

Math in Wonderland, Lesson Two

Level: Grades 3-5



John Tenniel, "White Rabbit with Pocket Watch."
Preliminary drawing for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.
[1864 or 65]. 1954.8182

Alice's Adventures in Multiplication

After Alice follows the rabbit down his tunnel and arrives in a strange hallway, she drinks some liquid that makes her shrink to 10 inches and then eats a cake that makes her grow to be 108 inches. With all the growing and shrinking, she starts to worry that her brain might have stopped working. So, she tests herself by trying to do some math in her head.

Alice thinks:

$$4 \times 5 = 12$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13$$

Is Alice correct?

What are the correct answers?

And how about some more multiplication, just for fun?

Alice has 5 cakes. The white rabbit has 4 times more cakes than Alice. How many cakes does the white rabbit have? The white rabbit has 6 buttons on his waistcoat. Alice has 3 times more buttons on her dress than the white rabbit has on his waistcoat. How many buttons does Alice have on her dress?



John Tenniel, "What Will Become of Me." Preliminary drawing for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. [1864 or 65]. 1954.0053