

References

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fibonacci_number

mathworld.wolfram.com/FibonacciNumber.html

www.geom.uiuc.edu/~demo5337/s97b/fibonacci.html

The Question: If a pair of rabbits is placed in an enclosed area, how many rabbits will be in there if we assume that every month a pair of rabbits produces another pair, and that rabbits began to bear young two months after their birth?

The Answer : The Fibonacci Sequence of numbers, each number is the sum of the previous two numbers starting with 0 and 1.

The sequence begins 0,1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21,34,55,89 etc...Each term in the series is produced by adding together the two previous terms .



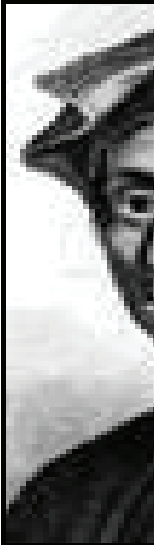
A Learning Community Project

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► The History of Fibonacci

The story behind the Fibonacci Sequence began in Pisa, Italy in the year 1202. When Leonardo Pisa Bigollo was in his twenties his father, a wealthy Italian merchant, was in charge of the trading post in Bugia, a port east of Algiers in the Almohad dynasty's sultanate in North Africa. As a child, Leonardo traveled with his father to help; during his travels, he learned about the Hindu-Arabic numeral system. Understanding that arithmetic with Hindu-Arabic numerals was simpler and more efficient than with Roman numerals, Leonardo traveled the Mediterranean World to study under the best Arab mathematicians of that time. In 1202 at the age of 32 he published all that he learned in "Liber Abaci" (Book of Abacus or Book of Calculation) and with the book, introduced Hindu-Arabic numerals to Europe.



Leonardo, who since has come to be known as Fibonacci, became the famous mathematician of the Middle Ages. His book was a discourse on mathematical methods in commerce, but he is now remembered for two contributions. The obvious important one is that: He brought to attention the Hindu system for writing numbers. Tradesmen and scholars alike were still using the old Roman numerals. Today's mathematics would have been impossible without the change to the Hindu system, which we now call Arabic notation because it came west through Arabic lands.

The next important contribution was hidden away in a brain teaser Fibonacci posed about the breeding habits of rabbits. The answer became known as the Fibonacci Sequence.

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