

PUZZLING CARTOON

- OH, HOW TIME FLIES BY! -



AMAZINGMATHS

The puzzle

Gabrielle complains to her friend Jonathan: "Time goes by so fast! The day before yesterday, I was still 25 years old and next year, I will be 28."

Materials :

- Video of the puzzle
- Sheets of paper
- Pencils
- Calendars of the full year (available in the school agenda)



On what day is Gabrielle's birthday?

Source : 100 casse-tête et problèmes de logique, Larousse, 2011.



PUZZLE SOLUTION



The answer:

We are January 1st and Gabrielle's birthday is December 31st.

Detailed Explanations

The nearest day to "next year" is December 31st. Setting the date for Gabrielle's birthday as late as possible in the year allows her to have two different ages in the last two days of the year and for the next year be the day after her birthday! So, everything happens on three consecutive days (from December 30th to January 1st).

Gabrielle's birthday is December 31st and the day before, the 30th, she is 25 years old. So, on December 31st, she celebrates her 26th birthday.

The statement says that she is 25 years old the day before yesterday: the day before yesterday is December 30th, and today is then January 1st.

On January 1st, she is still 26 years old, but she will turn 27 on December 31st of the same year. And on December 31st of the next year, she will be 28 years old. She can then state that she will be 28 years old next year!