



MATH. READING. SUCCESS.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Kumon?

Kumon is an after-school math and reading program that unlocks the potential of children by motivating them to achieve more on their own.

When was Kumon founded?

Kumon was founded in 1958 in Osaka, Japan, by high school math teacher Toru Kumon (1914-2005).

What is the Kumon Method?

The Kumon Method represents the curriculum and instructional technique of the program. Through the Kumon Method, students gain ownership of the learning process, the confidence to set progressively higher goals and the ability to perform beyond expectations.

What is the Kumon curriculum?

The curriculum is designed to help children gradually develop the fundamental math and reading skills needed to master high school level math and reading comprehension.

- ✓ The curriculum consists of hundreds of short assignments organized into a naturally coherent, logical progression which allows students to advance at their own pace rather than by age or grade level.
- ✓ We believe a student must fully master each concept before learning a new one. Every assignment is timed and graded. Students must achieve close to 100 percent accuracy within a set time period before progressing to the next level.
- ✓ Through this repeated practice, students master each skill before moving on to the next. Each new concept builds on the foundation established by the previous one, and new exercises constantly review and strengthen the previously learned skills.

Does Kumon cover subjects other than math and reading?

The Kumon North America curriculum covers math and reading. However, the Kumon Method is designed to help students increase confidence, self-motivation and the desire to learn more on their own regardless of the subject.

How do you determine where a child starts in the Kumon curriculum?

A student begins the program with a free placement test to determine a starting level in the Kumon curriculum. Since children absorb knowledge at different rates, the starting level is not based on a child's age or grade but on individual ability. The starting point is set at a level where the assignments can be easily completed. This way students

experience success right from the start and have a positive reaction to the program. This comfortable starting point helps students build confidence, develop concentration and establish a daily study routine.

Why are students required to achieve close to 100 percent accuracy on each assignment within a set time?

Students must achieve close to 100 percent accuracy on each assignment within a set time period before progressing to the next level to demonstrate comprehension and mastery of the concepts. Through repeated practice, students master each skill before moving on to the next.

How often does a child attend Kumon?

Students go to a Kumon Center once or twice a week for approximately 15-30 minutes per subject and complete short daily assignments at home on the other days of the week. The instructor evaluates each child's progress weekly to ensure growth and that academic goals are being met.

Why do Kumon students have daily assignments?

Similar to mastering a sport or musical instrument, daily practice in academics is needed to ensure success. Kumon students complete assignments daily to build solid study habits and maintain their skills. In Kumon, students also improve concentration and develop better study skills through daily practice and mastery of the materials.

How is Kumon different from other supplemental education programs?

Kumon is different in many ways but primarily it is not a quick-fix program. In addition, Kumon does not use a traditional classroom lecture style or a one-on-one tutoring method. Instead, the worksheets apply a "learn-by-doing" principle which motivates students to become independent learners. The Kumon Instructor provides guidance, praise and assistance when needed; however, Kumon encourages students to think for themselves. The goal of the program is to develop a student's confidence so that they will first try to solve a problem on their own before asking for help.

Why do parents enroll their children in Kumon?

Parents enroll their children in Kumon for many reasons. We encourage you to meet with our families at a local center to learn more about why they enroll.

Parents often seek out Kumon to help their children for remedial or enrichment purposes; however, they soon learn that the benefits of the program extend beyond academics. In Kumon, students gain the skills to be the best person he or she can be. Students soon learn to achieve on their own and become self-motivated. These life skills build character and help children gain the confidence to solve problems independently. Parents truly desire for their children to gain self-confidence and independent problem solving skills.

Kumon supplements the school curriculum, helping to enhance a child's existing skill level, to prevent academic difficulties in the future and to advance beyond grade level.

Kumon helps children develop strong math and reading skills, while building essential life skills such as study habits, concentration and confidence.

What are the qualifications of a Kumon Instructor?

Kumon Instructors are carefully interviewed and screened, and must pass rigorous math and reading exams before qualifying for the Kumon training program. They also must solve and complete all the worksheets ranging from preschool to college-level material. Potential candidates must complete intensive training in the Kumon curriculum, center operations and pass additional exams before qualifying to open a Kumon Center. Kumon takes great pride in its instructors and continually evaluates their performance. Instructors also participate in continuing education seminars throughout the year.

How much does Kumon cost?

Kumon Centers are individually owned and operated, so cost and hours of operation vary. Monthly tuition typically ranges from \$85-\$115 per subject, per month. There is also an initial, one-time registration fee of \$30-\$50. Kumon will conduct the child's placement test free of charge.

Does Kumon offer preparation courses for exams like the SAT?

Kumon is not a test-prep program; however, through daily timed assignments, students become thoroughly accustomed to working under test-taking conditions and develop key time-management and problem-solving skills.

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