

STUDENT CORNER

Mathematics as communication is an important curriculum standard, hence the mathematics curriculum emphasizes the continued development of language and symbolism to communicate mathematical ideas. Communication includes regular opportunities to discuss mathematical ideas and explain strategies and solutions using words, mathematical symbols, diagrams and graphs. While all students need extensive experience to express mathematical ideas orally and in writing, some students may have the desire—or should be encouraged by teachers—to publish their work in journals.

delta-K invites students to share their work with others beyond their classroom. Such submissions could include, for example, papers on a particular mathematical topic, an elegant solution to a mathematical problem, posing interesting problems, an interesting discovery, a mathematical proof, a mathematical challenge, an alternative solution to a familiar problem, poetry about mathematics or anything that is deemed to be of mathematical interest.

Teachers are encouraged to review students' work prior to submission. Please attach a dated statement that permission is granted to the Mathematics Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association to publish [insert title] in one of its issues of delta-K. The student author must sign this statement (or the parents in the case of the student being under 18 years of age), indicate the student's grade level, and provide an address and telephone number.

No submissions were received for this issue. We look forward to receiving your submissions for the next issue.

The Missing Digit

When the multiplication for $35! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots 34 \cdot 35$ is carried out, the result is a number with 41 digits. If the middle digit is replaced with a question mark, is it possible to determine what the digit is without carrying out the multiplication of the 35 factors?

$35! = 10\ 333\ 147\ 966\ 386\ 144\ 929\ ?66\ 651\ 337\ 523\ 200\ 000\ 000$
