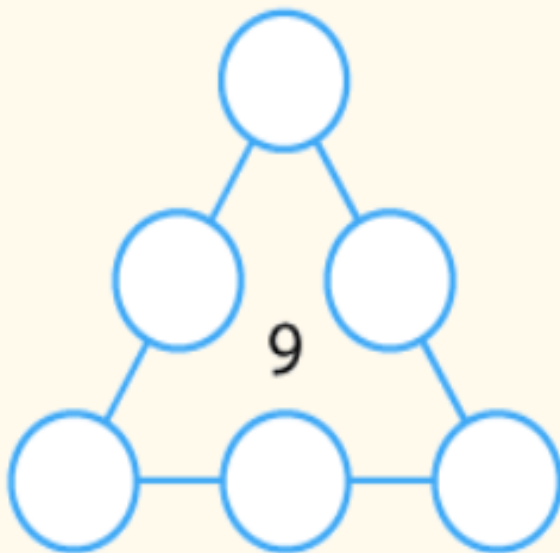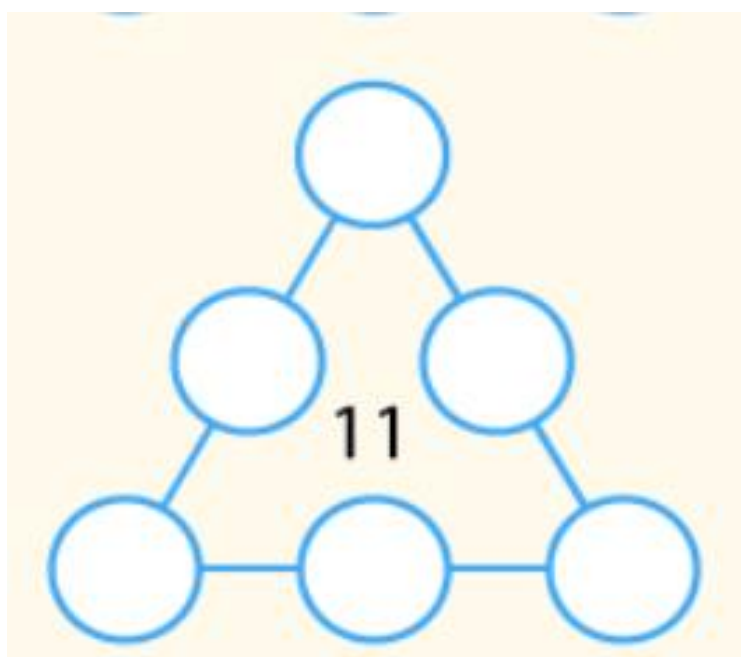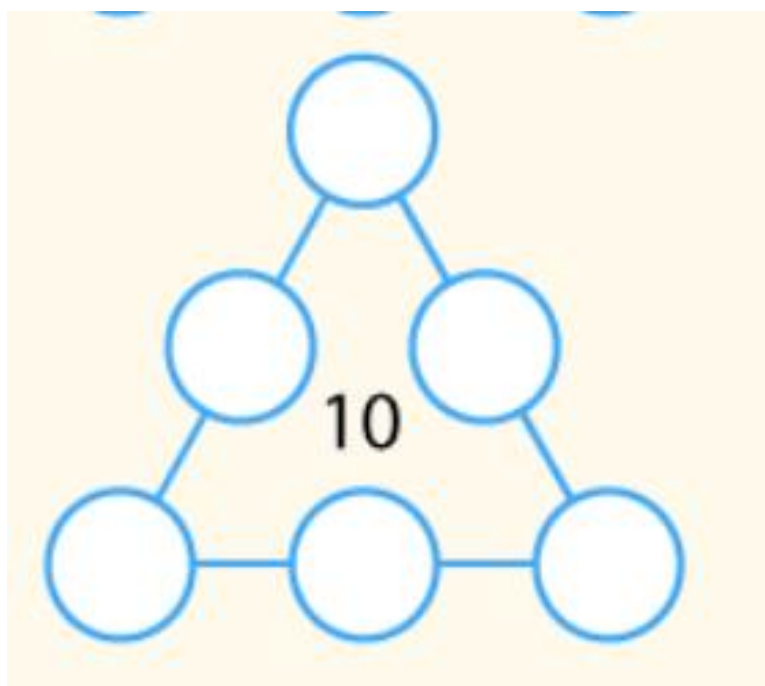# Number round up

Arrange the numbers 1 to 6 in each set of circles below.
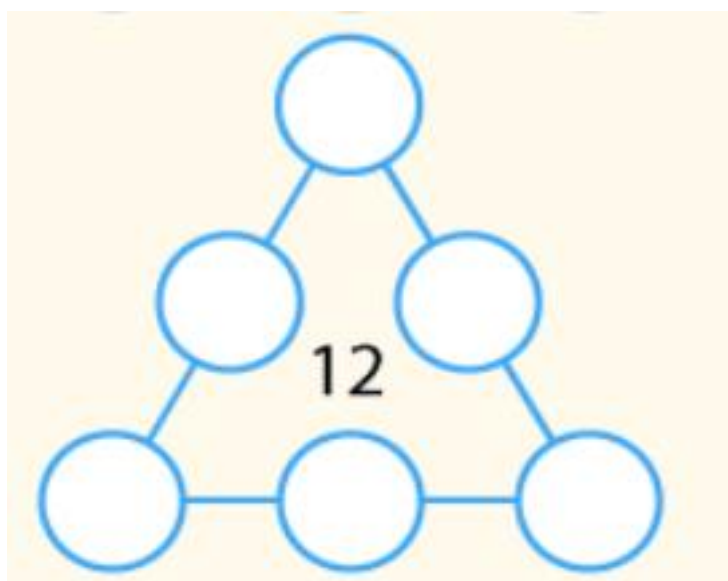
The sum of each side of the triangle should equal the number in the centre of the triangular shape.

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Why do this problem?

This problem is an interesting context in which children can practise addition and subtraction. It can be solved in many different ways and the sample approaches offer a basis for discussion of possible different methods. You might spend a couple of lessons on this activity.

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Key questions

What will you try first?
Why did you put that number there?
Tell me about how you found that solution.
Is there only one solution?

Tell me about this approach. What do you think s/he was doing?
How do you think this will help to solve the problem?
What do you think s/he would have done next?

Possible extension

Children could investigate whether other totals are possible. Why or why not?