

# Speaking in Riddles

You need  a classmate

## Activity

Whenever Albert and Ernest meet, they like to challenge each other mathematically.

**Possibilities** are all the things that might work.

**Constraints** are things that limit which possibilities you can choose.

Hey, Albert. Great to see you again!  
How old are your 3 children now?

When you multiply their ages, you get 36.

I need a bit more information than that, Albert.

All right, their ages add up to an odd number.

Ernest thinks for a while and then asks:

Are the twins the oldest?

No, they're the youngest.

I've got the answer!

1. How old are Albert's children?
2. Share the strategy you used to solve this problem with a classmate.  
How can you be sure there is only one answer?
3. Make up a problem that involves possibilities and constraints. Make sure you check it carefully before you give it to your classmate to solve.