

MAKING SWEET CHOICES

Can chocolate be magical? Try this mysterious math for a delicious surprise from the Chocolate Wizard.

Math-Magical Formula

1 How many times would you like to eat chocolate each week? (Choose a number between 1 and 9.) times per week



2 Multiply that number by 2. $\times 2 =$

3 Add 5. $+ 5 =$

4 Multiply that number by 50. $\times 50 =$

5 If you've already had your birthday this year, add 1762. If you haven't, add 1761. $+ 176 =$

6 Subtract the year you were born. $-$ $=$

What if you ruled a magical kingdom made of chocolate and other tasty treats? Imagine living in a chocolate castle, with cookies growing in the garden and a chocolate river rushing by. Or if chocolate isn't your favorite, envision a land where everything you love to eat is right at your fingertips. Every bite would be a fun-filled explosion of yumminess, right?

Well, it *is* possible to get too much of a good thing. Sometimes, if you overdo it, you appreciate it less. A cone of chocolate ice cream can be perfect, but a huge tub of it would be bad for you. Playing video games for an hour might be fun, but playing for six hours can wear you out! When you do the things you enjoy with moderation, the experience stays fresh and fun. Every day is a treat when you savor it with balance.



YOUR FINAL ANSWER IS A THREE-DIGIT NUMBER.

GUESS WHAT? THE **FIRST DIGIT** IS THE NUMBER OF TIMES YOU'D LIKE TO EAT CHOCOLATE—REMEMBER **STEP 1**?

THE **SECOND TWO DIGITS** ARE YOUR **AGE!** IF YOU'RE UNDER 10, THE SECOND DIGIT IS 0—SUCH AS 709, IF YOU'RE 9 YEARS OLD.

DOES IT REALLY WORK?*

YOU CAN COUNT ON IT!

*This equation works in the year 2012.