

# Math In History

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**NS 5-8 .4, .9, .12**

## Unit One: Beginnings



Art © Sandy Castiaux

The Parthenon, located in Greece, was a construction made possible by math!

Do you think it is any coincidence that our number system is based on the numeral “10”? Do you know how Roman Numerals were invented? Have you ever wondered why numbers were invented at all?

Actually, mathematics dates back to prehistory (which means before man wrote anything down, or even made cave paintings, thousands of years ago). The first record we have of a mathematician may be in a cave in France where a Paleolithic man scratched images of bison on a cave wall to show how successful his hunt was.

As man advanced, building towns and cities, domesticating animals, cultivating land, and inventing labor-saving machines, the need for some kind of counting system quickly arose.

By the time of the Greeks and Romans (who were very advanced for their day), or even the Pyramid builders in Egypt before them, mathematics was a developed science. That means that individual people devoted their daily life to the study of it.