WHAT IS MATHEMATICS

According to Encarta Dictionaries® 2009, mathematics is the study of the relationships among numbers, shapes and quantities. It uses sign, symbols and proofs and includes arithmetic, algebra, calculus, geometry, trigonometry, statistics, etc.

According to Encarta Premium® 2009, mathematics is a way of describing relationships between numbers and other measurable quantities. Mathematics can express simple equations as well as interactions among the smallest particles and the farthest objects in the known universe. Mathematics allows scientists to communicate ideas using universally accepted terminology. It is truly the language of science and technology.

In essence, mathematics is the discipline that quantifies things and relates them. The most basic mathematics is arithmetic, which involves counting and simple addition and subtraction. Other kinds of mathematics are algebra, geometry, statistics, etc.