
 - 3.4. Easy Starting Points
 - 3.5. Repetition
 - 3.6. Standard Completion Time
- 4. What Happens When Your Child Enrolls for the program?
- 5. Typical Class Room Procedures
- 6. Syllabus Contents
 - 6.1. <u>Mathematics Level 7A to F (up to primary 6)</u>
 - 6.2. <u>Mathematics Level G to Q</u> (Secondary 1 to Pre-University)
 - 6.3. English Level 7A to F (up to primary 6)
 - 6.4. English Level G onwards

- 7. Study Projection based on an average student
 - 7.1. Entry at Primary 1
- 8. How Different is the Kumom Method?
- 9. Some FAQs
 - 9.1. FAQ Part 1
 - 9.2. FAQ Part 2
 - 9.3. FAQ Part 3
- 10. <u>Important Quotes Extracted from</u> Surveys and Research

Link to: Location Map, Contact
Information and Operating Time & Days

Brief History of the Kumon Method of Learning

- 1. Founded by a Japan high school teacher named Mr. Toro Kumon
- 2. Thought high school mathematics for more than 33 years
- 3. He found out that most high school students copy what's written on the blackboard without understanding the contents of it.
- 4. When his son was in year 2, Mr. Toro Kumon's wife spoke to him, the contents "My dear, you have you devote yourself to teaching other people's children. Don't forget your own son. I am not happy with his poor result at all. You must do something about it".
- 5. He examines primary textbooks, and found that calculation and problem solving had not been introduced systematically. From then he wrote problems in loose-leaf notes for his son. That is how the Kumon Method was born.

The main Aims of Kumon Maths and English

Mathematics

The scope that Kumon Maths covers is much, much more than primary school maths. It enables the studying of high school maths much more easier and achievable. The key is building a strong foundation in "Algebra Calculation.

Kumon develops essential skills in calculation and intentionally excludes certain areas to enable students to study at the optimal level with the main intention (i.e. developing high school maths ability) being emphasized. This proves to be the shortest method in achieving high school maths proficiency.

English Language

Carefully sequenced levels enable students and individuals to build solid foundations and develop superior English skills in Reading, Writing, Grammar and Comprehension.

Core Strength of the Kumon Method (1 & 2)

Core Strength	Explanation	Notes to Parents / Students
Individualized Learning	The path of study is tailored according to the student's abilities. The Starting Point, daily workload, projection, amount of repetition, rate of advancement, are all designed with each individual in mind. No two students are alike. Those who exhibit mastery can advance forth; those who need reinforcement would be assigned with repeated practice and advance forth only when ready.	different attributes and abilities. The instructor must ensure that your child starts at a "just right" level, which should be a comfortable Starting Point. He should thereafter progress at his own pace. He should not be compared with another student; he competes
Self Learning	Kumon is designed in minute steps. This gives students the ability to learn by themselves. Each set of work accomplished is a step towards the next. The worksheet, used in the correct way, will give students the ability to solve problems. Self-learning will bring about a greater understanding of the questions and the mathematical process. Examples are given when students starts something new.	Instructors are facilitators rather than teachers. They assist only when the students faces difficulties. Just as you cannot walk or run on your child's behalf, you can

Core Strength of the Kumon Method (3 & 4)

Core Strength	Explanation	Notes to Parents / Students
Consistent Daily Study	Kumon is a daily study program. The students spend only 10 – 30 minutes a day to do the worksheet. This will instill in them good study habits and self-discipline. Consistency and continuity are great assets for their future education as well as self-development. To skip days or to allow homework to pile up is to invite problems/trouble. The students may forget what they have learnt and they would suffer or be discouraged by the pile of unfinished homework.	home for the work set by the instructor. If you can develop a routine in your home it will not only assist in Kumon work but also in the hole approach to study. Please try to encourage your child to work in a quite area away from the main stream of household
Easy Starting Points	You may be surprise at the easy starting point set for the students. The easy starting point is set so that students can begin their Kumon experience with success, attaining 100% with each set and starting to build confidence in mathematics. It is also important for other reasons. Whenever beginning any new activity such as jogging or swimming, it is always best to take it easy first to ease into the new routine. In Kumon, starting at an easy level facilitates the development of concentration skills	lower level. Our Kumon instructor has been trained, is experienced and knows best when it comes to assessing the Diagnostic Test. The starting point should be comfortable for your child because it gives him a second chance to learn math, more importantly, to master the most essential basic mathematical

Core Strength of the Kumon Method (5 & 6)

Core Strength	Explanation	Notes to Parents / Students
Repetition	Repetition is one of the reasons for Kumon's success. It gives students adequate time to consolidate and master each area covered in the Kumon Program. So it is quite normal and natural for students to be asked to repeat worksheets that have already been completed. Excellence can always be achieved with adequate consolidation. With repetition each level will be easier if the previous level is consolidated.	each mathematical concept constructs sturdy foundation in the mechanics of mathematics. At the same time, it also instills perseverance where he will try until he reaches perfection. With each repetition, he finds that he performs better than before. This realization of ability to succeed will motivate him to
Standard Completion Time (SCT)	Each set of worksheet (10 sheets) has a specific standard time to be completed. This time has been thoroughly tested and is well within the competent student's reach. It is not a race with the clock. If the SCT is reached with the student working at a normal pace and writing neatly, you will see that these worksheets have been mastered. If the students cannot complete the worksheets within the SCT then it is better to revise his work. The student who doesn't revise will eventually progress at a MUCH SLOWER rate.	Even if your child knows the concept of the basics (adding and subtracting), it is insufficient if he makes careless mistakes. Likewise, accuracy without speed is basics not mastered. There is a profound difference between understanding a concept and being able to perform. Speed, accuracy and second nature internalization of the maths facts are tremendous

What Happens When Your Child Enrolls for Kumon Programs?

Upon enrolment, we will conduct a Diagnostic Test to determine the current level of ability and skills.



Based on the Diagnostic Test results, a study plan is formalized to guide the individual in his / her study plans. It is usual to start the individual with one or two level below the individual's ability to build confidence and the "CAN DO IT" feeling and attitude.



From the level that KUMON starts the individual, he / she will experience an accelerated learning curve until the "Just Right" level where problematic or difficult areas are repeated until he / she feel comfortable of progressing further. KUMON's research has indicated that the individual / child will progress very smoothly to the "Just Right" level between 6 months to a 1 year.



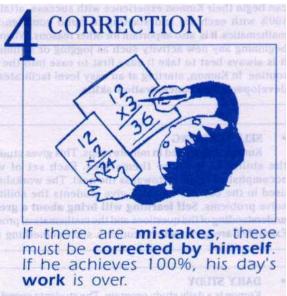
Each individual / child will be closely monitored on a continuous basis using well-designed monitoring tools to assist the progression at each level. Appropriate well-designed worksheets are assigned to the individual to work on a daily basis to promote consistency and strengthening their skills in the appropriate subjects.

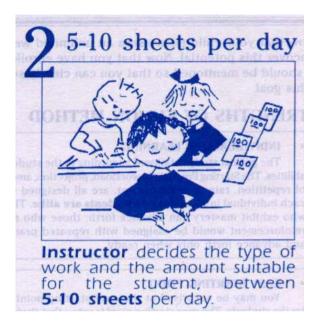


Student progress at each level / stage with confidence and ultimately move beyond their school level

Typical Classroom Procedures













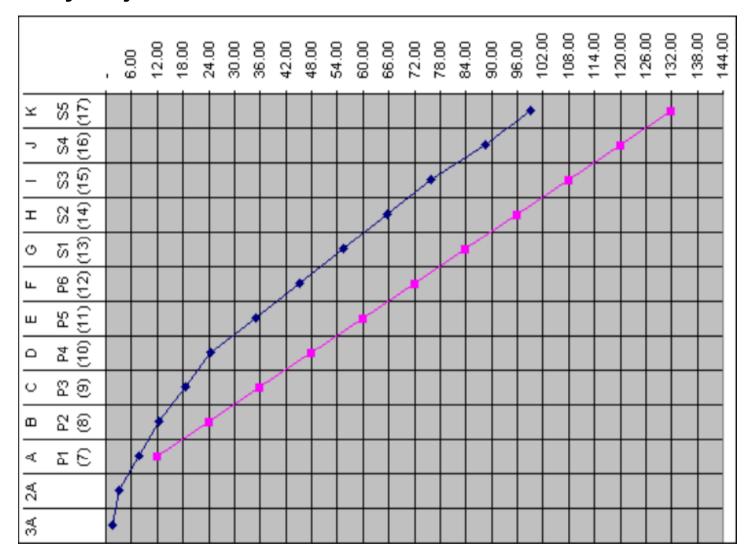
Syllabus Contents Maths

Level	Contents
7A	Exercise in counting up to 10
6A	Exercise in counting up to 10
5A	Exercise in line drawing and number writing
4A	Exercise in numerals and set recognition
3A	Introduction to Addition
2A	Elementary Addition
A (P1)	Addition and Subtraction I
B (P2)	Addition and Subtraction II
C (P3)	Multiplication Tables, Elementary Multiplication and Division
D (P4)	Multiplication and Division, Introduction to Fraction
E (P5)	Fraction and Decimals
F (P6)	Fraction, Decimals and order of operation
G (S1)	Positive and Negative Numbers, Elementary Algebraic Expression
H (S2)	Simultaneous Linear Equation with 2, 3 & 4 variables, Linear Functions
I (S3)	Factorization and Quadratic Equation
J (S4)	Advanced Factorization and Quadratic Equation
K (S5)	Quadratic, Fractional, Irrational, Exponential, Logarithmic, Trigonometric Functions
L	Trigonometric Functions, Plane Geometry
M	Progressive Series, Differential and Integral Calculus
N	Vectors in Space, Matrices, Linear Transformations
0	Extreme, Differential Calculus
Р	Integrals, Differential Equations
Q	Permutations, Combinations, Probability, Statistics

Syllabus Contents English

7A	Vocabulary Building, word/phrase reading
6A	Vocabulary Building, phrase/sentence reading
5A	Letter Tracing, Letter Sounds, Single Consonants ,Short Vowels
4A	Word Tracing, Sentence Reading, Consonant Clusters
3A	Word Spelling, Sentence Reading/Writing, Long Vowels
2A	Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Oral Reading
A1	Basic Sentences 1, Tenses 1, Punctuation Skills, Reading Comprehension
A2	Basic Sentences 2, Thought Sequence, Reading Comprehension
В	Basic Sentences 3, Tenses 2, Stories up to 500 Words
С	Basic Sentences 4, Conjunctions, Complex Sentences, Stories Up to 1,000 words
D	Paragraph Development 1, Paragraphs
Е	Paragraph Development 2, Paragraphs
F	Paragraph Development 3, Paragraphs, Paragraphs / Conciseness
G	Summary 1, Story Elements Themes, Classic Texts
Н	Summary 2, Summation, Classic Texts
1	Summary 3, Precise Writing, Classic Texts
J	Critique 1, Essay Structure, Character Analysis
K	Critique 2, Content Evaluation
L	Critique 3, Critical Writing

Entry at Primary 1 Study Projection



The child enrolls in the Kumon Program at Standard 1 and start at level 3A. You will note that the student will progress to level A (equivalent to Primary 1 Standard) in about 7 to 8 months. Here we are talking about full competency up to level A.

By the 12th month, the student will advance to level B. This means that he is now one year ahead of the school equivalent.

By the 24th month, the student will advance to level D. This means that he is now two years ahead of the school equivalent.

Note: The projection is based on an average student. <u>Actual result may vary from the projection shown</u> depending on the student's ability and willingness to do self-learning.

Legend:

Horizontal Axis – Months

Vertical Axis – Level of Study / School Level

Pink Line – School Level Requirement

Dark Blue Line – Kumon's Study Projection

What is the Difference offered by Kumon??

Kumon Method is different from the traditional school or tuition system

In the traditional school or tuition system, your child's learning ability are either restricted or hampered by the year of enrollment or classroom environment. Meaning that if your child is presently in Secondary 1, he or she can only study at Secondary 1 level, noting more or less.

At Kumon, every child is given a specially designed program tailored to meet the child's present learning ability. Whether your child is presently strong or weak, a suitable individual learning program will be designed carefully to help your him/her progress smoothly through the stages/level. Depending on your child's entry age and present competency level, they should be able to build up their ability to match their school level with acceptable competency within 9 months to a year after attending the Kumon Learning Method

Why is it so Special - It Encourages and develop consistency study at the right level and dosage

We all know and belief that the "good old" consistency in studying is the key to excellence in education.

Kumon builds on this fundamental to ensure your child gets <u>small doses of the correct level of appropriate materials</u> of Mathematics or English Language everyday (about 20 minutes daily) to build up their competency and thereafter excel in the subject(s). On top of this, Kumon's well-researched worksheets will ensure your child sails through each level with very small incremental difficulty for each progressive worksheet. You will not have to worry that your child is discouraged by sudden difficult problems that cannot be solved.

Why children excel using the Kumon Method – The Power of Self-Learning?

In Kumon, we encourage and train children to embark on a journey of self-learning. Each worksheet is designed to help children to learn and resolve problems on their own. In this way, it promotes the analytical and application skills in children to help them excel in the subject and subsequently to other subjects.

How Kumon Method builds confidence and character in a child

Kumon Learning worksheets are designed with small incremental difficulties for each progressive worksheet. This ensures that children do not face major difficulties in learning the subject. Coupled with the easy starting point/level, the child will always have the "can do" attitude. The continuous positive reinforcement builds a very confident child in handling the learning of the subject.

Some FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) Part 1

1. Why does Kumon emphasize Independent Learning?

Kumon's goal is <u>success in high school</u>. More importantly, Kumon wants all students to further their education beyond high school. If this is the goal, then what is crucial for success in high school and beyond? <u>Success in high school</u> <u>depends on many factors; strong foundation skills, strong study skills, and the ability to work independently</u>. If any of these skills are weak, students will have a hard time in high school but even more so in college or university. Students will develop independent learning skills after they have been in the program on a long-term basis

2. To Quit or Not to Quit?

As parents the <u>easiest way out is to give in to your children's demand</u>. We as adults know the importance of daily, consistent work that our children need to be nurtured and guided so that they too see its importance. <u>Children may begin to resist once the novelty runs out on any activity or interest which is usually after about 3-6 months.</u> The difference between success and failure depends on how parents react to the pressure placed on them by their children. <u>Even successful Kumon children go through ups and downs as they study Kumon</u>. You are not alone in this! Please do come forward and talk to me at the first sign of resistance from your children to do the daily Kumon routine. The instructor's (myself) support of parents and children as well as the parent's support of their children during these times makes it easier for students to adjust to daily routine. Do we give in to the pressure or do we stand firm knowing that this will benefit them in the long run?

3. What kind of support can you expect from your instructor?

The instructor's ultimate goal is your child's success. Your instructor is available to support you and help your child to become successful. You should talk to your instructor at the first sign of resistance from your child. We will be able to assist you with instruction, pep talk and adjustments under the specific circumstances of your child. It is important that you do not feel alone and that you speak to your instructor.

Back to Content Page

Some FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) Part 2

4. What areas in the Kumon Program do parents need to pay special attention to?

Kumon's worksheets are laid out systematically to guide students to self-study. However, there are tough sets and levels as they advance to higher levels. In our maths program, two levels that are hurdles are D and J. Level D because of the estimation skills needed to do long division and level J because of advance algebra concepts needed. In simple terms, Kumon maths can be broken down to three important sections: levels 7A~D focuses on building of foundation, levels E~F focuses on building fraction skills, and levels G-J focuses on building strong algebra skills for high school. Once students have the skills up to level J, they can apply these skills in level K and up.

5. So many extra-curricular activities and not enough time. How can Kumon fit with your children's other activities?

In our survey of long-term students, Kumon was given high priority. <u>Education is for life</u>. <u>Maths and reading are skills that we need throughout our lives</u>. Only a small percentage of people will become star athletes or virtuoso musicians but everyone will need reading and maths skills to become successful. Children have more after school activities than ever before. Our students are able to balance academics with their other after school activities in their schedule. Kumon encourages raising well-rounded children by giving them foundation to succeed at an advanced level so that they have more time for other activities.

6. What is the purpose of repetition in Kumon?

When we talk about music or athletics, we always refer to the importance of daily practice and repetition for success. However, when it comes to education, our children may think they can learn as much as possible without the necessary practice and repetition needed to really understand what they are learning. In Kumon, we treat education like music or athletics. Practice and repetition are crucial not only to understand the materials but also to internalize it and to apply it to any type of work faced in school. A solid foundation must be laid to prepare the children for more advanced study. They can achieve this through practice and repetition

Some FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) Part 3

7. Why does Kumon recommend a specific time and place for your children to do Kumon Work?

Children need structure. Although we want them to be independent, it sometimes takes time to acquire independent skills. Setting a specific time and place for your child to do Kumon work can be the first step in acquiring independent skills. This will instill a sense of responsibility in your child. Because Kumon emphasize the core mathematics and reading skills, the suggested time to do Kumon is right after school before they start their homework or other activities. During times of vacation it is best to do Kumon first thing in the morning. A specific time and place is the ideal. Parents can best support their child by ensuring that Kumon is done on a daily basis, graded and corrected.

8. What should parents do if their child complains about doing Kumon?

Even our long-term students have complained. However, they stick to it because they see the benefits of Kumon study. Communicate with your child. Education is important. Maths and reading will be part of their life. Set up priorities. Explain to them that not everything in life is fun or easy. Remember that you are not alone. Kumon works best when the child, the parent and the instructor work together. The Kumon instructor has the knowledge and the expertise to help you out.

9. Why do some families' stay and others discontinue after only a few months?

There can be many misconceptions of the Kumon program if parents and children don't look at the entire program and understand its long-range goals. How can we accomplish this? Kumon focuses on the core maths and reading essentials as well as important life skills. Many parents discontinue because they do not understand these goals. Every worksheet has a purpose in building towards success in high school. It is very important that parents sit down with their children and set a goal. Goal setting is essential for Kumon success. Students who are weak will get to be good, students who are good will get to be even better and those students will in turn become excellent. As this process unfolds over time students will begin to enjoy maths and reading.

Important Quotes Extracted from Surveys and Research

"What is most important for your children is to have them develop in childhood 'life skills', which enable them to realize 'self-reliance and self-discovery' in the future and lead a wonderful, positive life in any type of society they may find themselves".

"Knowing the correct answer is not enough. Reaching it relatively quickly demonstrates a student's level of understanding of a specific concept"

"Calculations is the breakthrough to maths. Generally speaking you cannot expect to be good at all areas of maths. If you master calculations and become confident that you are second to none in calculations, it will be a breakthrough to high school maths where algebra is predominant. Let's develop calculation skills, and if primary students become good at fractions, equations, even factorization or differential calculus, they will love maths in high school. Let's concentrate on developing calculation skills"

"The best plan remains a good plan when there is no proper implementation or execution." Therefore there is a need for all concerned to play their part, the students, parents and the instructor

Back to Content Page