Found Math Photos Spot Math Where Many Don't

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A six-petal flower, a spiral staircase, a manhole cover shaped like a Reuleaux triangle, Chicago's "bean" sculpture, a dodecahedral water tower, a fractal vegetable or tattoo. What do they all have in common? They've all been *Found Math*, and they prove that mathematics is all around us.

MAA Online introduced *Found Math* in the summer of 2007 by asking people to look for math in their everyday lives, photograph it, and send in the image. We select a new image to post each week on MAA Online's homepage. We received dozens of responses.

Stunning images from Russia, Germany, Italy, Australia, Japan, China, Peru, Spain, Switzerland, England, and Papua New Guinea have given *Found Math* an international feel at times. Other striking photos, from rock formations and road signs to wedding cakes and square-wheeled bikes, remind us that math can be found in our own backyards.

If you think you have a great idea for *Found Math*, shoot it and send it to us with a brief description at *editor@maa.org*. You can browse every image that has been featured as *Found Math* at http://www.maa.org/FoundMath/FMgallery08.html, and remember to check every Monday morning to see the new *Found Math*.

Although many flowers have three, five, or eight petals (Fibonacci numbers), some have six petals (not a Fibonacci number). *Photo by Julian Fleron, Westfield State College.*

Above: Because Reuleaux triangles have a constant width, this triangular manhole cover in San Francisco would be just as unlikely as circular ones to fall through the opening. *Photo by Owen Byrne.*

Left: What better way to celebrate mathematics on Pi Day (3/14) than with a piece of the fractal vegetable, Romanesco broccoli, sitting in a bowl with pi itself rounding the edge. *Photo by Mark Leonard.*