



“Trigonometry! Why Do I Have To Learn This?”

How often do you hear this question from a student? Or maybe they ask, “When will I ever use this?” Either question can be difficult to answer, but we can help you answer their questions. As a land surveyor, our profession uses trigonometry every day, and we would appreciate the opportunity to inform your high school students about a career in surveying and mapping and about a contest called “Trig-Star”.

Trig-Star is a national competition developed by the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) and is administered by local professional surveyors. Typically, a local surveyor will spend a classroom session with your students to acquaint them with our profession, and provide them with information about the contest. At a later date, the local surveyor will administer the one hour long contest, utilizing real world trigonometry problems. The only thing that we need from you is the opportunity.

We want to help you prepare your students for their future, by providing them with information about a profession that requires the trigonometry skills that they are learning in your classroom. We can help your students develop an appreciation for the knowledge they are acquiring and show them, through examples, that trigonometry is a skill that they may need in their careers.

Every year across the United States, successful Trig-Star students and teachers receive generous prizes and other awards from local state, and national sponsors. Every year, trig-Star students and teachers become more aware of the career opportunities which utilize the math skills developed in High School. Every year, Trig-Star students and teachers find the answers to the questions that are always asked in a trigonometry class.

There are nearly 10,000 students currently participating on the national level. The contest is simple to administer and rewarding for everyone involved. Give a local professional surveyor a few minutes to tell you about the program and give you some sample questions to try.