

The famous Greek philosopher Plato made no great contribution to mathematics himself. But he created a school in which he trained and directed the works of so many famous mathematicians that he is numbered among the creators of this science.²⁹ In his school, Academy, he had four 'roads' for the students to follow: astronomy, geometry, arithmetic³⁰, and music. The only very significant thing he did was to show the uniqueness of the Platonic figures; that is to prove that the tetrahedron (4 sides), the hexahedron (6 sides), the octahedron (8 sides), the dodecahedron (12 sides), and the icosahedron (20 sides) are the only possible regular polyhedrons (shapes).

The next figure to enter the scene of Greek mathematics was Eudoxus. He was originally a student of Plato. He did a large amount of work on the theory of proportions (fractions).³¹ His theory of concentric circles, which was an elaborate explanation as to the movement of planets with the earth in the center, lasted many thousand years. Another work of his was the development of a geometric system of irrational numbers.³² He also did work which would become the predecessor to modern integral calculus³³

He (Aristotle) had no special field. His knowledge was universal, and he wrote about everything.

29 Mathematics, History 11, Encyclopedia Britannica, volume 11, page 645

30 Arithmetic actually meant advanced number theory.

31 Leon Perry, The Mathematics, page 42

32 "Mathematics, History 11, Encyclopedia Britannica, volume 11, page 641;U

33 Michal Moffatt, The ages of Mathematics vol 1, page 80