

MATH MAGIC TEACH-IN with Brian Richards

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Birthday Mind-Reading

Magical effect: Guess the age and birth-month of anyone in your audience.

How to perform: Ask someone to concentrate on the number that corresponds to her birthday month (January is 1, February is 2, March is 3, etc.) Then tell her to do the following calculations but keep them hidden from you.

		<u>Example</u>
		January-- 1
Multiply that number by 2	$1 \times 2 =$	2
Add 5	$2 + 5 =$	7
Multiply by 50	$7 \times 50 =$	350
Add her age	(say, 20)	370
Subtract 365	$370 - 365 =$	5
Add 115 and tell you the final answer:	$5 + 115 =$	120

Once you have that final answer, you can reveal her birthday month:

January

& her age:

20

Secret: The first digit is the birthday month, the remaining digits reveal age.

Easy Mind-Reading

Magical effect: You guess any number your audience is thinking.

How to perform:

Ask a member of the audience to think of any number but keep it secret:

Example:

10

Now ask them to do the following:

Double the secret number:

20

Multiply by 5

$20 \times 5 = 100$

Ask them to give you their final answer and reveal their secret number:

10

Secret: Once you know their final answer, simply (secretly, mentally) slice off and discard the right hand digit.

Mysterious Dice

Magical effect: Defy the laws of probability! Of the six possible numbers on a game die, you guess the two your audience is thinking of.

How to perform:

Have a member of the audience choose any two sides on a die, but keep them secret:

Now, ask him to do the following calculations and keep them secret until he has his final answer:

Multiply one of the numbers by 5:

Add 7 to that product:

Double that sum:

Add the other number chosen from die:

Ask him to tell you his final answer:

Now reveal his original secret numbers:

Example

3 & 2

$$3 \times 5 = 15$$

$$15 + 7 = 22$$

$$22 \times 2 = 44$$

$$44 + 2 = 46$$

46

3 & 2

Secret:

Subtract 14 from his final result:

$$46 - 14 = 32$$

Or: 3 & 2



For more information about this show and others contact Brian Richards...

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