

Science and math

Pythagoras - Greek Philosopher

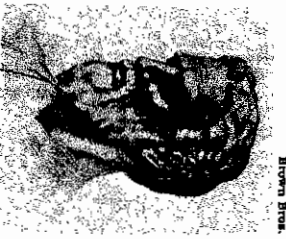
name _____ class _____
 team _____ seat _____ data _____

Our goal is to find out about the Greek scientist Pythagoras. Our goal is to also find out how his ancient ideas are still used today.

World Book Encyclopedia

PYTHAGORAS, *pit THAG uh ruz* (380 B.C.?–?), was a Greek philosopher and mathematician. He was famous for formulating the *Pythagorean Theorem*, but its principles were known earlier. The theorem states that the square of the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides. As a philosopher, Pythagoras taught that number was the essence of all things. He mystically associated numbers with virtues, colors, and many other ideas. He also taught that the human soul is immortal and that after death it moves into another living body, sometimes that of an animal. This idea, called *transmigration of the soul*, appears in many early religions. It is still the belief of many of the Hindu sects of India. Pythagoras may have obtained some of his ideas during travels in the East. Pythagoras believed that the earth was spherical and that the sun, moon, and planets have movements of their own. His successors developed the idea that the earth revolved about a central fire. This belief anticipated the Copernican theory of the universe (see **COPERNICUS**, **NICOLAUS**).

Little is known of Pythagoras' early life, but scholars believe that he was born on the island of Samos. In about 529 B.C., he settled in Crotona, Italy, and founded a *school* (brotherhood) among the aristocrats of that city. The people were suspicious of the Pythagorean brotherhood because its members were aristocrats, and killed most of them in a political uprising. Historians do not know whether Pythagoras left the city some time before the outbreak of violence and escaped death there, or was killed in it. The brotherhood of aristocrats was finally destroyed in the 400's B.C.



Pythagoras
 Simon Stead

building big things
 Inclined plane

When and where was Pythagoras born?
 right there question

Tell about three (3) of Pythagoras' ideas.
 1
 2
 3
 right there questions

Is there anything you might consider "bad" in his past?
 what?
 why?
 in my head questions

What is your opinion of Pythagoras?
 in my head questions