

**Question 1.** This is a magic square:

4	9	2
3	5	7
8	1	6

A magic square is an arrangement of numbers in a square grid, with these rules:

- I. The sum of the numbers in each row and column is the same,
  - II. The diagonals also sum to the same thing,
  - III. All the numbers in the grid are different, and
  - IV. Every number from 1 to the number of squares in the grid appears once.
- (a) Find all the  $1 \times 1$  magic squares. (*Hint:* there aren't very many.)

- (b) Now find all the  $2 \times 2$  magic squares. (*Hint:* there aren't many of these either.)

- (c) Can you find any other  $3 \times 3$  magic squares? What does the row sum have to be? What about the number in the middle square?

**Question 2.** It's a bit difficult to find  $2 \times 2$  magic squares, so let's make it easier by getting rid of some of the rules.

(a) How many  $2 \times 2$  magic squares are there if we only use rules I., III. and IV.?

(b) What if we only use rules I. and III.?

(c) Or just rule I.?

**Question 3.** Now try to look for  $4 \times 4$  magic squares. Which combinations of rules make this easier or harder? (Make sure you always use rule I.)

**Question 4.** I'm going to tell you about a New Way of Adding Numbers. Here's how it works:

- The only numbers are 0 and 1. Forget about 2 and 17 and 95206 and all that nonsense.
- Here are the addition rules:

$$0 + 0 = 0, \quad 0 + 1 = 1, \quad 1 + 0 = 1, \quad 1 + 1 = 0.$$

Got it? Great! Let's practise this new addition. Calculate these:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + 1 + 1 &= \underline{\quad} & 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 &= \underline{\quad} \\ 0 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 &= \underline{\quad} & 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 &= \underline{\quad} \\ 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 &= \underline{\quad} & 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 1 &= \underline{\quad} \\ 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 &= \underline{\quad} \\ 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 &= \underline{\quad} \end{aligned}$$

(Is there an easy way to do this? *Hint*: how many 1s are there in each sum?)

**Question 5.** Remember magic squares? We're going to make some using this New Way of Adding! Let's just use rule I. for magic squares, to make it simple. Here's an example:

1	1	0	0
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0
0	1	0	1

(Did we make a mistake? Start by checking that this really is a magic square...)

How many  $2 \times 2$  magic squares are there? How many of them have rows that sum to 0, and how many of them have rows that sum to 1?

How many  $3 \times 3$  magic squares are there where the rows sum to 0, and how many have a row sum of 1?

What about  $4 \times 4$ , or  $5 \times 5$ , or  $6 \times 6$ , or...

If you can figure out these numbers, do you notice any patterns?

**Question 6.** Let's play a game!

Mewtwo and Alakazam have some cards with the numbers 1 to 9 written on them, and on each player's turn, they take one of the cards. If a player has collected three cards that sum to 15, they win. If there are no cards left and no one has a set of three that adds to 15, the game is a draw.

For example: Mewtwo goes first, and takes the card numbered **8**. Next, Alakazam takes card **5**, then Mewtwo takes number **2**. Then Alakazam takes **6**, Mewtwo takes **4**, and Alakazam takes **3**. But then Mewtwo takes card number **9**, and wins: Mewtwo's cards are **8, 2, 4** and **9**, and  $2 + 4 + 9 = 15$ .

Try playing this game with a friend!

Is it better to go first or second? What are some good strategies?

Why did we put this game on a worksheet about magic squares?