

BUILDING INSPECTOR

“LIFE IS ALWAYS ABOUT NUMBERS. WE ALWAYS HAVE NUMBERS AROUND US, REGARDLESS OF IF WE KNOW IT OR NOT.”



ARTURO LERMA, JR.

Pronunciation:

(AA r-t uu-roh | EH r-m aa)

Life: 1963- present

Location: Mission, Texas

Known for: Construction expertise (how to properly build things)

MATH HERO

Building inspectors like Arturo use math to:

- Calculate the amount of building materials needed for the foundation of a home.
- Measure the distance of construction sites to make sure they match the building plans.
- Summarize situations visually using graphs and charts.
- Calculate the square footage of a house by finding the sum of all the finished areas.

MATH CREATES STRONG FOUNDATIONS

- Arturo Lerma is a building inspector. Building inspectors make sure that building constructions are following government rules and building codes.
- Arturo worked with his mom as a child picking grapes in California. He knew how many bunches of grapes he would need to fill up a box. This was important because he would get paid by how many boxes of grapes he picked each day.
- Arturo worked with his dad over the summer at construction sites. Sometimes he uses his arm as a yardstick, because he learned that the measurement from his shoulder to his wrist is about a yard.
- Arturo learned math from his dad. His dad could not read or write, but he could solve any math problem if Arturo read it aloud to him.

REFERENCES

- City of Chandler, AZ (Official). (2019, May 17). *Day in the life of a Building Inspector* [Video]. YouTube.
- N. Prishker, personal communication, July, 2022.
- Lerma, A. (2022). *Arturo Lerma* [Photograph]. Personal Collection