

## MATH FOCUS AREAS:

- Whole-number operations
- Time conversion

# Hair: Weft and Weave

Ayesha Ahmed

Some women add length or fullness to their hair by combining others' hair with their own.

The two most common methods of attaching purchased hair are the *sew-in technique* and the *bonded-glue technique*. There are advantages and disadvantages to both methods.

The sew-in technique has a more natural appearance and involves braiding the purchased hair into a woman's natural hair.

The bonded-glue technique is preferred by women whose natural hair is thinning. (One downside is that the glue can leave a sticky residue.) The resulting look is called a *weave* and requires regular maintenance appointments. At a typical weave maintenance appointment, a stylist will wash the hair, check for any unsightly issues, and/or reapply the bonded glue.

Edited by **Kevin Dykema**, kdykema@mattawanschools.org, a teacher from Mattawan, Michigan, and **Crystal Kalinec-Craig**, crystal.kalinec-craig@utsa.edu, a mathematics educator in San Antonio, Texas. Manuscripts should show how math is used to solve a real-life problem, preferably in the context of one's profession, and should be no more than 300 words. Submit manuscripts through <http://mtms.msubmit.net>.

1. Sarah likes the look of a weave but is on a limited budget. Use the chart below to calculate the total cost of a sew-in weave of 2 wefts (200 grams of hair), a weave application, maintenance appointments every 6 weeks, and removal at the end of 6 months.

Weft: 100 gram package (any color)	\$25
Sew-in weave application	\$175
Bonded-glue weave application	\$95
Weave maintenance	\$50
Sew-in weave removal	\$35
Bonded-glue weave removal	\$15

2. Find the cost if Sarah decides to do a bonded-glue weave rather than use the sew-in method. Use the chart above.
3. If Sarah becomes unhappy with her natural hair color, she may get



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and maintain highlights in the weave. Highlights require maintenance appointments every 3 months. Full highlights cost \$90. Each appointment to maintain or retouch highlights costs \$40. Determine how much extra the full highlights would cost to get and maintain for 6 months.

**Ayesha Ahmed**, AyeshaSAhmed@hotmail.com, works in the education sector in the Chicago area. She is always interested in exploring new tangents in the field.

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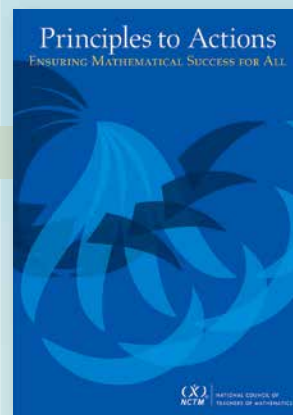
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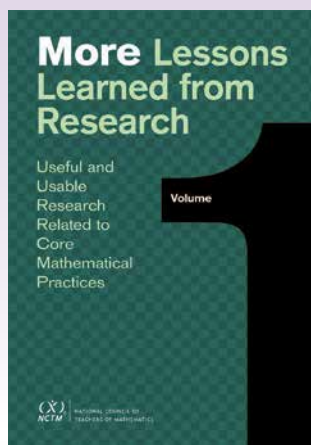
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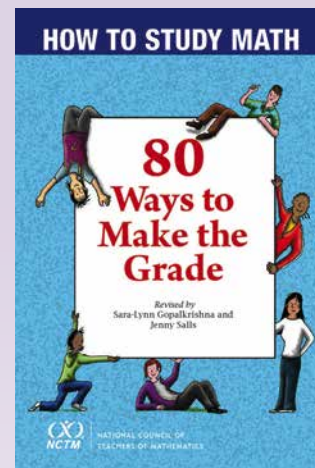


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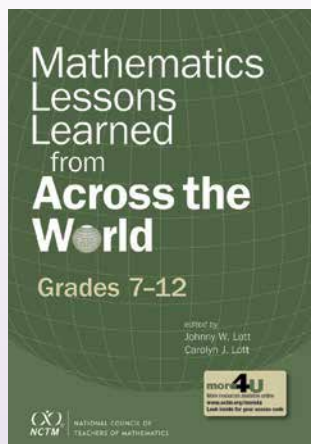


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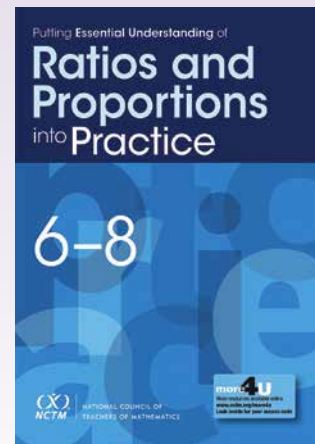


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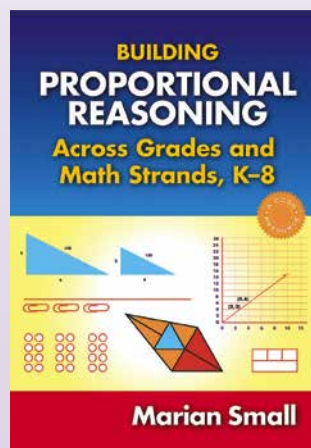
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