



Tree of Knowledge



Mathematicians through the centuries have pondered this important question:

What did the acorn say when he grew up?



$\overline{7} \overline{5} \overline{4} \overline{8} \overline{1} \overline{2} \overline{6} \overline{3}$

To unlock the mystery, match each statement below to a mathematician. Then, place the underlined letter in the blank above that corresponds to the question number. To find the answers, you can search an encyclopedia, the Web, or the Geometry Academy (choose Explore Mode) in [Mighty Math Cosmic Geometry](#).

1. He placed x- and y-axes and an origin over Euclid's plane, thereby creating the Cartesian coordinate system.
2. Using high-speed graphical computers, this mathematician visually explored the area of fractal geometry.
3. This mathematician excelled in geometry and helped advance many of its applications. She was one of the few women in ancient Greece to explore the sciences.
4. Using similar triangles, he calculated the circumference of the earth to within 1% of its actual value.
5. This author of The Elements established the idea of mathematical logic as a method of proof.
6. This mathematician created a table that correlated central angles with arc and chord lengths on a circle. He also estimated the length of the year to within 6.5 minutes of its actual value.
7. A proof was named for this mathematician; it states that the square of the hypotenuse of a right triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the legs.
8. He invented a water pump and found a close approximation for pi by comparing the areas of regular polygons having 96 sides with circles having the same diameter.

Achilles	Eucalyptus	Hypatia
Appalachian	Euclid	Mandelbrot
Archimedes	Hercules	Plato
Descartes	Hipparchus	Pythagoras
Erathosthenes	Hippocrates	Zeus

In [Cosmic Geometry](#), kids can navigate past fractal trees (such as the one above) on Planet Geometry, where they can develop and demonstrate their knowledge of geometry concepts—from angles to z-axes—and their real-world applications.



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