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## FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS

 Puzzles with Figuree.

RAINY DAY!" cried Lucy, in tones which one would expect from the discoverer of a new gold mine. "Now, uncle Bob, it's the very day for puzzles, and if you please I choose mathematical ones."
"Well, I do know one more," said Uncle Bob. "Lucy, you may write three figures on your paper."
Obediently Luey wrote down 8, 3, 4, taking eare that her uncle should not see them.
"Now under that write another line of three figures."
So under the 8, 3, 4, Lucy wrote 2 , $9,6$.
"Now pass the paper to Fred, and, Fred, you may write two more rows under Lucy's two rows.
So Fred wrote two more rows of three figures each, and the sum now stood thus:

BESSIE'S


A little party Bessie gave
To all the girls and boys;
They came and brought her presents, In the form of fretty toys.

## 834 296 <br> 296 <br> 165 703

" Don't let me see them," cautioned Uncle Bob. "Fold the paper, to be sure."
So Lucy folded the paper and laid it under a book.
"It's real magic this time," said Uncle Bob, " and you must sit very still until those numbers fix themselves clearly in my brain, and I can add them up."
Luey gazed, fascinated at her uncle, and he stared straight at her, until after a few moments, he said. "Lucy, get up and walk over to that small mirror that hangs by the window."
Lucy did as she was told, and found herself looking into an oval mirror not much larger than her own chubby face.
"Now," said her uncle, still in a mysterious whisper, "breathe slowly but firmly on the looking glass."
Greatly mystified, Lucy breathed on the glass, when to her surprise some figures instantly appeared upon the smooth surface. The figures were 1,998 .
"Where did they come from?" cried Lucy, her eyes wide with wonder.
"It's the answer to your sum," said her uncle. "If you'll pull out your paper from under the book and add the figures yourself I think you will find it et.rreet."

Trembling with excitement, Lucy pulled the paper from beneath the book, and adding up the figures, found that, sure enough, the total was 1,998 .
With comical looks of amazement, she glanced back and forth from the figures on the mirror to those on the paper. "This beats all your other tricks, uncle," she said. "Please show me how to do it."
Lucy sat still and tried the amazing experiment again.
This time her uncle told her to write three rows of three figures each, under one another, bidding Fred write three more rows under hers. So Lucy wrote three rows, and Fred added three rows, with this result :

## 861

243
987
138
756
012
"Don't add them jet," said her uncle but fold the paper, that I may not see it" Again Lucy folded the paper and put RTY.


And Besple very happy was
With all her lovely toys,
And you should juat have seen the spread She gave the girls and boys!
it under a book, while her uncle sat seemingly lost in thought. "At last he said: "Go to the book shelf, Lucy, and take down that copy of 'Robinson Crusoe' and open it at page $100 . "$
Lucy did so, and found in the book at the page mentioned a slip of paper, bearing the figures 2,997 . With a shriek of delight, she ran back for her own paper, added up the figures, and the sum was exactly 2997.
"We'll try once again," said Uncle Bob; "and all of us take a hand in it. Here, I'll write one line myself."
Taking the pencil, Uncle Bob wrote rapidly, $6,234,863$. Passing the paper to Lucy, he bade her write a row beneath it. So under Uncle Bob's figures, Lacy wrote $3,128,491$.
"Your turn next, Fred," sald Uncle Bob, and under the other lines Fred wrote $6,871,508$.
"Fold it up quickly," said Uncle Bob, "and put it under a book, that none of us may see it."
Lucy did so, and waited breathlessly for a magical answer to appear from somewhere.
"I can't do this sum," said Uncle Bob. "You'll have to find the answer yourself, Lucy."
"I?" said Lucy. "Where can I find it without looking at the paper?"
"Look in your pocket," said her uncle. "Don't pretend you havn't it hidden in your pocket!"

