

# Definition 1

- **Numeracy** is the ability to process, interpret and communicate numerical, quantitative, spatial, statistical, even mathematical, information, in ways that are appropriate for a variety of contexts, and that will enable a typical member of the culture or subculture to participate effectively in activities that they value.

*Evans J. (2000). Adults' Mathematical Thinking and Emotion.p.236*

# Definition 2

- **Mathematical literacy** is defined (in PISA) as: the capacity to identify, to understand and to engage in mathematics and make well-founded judgements about the role that mathematics plays, as needed for an individual's current and future private life, occupational life, social life with peers and relatives, and life as a constructive, concerned, and reflective citizen.

*OECD (1999). Measuring Student Knowledge and Skills: A new Framework for Assessment, p. 50*

# Definition 3

- The term **numeracy** as used here describes an aggregate of skills ,knowledge, beliefs, dispositions, habits of mind, communication capabilities, and problem solving skills that individuals need in order to autonomously engage and effectively manage numeracy situations that involve numbers, quantitative or quantifiable information, or visual or textual information, that is based on mathematical ideas or has embedded mathematical elements.

*Gal I. (ed.) (2000). Adult Numeracy Development (p.12)*

# Definition 4

- **Mathematical Literacy** provides learners with an awareness and understanding of the role that mathematics play in the modern world. Mathematical Literacy is a subject driven by life-related applications of mathematics. It enables learners to develop the ability and confidence to think numerically and spatially in order to interpret and critically analyse everyday situations and to solve problems.

*South Africa, Department of Education, 2003*