Try sorting the question strips based on whether they promote kids’ reasoning or simply require them to perform a task to get an answer.

**Reasoners**

- What sound does “k” make?
- How did you know the mouse was afraid?
- This one is odd, what does that tell you?
- Look at the directions what are you trying to figure out?
- Let’s list all possible digits on the bottom and cross out as we go.
- Start at number 5 because that’s the easiest clue?
- What do you think you need to do to find out?

**Performers**

- How can we keep track of what will and won’t work?

![Image](https://www.flickr.com/photos/thebakkenmuseum/)
Developing Thinkers, Not Performers

https://www.flickr.com/photos/thebakkenmuseum/
A shepherd has 125 sheep and 5 dogs in his flock. How old is the shepherd?

How do you think kids responded to this question?
A shepherd has 125 sheep and 5 dogs in his flock. How old is the shepherd?

78% of 1st/2nd graders computed and gave a numeric answer.
- Ruesser (1986)

84% of 8th graders computed and gave a numeric answer.
- Kaplinsky (2013)

75% of 3rd graders computed and gave a numeric answer.
- Wiernicki (2014)
A Zoo Story

The Bronx Zoo had some penguins and zebras. Then they got some more penguins and some more zebras from another zoo.
Working for the Answers

Is this the answer?

How about now? Is this it?

What about this?

Well then what is the answer?