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MATHEMATICAL SURFING ON THE INTERNET[1]

For anyone who has access to the part of the Internet called the World-Wide Web, there is a vast amount of mathematical material available. All you need is a PC connected to the Internet and a program such as Netscape to browse the Web.

Below are descriptions and locations of a number of mathematical pages which are worth visiting:

Polyhedrons `http://www.teleport.com/tpgettys/poly.html`

An excellent page (although it sounds rather abstract!) is this page dedicated to the Platonic Solids and their stellations. It is a collection of very colourful illustrations of cubes, octahedrons, icosahedrons and so on – the type of model you might have made with cardboard at some stage. Of course a computer can produce pictures of models far too complicated ever to build!

Random-Dot Stereograms `http://www.comlab.ox.ac.uk/archive/3d.html`

If you've ever wondered how a stereogram works (when you stare at a pattern and cross your eyes until a 3-D image appears) this page will tell you how they work and also how to produce your own.

Penrose Tilings `http://www.geom.umn.edu/apps/quasitiler/about.html`

Did you know that Penrose tilings - those intriguing mosaic patterns which go on forever without repeating - are really slices of a five-dimensional cubic lattice? Well, neither did we till we visited this page!

Mathematical Puzzles and Problems `http://sashimi.wwa.com/math/mathCenter.html`

This page is an index of many different collections of puzzles and problems on the Web, of all levels of difficulty.

Fractals: the Mandelbrot Set `http://www.cs.uct.ac.za/amason/fractals/`

This is a gallery of stunning colour pictures of the Mandelbrot set - some of them zooming in by as much as a trillion times.

We thank the Mathematical Digest for drawing our attention to these pages and plan to give you more information in future issues. Meanwhile, you might like to find some more yourself. Ed.

[1] Macabre editorial note, February 2014: all these hyperlinks are dead