



PUZZLERS

Teachers can photocopy this page to use in class



▶ FOUNDATION FOUR PIN BOWLING

If you were playing four pin bowling and each pin had the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 on them, what could you knock down to get a score of exactly five? What if the score was six? Or seven?

What if the pins had the numbers 1 – 10 on them? Which scores from three to ten have the most number of ways that you could get that score?

Adapted from www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/files_uploaded/uploaded_resources/12212/mathspuzzlesall.pdf

▶ YEARS 1 AND 2 WHAT'S THE SIGN?

Given any equation with the operation sign missing, students must replace the * with the operation sign so that the equation is correct. Start with easy equations such as $6 * 4 = 10$ and $12 * 5 = 7$

Discuss what is happening to the numbers – are they increasing or decreasing? What does this tell us about the operation? More difficult equations can be offered where more than one operation is used such as $8 * 4 * 3 = 9$. And multiplication and division can also be used for extra challenge such as $5 * 4 * 2 = 10$. Students can then write their own for classmates!

www.nctm.org/resources/archive.aspx?id=3604&journalid=4



▶ YEARS 3 AND 4 CLIMBING CAT

A cat is at the bottom of a 20 foot well. (Don't worry, he's got lots of food, water, catnip and spitty cat toys down there.)

Each day, he climbs up 5 feet...and each night, he slides down 4 feet. How many days will it take him to reach the top of the well?

www.coolmath4kids.com/math_puzzles/c2-catclimb.html

▶ YEARS 5 AND 6 FAMILY PHOTO

In a family photo (not the photo above) you see:

1 grandfather, 1 grandmother, 2 fathers, 2 mothers, 6 children, 4 grandchildren, 2 sisters, 2 brothers, 3 sons, 3 daughters, 1 father-in-law, 1 mother-in-law and 1 daughter-in-law. What's the fewest number of people possible that are in the photo?

www.coolmath4kids.com/math_puzzles/p5-familyphoto.html