

Focus on... Mathematics

Did you know..

On this day...

explore...

05



Choose a starting number from a 1-100 square and cross it out.

In 1963, Valentina Tereshkova, a former textile worker from the Soviet Union became the first

Then choose a factor or multiple of that number. Keep crossing out factors or multiples of the last number in the chain.

For example, Charlie started with 60,30, 6, 96, 16, 32, 8, 56, 7, 21, 42,...

What's the longest chain you can make?

5 6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28

The most popular two-digit number is 13. You'd think unlucky number 13 would be one that most people want to stay away from. But in Alex Bellos' research, it turned out to be the most popular two-digit number (selected by 5 percent of all respondents).

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How many pomegranates? What's the best way to count? To estimate? And how long would it take to get all those s e e d s out?

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