

[WHEN PEOPLE PLAY]

4 IS COSMIC

Group Size: 3 - 25

Time: 2- 5 Minutes

Objective: The puzzle itself is simple. It's the story line that sells the puzzle and helps to bring the fun within the group. This puzzle is best used if you would like to see how people respond to challenges... or are looking to kill time.

First let's start with the story and challenge. Follow along to see if you can figure it out.

"Have you ever heard that the number four is Cosmic?"

(Be Dramatic!)

"It is – it really is. The reason why, is because all numbers lead back to four. For example, give me a number. (The response 18) Eighteen is 8, eight is 5, five is 4 and of course four can only be 4 so therefore four is Cosmic! Let's try another. Give me a number. (The response 10) Ten is 3, three is 5, five is 4 and of course... four is 4, thus 4 is Cosmic because all numbers lead back to four. Ok, another from someone else. (The response, because someone always will be the wise guy, 1,465) One thousand four hundred sixty five is 30, thirty is 6, six is 3, three is 5, five is 4, and here we go again... four is Cosmic!"

For our purposes here I will stop. (It saves the eyes!) Did you figure it out? Here are some common thoughts towards solving the puzzle.

- Is it a divisible of another number? No.
- Is it a root of a number? No
- I'm just guessing. (Yes you are!)
- Is it a factor of that number? No
- You are making this up as you go. NO, there is a pattern you just have to find it.

After three or four examples are given to your audience. See if anyone is willing to try. Ask if they have found the pattern. Then give them an easy one. If they get it, then ask them to keep it a secret. So that others can try.

If they don't get it -- then they just don't and keep going.

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Usually about 50 percent or a little more of your audience is going to lose interest. That is okay. They are just telling you of their personality style. Not all people are created the same. When this happens, try to draw them back in with a hint.

The hint is, "How would you write the number 1 on a piece of paper?" Most will tell you the same that I have written it, as a number "1". But there is another way. I have been writing both ways all throughout this document. Yes, you can also write the number as "one."

Did you figure it out now? In the word "one" there are 3 letters. So, one is 3. Therefore, three is 5 and five is 4 and four can only be 4 because.... "4 is Cosmic!"

Simple solution, long explanation.