

re (Solve)

MATHS BY
INQUIRY



Australian Academy of Science



Mathematics by Inquiry is an initiative of, and funded by, the Australian Government Department of Education and Training



**Purposeful goals, challenging tasks,
knowledge-building activities:
Mathematics by Inquiry**

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Turning the tables on multiplication

The philosophy of arithmetic, exhibiting a progressive view of the theory and practice of calculation, with tables for the multiplication of numbers as far as one thousand.

John Leslie, 1820



63×11

52	676
53	702
54	729
.	.
.	.
.	.
73	1332
74	1369

A set of tasks to promote Algebra as Generalised Arithmetic

1. Tens and units
2. Visual algebra
3. Curious calculations

Tens and units

1. Choose three distinct digits.

Make all the 2-digit numbers you can from these digits.

Find the sum of these numbers.

What do you notice? Why does this work?

2. Show that the number $100a + 10b + c$ is divisible by 3 if and only if $a + b + c$ is divisible by 3.

<https://www.mathlearningcenter.org/web-apps/number-pieces/>

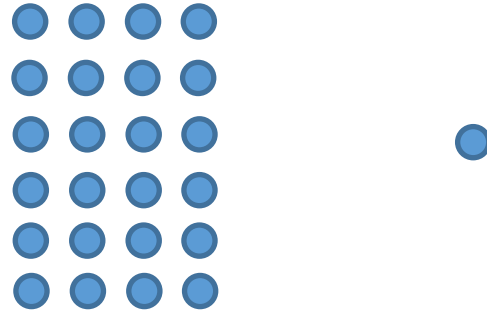
Visual algebra

$$1 \times 3 + 1 = 4$$

$$2 \times 4 + 1 = 9$$

$$3 \times 5 + 1 = 16$$

...



Can you generalise and visualise...

$$\begin{aligned}1 + 3 &= 4 \\1 + 3 + 5 &= 9 \\1 + 3 + 5 + 7 &= 16 \\&\dots\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}2(1^2 + 2^2) &= 1^2 + 3^2 \\2(2^2 + 5^2) &= 7^2 + 3^2 \\2(3^2 + 5^2) &= 8^2 + 2 \\&\dots\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}1 + 1 \times 4 + 4 &= 9 \\4 + 4 \times 9 + 9 &= 49 \\9 + 9 \times 16 + 16 &= 169 \\&\dots\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}1 + 2 &= 3 \\4 + 5 + 6 &= 7 + 8 \\9 + 10 + 11 + 12 &= 13 + 14 + 15 \\&\dots\end{aligned}$$

Curious calculations

Test for primeness		$n= 377$
Add a square	Sum	Square root
1	378	19.4422221
4	381	19.5192213
9	386	19.6468827
16	393	19.8242276
25	402	20.04993766
36	413	20.32240143
49	426	20.63976744
64	441	21
81	458	21.40093456
100	477	21.84032967

Is 377 prime or composite?

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<http://resolve.edu.au>



The reSolve: Maths by Inquiry Protocol

reSolve mathematics is purposeful.

reSolve tasks are challenging yet accessible.

reSolve classrooms have a knowledge-building culture.

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