



# Mathematickles!

By Betsy Franco

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**Mathematickles!** By Betsy Franco

crisp air  
shadows tall  
+ cat's thick coat  
signs of fall

Join a girl and her cat on a magical tour of the seasons as they wend their way through colorful, math-filled landscapes and jubilant, fun-filled mathscapes.

Poet Betsy Franco and fine artist Steven Salerno playfully combine the language of poetry and simple mathematical concepts with stunning artwork -- an equation that equals ***Mathematickles!***!

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## **Mathematickles! By Betsy Franco Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

Grade 2-5-Words + math + seasons = an enchanting collection of poems in an unusual format. Salerno's energetic, angled impressions of autumn trees and animals lead into the ice, snow, sledding, and sneezing of winter, followed by the rain, flowers, and new life of spring and the barefoot fun of lazy days and sudden summer storms. Freely painted swirls and angles form bold background designs as a dark-haired child appears on each spread along with Franco's poetic equations: "feet - shoes + grass = barefoot!," "rooftops + first snow = white blanket," and "hexagons x frozen lace = snow flurry." Addition and subtraction of words create descriptive poetry as do graphic depictions of frogs playing leapfrog, a snowball fight, or a bird taking flight. Multiply the uses for this book by adding it to poetry collections and exercises in word problems during math studies.

*Mary Elam, Forman Elementary School, Plano, TX*

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#### From Booklist

Gr. 2-4, younger for reading aloud. As the jacket states, "words + math + seasons = Mathematicles!" This book offers brief poems using forms suggested by mathematical processes, all within a seasonal framework changing from fall to winter to spring to summer. Some of the cleverest examples are too visual to relate effectively in text alone, but a few equations will give a taste of Franco's offerings: "maple leaves + puddle = crimson ships"; "holes + nuts - nuts = squirrel hide & seek"; and "feet - shoes + grass = barefoot." Two, three, or four of these poems appear on each double-page spread, accompanied by Salerno's jaunty, watercolor-and-gouache artwork. Although some of the spreads seem too busy, others look fresh and energetic. A girl, often accompanied by her cat, brings continuity to the scenes of the countryside going through colorful seasonal changes. Though the inspiration for these poetic bits may be mathematical, they don't always display the logic that is fundamental to math. Ultimately, they will appeal most to lovers of wordplay. Using this colorful book as a springboard, language arts teachers can challenge their students to write their own mathematicles. *Carolyn Phelan*

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#### About the Author

A poet who loves math, **Betsy Franco** has spent more than twenty years showing children the beauty, depth, and fun of mathematics through her picture books, poetry, and nonfiction, including *Counting Caterpillars and Other Math Poems*, *Grandpa's Quilt*, *You Hear Me? Poems and Writings by Teenage Boys*, and *Things I Have to Tell You: Poems and Writings by Teenage Girls*. She is also the inventor of three mathematical toys.

Betsy Franco lives with her husband in Palo Alto, California. They have three sons.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

#### **Yasmin Parker:**

The experience that you get from Mathematicles! could be the more deep you excavating the information that hide in the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to be aware of but Mathematicles! giving you joy feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in a number of way that can be understood simply by anyone who read the item because the author of this

book is well-known enough. This specific book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We highly recommend you for having this Mathematickles! instantly.

**Julie Ross:**

People live in this new time of lifestyle always aim to and must have the spare time or they will get wide range of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , once we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is definitely Mathematickles!.

**Brandon Inouye:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book especially book entitled Mathematickles! your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a reserve then become one contact form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get previous to. The Mathematickles! giving you yet another experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful facts for your better life with this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

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