

# 8.EE Orders of Magnitude

## Task

It is said that the average person blinks about 1000 times an hour. This is an *order-of-magnitude* estimate, that is, it is an estimate given as a power of ten. Consider:

- 100 blinks per hour, which is about two blinks per minute.
- 10,000 blinks per hour, which is about three blinks per second.

Neither of these are reasonable estimates for the number of blinks a person makes in an hour. Make order-of-magnitude estimates for each of the following:

- a. Your age in hours.
- b. The number of breaths you take in a year.
- c. The number of heart beats in a lifetime.
- d. The number of basketballs that would fill your classroom.

Can you think of others questions like these?



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