M2 Guided version



01 | A strange calculation

Introduction to problem

- 1. Choose a number.
- 2. Multiply it by 3.
- 3. Add 6.
- 4. Divide this result by 3.
- 5. Subtract the number chosen in step 1 from the answer in step 4.

Exploration

Analyse some examples by completing the table below. You can use a spreadsheet or a calculator to do the calculations.

	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4
Choose a number.				
Multiply it by 3.				
Add 6.				
Divide by 3.				
Subtract the number in the first line from the number in the 4 th line.				

Conjecture

Describe the pattern observed.

If we carry out the algorithm described above, we always obtain



Is this conjecture always true? We can **prove** it using the techniques of **algebra**.

Let's call *n* the number chosen at the beginning.

Let's repeat the calculations made during the exploration (but using *n*):

Choose a number.	n
Multiply it by 3.	
Add 6.	
Divide by 3.	
Subtract the number in the first line from the number in the 4 th line.	
Simplify the expression.	

The final result is ____, regardless of the number n we start with.

	? ?
If we run the following algorithm:	
1. Choose a number.	
2. Multiply it by 3.	
3. Add 6.	
4. Divide this result by 3.	
5. Subtract the number at the beginning of step 1 from the answer in step 4.	
the end result is always	



02 | Happy Birthday!

Introduction to problem

Take the number of the month of your birthday (1 for January, 2 for February, ...) and multiply it by 2 . Add 5 , then multiply the result by 50 . Add the day of the month of your birthday. Subtract 250 to get a 4- or 3-digit number.

Exploration

Analyse some examples by completing the table below. You can use a spreadsheet or a calculator to do the calculations.

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4
Take the month of your birthday.				
Multiply by 2.				
Add 5.				
Multiply by 50.				
Add the day of the birthday.				
Subtract 250.				

Compare the final results with the birthdays that you started with.

Conjecture

Complete the following text to describe the phenomenon observed:

The final result shows _____ of a birthday as follows:

- 6. The number formed by the _____ digit and the _____ digit of the final result represents the month of the birthday.
- 7. The number formed by the _____ digit and the _____ digits of the final result represents the _____ of the birthday.



Does this rule always work? There are two ways to find out:

<u>Option 1:</u>

Try **all** possible **dates**: from 01.01 to 31.12. How many cases do you need to check?

To assess such a large number of different cases, it is advisable to use a **spreadsheet** or a **programming language** to automate the calculations.

After assessing all the cases, we found that

Option 2:

We'll try to **prove** the conjecture using the techniques of **algebra**.

Let's call the day of a person's birthday d.

Let's call a person's month *m*.

Take the month of the birthday.	m
Multiply by 2.	
Add 5.	
Multiply by 50.	
Add the day <i>d</i> of the birthday.	
Subtract 250.	
Simplify the expression obtained.	

The final result is	
The last two digits of this result represent	
The first digit or first two digits of this result represent	



	⊘ ? ⊗
If we follow the following algorithm :	
Take the number of the month of your birthday.	
Multiply by 2.	
Add 5.	
Multiply by 50.	
Add the day of the month of your birthday.	
Substract 250.	
this gives :	
 a three-digit number if the month of the birthday is less than or equal to The hundreds digit of this number represents 	
and the last two digits represent the of the	
birthday.	
 a four-digit number if the month of the birthday is greater than or equal to The first two digits of this number represent 	
and the last two digits represent the of the	
birthday.	
	1



03 | Multiply by 9

Introduction to problem

Choose a number between 1 and 10. Multiply it by 9. Add the digits of the new number and add 4. What happens?

Exploration

Analyse a few examples.

	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4	Example 5
Choose a number between 1 and 10.	1	2	3	4	5
Multiply by 9.					
Add up the digits.					
Add 4.					

We can see that the result of this algorithm always seems to be equal to _____.

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule.

If we take a number between 1 and 10, multiply it by 9, then calculate the	
sum of the digits in the result and finally add 4, we obtain the number	

-----•



In fact, we only have _____ other cases to check. If we manage to check our rule for these cases, our conjecture is proven:

Choose a number between 1 and 10.			
Multiply it by 9.			
Add up the digits.			
Add 4.			

Does the rule also work for numbers greater than 10? Try some examples:

Choose a number greater than 10			
Multiply it by 9.			
Add up the digits.			
Add 4.			

What can you conclude?

	works	
The rule		for numbers greater than 10.
	does not work	-

	2 2 8
If we take any integer between 1 and 10 and follow the following algorithm:	
Multiply it by 9.	
Add up the digits.	
Add 4.	
the end result is always	

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04 | Multiply by 6

Introduction to problem

Take an even number and multiply it by 6. Compare the units digit of the result with the units digit of the number you started with. What do you find?

Exploration

Analyse a few examples.

	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4
Choose an even number.	4	12		
Multiply it by 6.				
Units digit of the result.				
Units digit of the number chosen at the start.				

It seems that the units digit of the result of this algorithm is always equal to

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule:

If an even number is multiplied by 6, then the units digit of the	e result
equals	



Let's call the number at the beginning $n.$		
Since n is even, <i>n</i> can be written as		
Multiply it by 6.		
Simplify the expression.		
The final result is		
Write this result as the sum of two terms: = +		
The units dia	it is shown here.	
The units digit equals	·	

Conclusion

We have proved the following theorem:

	? ?
If an even number is multiplied by 6, then the units digit of the result equals	
·	



05| Three digits become six digits

Introduction to problem

- 1. Choose a three-digit number and write it twice to make a six-digit number. For example, 371371 or 552552.
- 2. Divide the number by 7.
- 3. Divide the result by 11.
- 4. Divide the result by 13.

Exploration

Analyse some examples by completing the table below. You can use a spreadsheet or a calculator to do the calculations.

	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4
Choose a three-digit number				
Write it down twice to get a 6-digit number.				
Divide by 7.				
Divide by 11.				
Divide by 13.				

Conjecture

Describe the phenomenon observed :

If we choose a 3-digit number and run the algorithm described above, we	
get	



Does this rule still work? To check, we can use the techniques of **algebra**.

Let's call the 3-digit number at the beginning n.

<u>Step 1:</u>

Let's construct the 6-digit number obtained by repeating the number *n* twice.

Hint: Use your calculator. Type in the 3-digit number *n*. What calculation can you do so that the calculator displays the 6-digit number made up of twice the 3-digit number?

The 6-digit number is written as follows (using *n*): _____

<u>Step 2:</u>

Let's continue running the algorithm.

Choose a three-digit number.	n
Write it down twice to get a 6-digit number.	
Divide by 7.	
Divide by 11.	
Divide by 13.	
Write the expression as a fraction.	
Simplify the fraction as far as possible.	

The resulting number is : _____



We choose a three-digit number and apply the following algorithm:	
1. Write it down twice to get a six-digit number.	
2. Divide the number by 7.	
3. Divide the result by 11.	
4. Divide the result by 13.	
Then we always get	



06 | Mosaic tiles

Introduction to problem

Here are some mosaic tiles consisting of white tiles forming squares of different sizes. Every white square is surrounded by a frame of grey tiles. Here are four examples.



Count the grey squares. What do you notice?

Exploration

Analyse some examples by completing the table below.

Number of white tiles along one edge	Drawing	Number of grey tiles
4		
5		
6		

Conjecture

Describe the phenomenon observed :

The number of grey squares surrounding a square of *n* by *n* white squares is equal to _____.



A proof?

Does this rule still work? To check, we can use the techniques of **algebra**.

Let's call *n* the size of the white square.

Number of white tiles along one edge of the	n
square.	
Number of tiles along one edge in the white-	
and-grey square.	
The number of grey tiles.	
Simplify.	

If the white square is of size $n \times n$, the number of grey squares is ______.

	2 2 S
The number of grey squares surrounding a square with n white tiles along	
one edge is equal to	

PIT

1#Thinking like a mathematician

07 | The calendar

Introduction to problem

The numbers for each month in the calendar can be grouped into squares of different sizes:

		Ja	nua	ary			_	February							March						
S	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	s	S	М	Т	W	Т	\mathbf{F}	s		s	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29							27	28	29	30	31		
31																					

	April							May							June						
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	s	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S		S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31						26	27	28	29	30		

Step 1: Draw a few squares on the calendar.

- Start by drawing squares of 2 by 2 days.
- Then try squares of 3 by 3 days.

Step 2: For each square you have drawn:

- Multiply the number in the top right-hand corner by the number in the bottom left-hand corner.
- Multiply the number on the top left with the number on the bottom right.
- Calculate the difference between these two products.

Here are two examples:

	February								P	A	pr	il		
S	M	T٩	W	Т	F	S		S	М	Т	w	Т	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6							1	2
7	8	9	10	_11	12	13		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29							24	25	26	27	28	29	30

 $^{11 \}cdot 17 - 10 \cdot 18 = 7$

 $14 \cdot 26 - 12 \cdot 28 = 28$



What do you notice?

Exploration

Draw squares of different sizes in the following calendar. Then complete the table.

janvier 1							fév					mars					3					
	м	м	1	V	S	D			м	м	1	v	S				м	м	1	V	S	D
	11	191	-	1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5 5	6	7		1	2	3	4	v 5	6	7
4	5	6	7	- 8	9	10		- 8	9	10	11	12	13	, 14		- 8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	. 14	15	16	17		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31										29	30	31				
avr	il					4		ma	i					5		juir	۱					6
L	м	м	J	v	s	D		L	м	м	J	v	s	D		L	м	м	J	۷	s	D
			1	2	3	4							1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		3	4	5	6	7	8	9		7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		10	11	12	13	14	15	16		14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		17	18	19	20	21	22	23		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30				24	25	26	27	28	29	30		28	29	30				
								31														
juil	let					7	-	aoí	ût					8		sep	oten	nbre	2			9
L	М	М	J	V	S	D		L	М	м	J	V	S	D		L	М	М	J	V	S	D
			1	2	3	4								1				1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		2	3	4	5	6	7	8		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		9	10	11	12	13	14	15		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		16	17	18	19	20	21	22		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31			23	24	25	26	27	28	29		27	28	29	30			
								30	31													
oct	ohr	e				10	Ì	nov	/em	hre				11		dér	em	bre				12
L	м	м	J	v	s	D		L	м	м	J	v	s	D		L	м	м	J	v	s	D
				1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		29	30							27	28	29	30	31		

Square size	Number top right corner	Number bottom left corner	Product of the two	Number top left corner	Number bottom right corner	Product of the two	Difference
2							
2							
2							



3				
3				
3				
4				
4				
4				

Conjecture

Describe the phenomenon observed :

We see that the difference between the product of the number in the top right-hand corner with the number in the bottom left-hand corner and the product of the number in the top left-hand corner with the number in the bottom right-hand corner of a square of *n* by *n* days is equal to

_____·

A proof?

Does this rule still work? To check, we can use the techniques of **algebra**.

Let's call *n* the size of the square and let's call *a* the number in the top left-hand corner.

Top left corner	а
Top right corner	
Bottom left corner	
Bottom right corner	
Product of the number in the top right corner	
with the number in the bottom left corner	
Product of the number in the top left corner	
and the number in the bottom right corner	
Difference between the two products	
Simplify the expression.	



The difference between the product of the number in the top right corner with the number in the bottom left corner and the product of the number in the top left corner with the number in the bottom right corner of a square of size <i>n</i> is equal to	



08 | Sum of odd numbers

Introduction to problem

$$1 = 1$$

$$1 + 3 = 4$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 = 9$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 16$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 = 25$$
...
$$1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + 197 + 199 = 100\ 000$$

Do you spot a pattern?

Exploration

Use a spreadsheet or calculator to complete the following table:

Step k		
1	1 =	=
2	1 + 3 =	=
3	1 + 3 + 5 =	=
4	1 + 3 + 5 + 7 =	=
5	1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 =	=
6	1+3+5+7+9+11 =	=
7	1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 + 11 + 13 =	=

Conjecture

Г

Based on the results of the exploration above, try to formulate a general rule:

The sum of <i>k</i> odd numbers is	_and is equal to	0
·		



We are going to prove the conjecture for sums up to 100. There are _____ cases to check. As this is a relatively large number, it is reasonable to use a **spreadsheet** or a **programming language**:

In this case, we suggest you use a spreadsheet program (such as Excel, Numbers, Google Sheets, etc.) and draw up a list similar to the one below:

	А	В	С	D	E	
1 2	Step k	k-th odd number	sum of the first k odd numbers	Conjecture	Check	
3	1	1	1	1	TRUE	
4	2	3	4	4	TRUE	
5	3	5	9	9	TRUE	
6	4	7	16	16	TRUE	
7	5	9	25	25	TRUE	
8	6	11	36	36	TRUE	
9	7	13	49	49	TRUE	
10	8	15	64	64	TRUE	
11	9	17	81	81	TRUE	
12	10	19	100	100	TRUE	
13	11	21	121	121	TRUE	
14	12	23	144	144	TRUE	
15	13	25	169	169	TRUE	

To check all the possible cases, you need to work with **formulas**:

In column A, start by writing 1 in box A3. Then in box A4, write a formula that adds 1 to the box above (A3+1). Then drag this formula down to fill the whole column. The result is: 1, 2, 3, 4...

	А	В	С	D	Е		
1	Stop k	k th odd number	sum of the first k	Conjecture	Chask		
2	2 Step k	k-ui ouu number	odd numbers	Conjecture	CHECK		
3	1						
4	=A3+1						
5							

In column B, we also write 1 in box B3. But in box B4, we add 2 to the box above (B3+2). Pull this formula downwards. You get: 1, 3, 5, 7...



	А	В	С	D	E	
1	Stop k	k th odd number	sum of the first k	Conjecture	Check	
2	2 Step k	k-th odd humber	odd numbers	Conjecture		
3	1	1				
4	2	=B3+2				
5	3					

For column C, in box C4, add the value of C3 to that of B4. Then pull this formula down. This column allows us to see how the numbers add up.

	А	В	С	D	E
1	Stop k	k th odd number	sum of the first k	Conjecture	Chock
2	2 Step k	k-th oud humber	odd numbers	Conjecture	CHECK
3	1	1	1		
4	2	3	=C3+B4		
5	3	5			

In column D, we're going to test our idea: we write our formula in box D3 and pull it down.

Column E will be used to check whether our idea is correct or not.

	A	В	С	D	E	
1	Stop k	k th odd number	sum of the first k	Conjecture	Check	
2	2 Зтер к	k-thoud humber	odd numbers	Conjecture		
3	1	1	1	1	=C3=D3	
4	2	3	4	4		

This makes it easy to check all the cases for k from 1 to _____.

	? ?
The sum of <i>k</i> odd numbers is and is equal to (for <i>k</i>	
from1 to).	





Does the conjecture hold true for values of k greater than 100?





09 | Add 41

Introduction to problem

Choose a natural number n. Multiply it by itself. Add to the result the number you chose at the start, then add 41. Start with n = 0, then n = 1 and so on. What do you find?

Exploration

Analyse some examples.

n	Multiply n by itself	Add n	Add 41	Final result	Divisors of the final result
0					
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

The final results are all ______numbers.

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule.

If you multiply a number by itself, then add the number you chose at the start and finally add 41, you get ______.



Try to explain why your rule always works or look for counterexamples. You can use the technological tools at your disposal.



Conclusion

Write a short commentary summarising your observations and thoughts.



10 3s followed by a 1

Introduction to problem

What are the divisors of 31? 331? And 3331? What do you find?

Exploration

Analyse a few examples.

Number	Dividers
31	{1, 31}
331	
3331	

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule:

All numbers of the form 333...1 are _____



Try to explain why your rule always works or look for counterexamples. You can use the technological tools at your disposal.



Conclusion

Write a short commentary summarising your observations and thoughts.



11 | Some rather unusual powers of 2

Introduction to problem

Take a natural number n. Raise 2 to the power of n to obtain the result m. Then raise 2 to the power m. Add 1 to the result.

Start with n = 0, then move on to n = 1 and so on. What do you notice?

Exploration

Analyse some examples:

n	2 ⁿ	2 ^{2ⁿ}	$2^{2^n} + 1$
0	$2^0 = 1$	$2^1 = 2$	2 + 1 = 3
1	$2^1 = 2$	$2^2 = 4$	4 + 1 = 5

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule:

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All numbers of the form 2^{2^n} + 1 are
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Try to explain why your rule always works or look for counterexamples. You can use the technological tools at your disposal.



Conclusion

Write a short commentary summarising your observations and thoughts.



12 | Finding common divisors

Introduction to problem

Take a natural number n. Calculate the value of $A = n^2 + 7$ and $B = (n + 1)^2 + 7$, then try to find common divisors of A and B. Start with n = 0, then move on to n = 1 and so on. What do you find?

Exploration

Analyse some examples.

n	$A = n^2 + 7$	$B = (n+1)^2 + 7$	gcd(A,B)
0	7	8	1
1	8	11	1

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule.

All numbers of the form n^2 + 7 and $(n + 1)^2$ + 7 are





Any proof?

Try to explain why your rule always works or look for counterexamples. You can use the technological tools at your disposal.



Conclusion

Write a short commentary summarising your observations and thoughts.



13 | Even numbers and prime numbers

Introduction to problem

4 = 2 + 2
6 = 3 + 3
8 = 5 + 3
10 = 7 + 3
12 = 7 + 5
14 = 7 + 7
16 = 11 + 5
100 = 41 + 59

Can you spot a pattern?

Exploration

Here are a few more examples:

16 = 11 + 5	$11 { m and} 5 { m are} __$	numbers.	
18 =	and	_are	numbers.
20 =	and	_are	numbers.
22 =	and	_are	numbers.
24 =	and	_are	numbers.
26 =	and	_are	numbers.
28 =	and	_are	numbers.
30 =	and	_are	numbers.

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule.





Any proof?

Try to explain why your rule always works or look for counterexamples. You can use the technological tools at your disposal.





Can you	rewrite	any	even	number	less	than	or	equal	to	100	as	the	sum	of	two	primes?	
Yes	No																

A counterexample?

Are there any even numbers greater than 100 that cannot be rewritten as the sum of two primes?

-----·

Conclusion

		O (2) O (2)
Any the sum of two	number less than or equal to100 can be written as numbers.	
Any nu	number can be written as the sum of two umbers. vn as the	



14 | An algorithm that always finishes?

Introduction to problem

Choose a strictly positive integer.

- If it is even, divide by 2.
- If it is odd, multiply it by 3 and add 1 to the result.

Repeat this operation a large number of times to make the result as small as possible.

Exploration

Analyse some examples.

Natural number between 1 and 100	Intermediate results	Smallest result
1	4; 2; 1; 4; 2; 1;	1
2	1; 4; 2; 1; 4; 2; 1;	1
3	10; 5; 16; 8; 4; 2; 1; 4; 2; 1;	1
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule.

For integers chosen between 1 and 100, the algorithm described above always results in the value ______ after a finite number of iterations.





Try to explain why your rule always works or look for counterexamples. You can use the technological tools at your disposal.





For all numbers between 1 and 100 , does the algorithm always arrive at the number 1 after a
finite number of iterations? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Is there a counterexample?
· What if you take starting numbers greater than 100?

For integers chosen between 1 and 100, the algorithm described above always results in the value after a finite number of iterations.	
For any positive integer , the algorithm described above always results in the value after a finite number of iterations. This problem is known as the	



15 | A sum of 4 cubes

Introduction to problem

$$1 = 1^{3} + 0^{3} + 0^{3} + 0^{3}$$

$$2 = 1^{3} + 1^{3} + 0^{3} + 0^{3}$$

$$3 = 1^{3} + 1^{3} + 1^{3} + 0^{3}$$

$$4 = 1^{3} + 1^{3} + 1^{3} + 1^{3}$$

$$5 = 2^{3} + (-1)^{3} + (-1)^{3} + (-1)^{3}$$
...
$$13 = 10^{3} + 7^{3} + 1^{3} + (-11)^{3}$$

What do you notice?

Exploration

Analyse some examples.

6 =	8 - 1 - 1 + 0	=	
7 =	8 - 1 + 0 + 0	=	
8 =		=	
9 =			

Conjecture

Based on the results of the previous exploration, try to formulate a general rule.





Any proof?

Try to explain why your rule always works or look for counterexamples. You can use the technological tools at your disposal.

Do s che	some research on the Internet or ask artificia eck the remaining cases!	l intelligence for help to
10 =	=	
11 =	=	
12 =	=	
For all numbers	s between 1 and 13, can they ? Yes No	be rewritten as
Is there a counterexar	mple?	
What if you use numbe	ers greater than 13?	

Any integer between 1 and 13 can be written as	
Any positive integer can be written as	
This problem is known as the	

