Factor Chains

Write down the factors of 15 (apart from 15): 1, 3, 5, ~~15~~
Add then up: 1 + 3 + 5 = 9

Write down the factors of 9 (apart from 9): 1, 3, ~~9~~
Add them up: 1 + 3 = 4

Write down the factors of 4 (apart from 4): 1, 2, ~~4~~
Add them up: 1 + 2 = 3

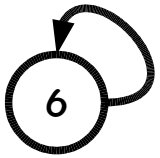
Write down the factors of 3 (apart from 3): 1, ~~3~~
Add them up: 1

We have made a factor chain.

1. What factor chains do you get if you start with
   (a) 14 (b) 18 (c) 17

2. Do you think every chain eventually ends?

3. Six is a perfect number. It links to itself:
   Can you find another perfect number?



4. Can you explain what happens to prime numbers?

Factor Chains

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Add then up: 1 + 3 + 5 = 9

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Add them up: 1 + 3 = 4

Write down the factors of 4 (apart from 4): 1, 2, ~~4~~
Add them up: 1 + 2 = 3

Write down the factors of 3 (apart from 3): 1, ~~3~~
Add them up: 1

We have made a factor chain.

1. What factor chains do you get if you start with
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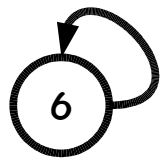

4. Can you explain what happens to prime numbers?

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