

31 Three monkeys

There are 10 possibilities:

1, 3, 21	3, 5, 17
1, 5, 19	3, 7, 15
1, 7, 17	3, 9, 13
1, 9, 15	5, 7, 13
1, 11, 13	5, 9, 11

What if the monkeys ate 24 nuts, with each of them eating a different even number of nuts?

The possible answers are:

2, 4, 18	4, 6, 14
2, 6, 16	4, 8, 12
2, 8, 14	6, 8, 10
2, 10, 12	

32 Card tricks

Systematic working helps to make sure that all possibilities have been considered.

Four different cards with a total of 20 are:

1, 4, 7, 8	2, 3, 7, 8	3, 4, 5, 8
1, 5, 6, 8	2, 4, 6, 8	3, 4, 6, 7
	2, 5, 6, 7	

Three different cards with a total of 16 are:

1, 7, 8	2, 6, 8	3, 5, 8	4, 5, 7
		3, 6, 7	

You could try other totals. For example, four cards with a total of 18 are:

1, 2, 7, 8	2, 3, 6, 7	3, 4, 5, 6
1, 3, 6, 8	2, 4, 5, 7	
1, 4, 5, 8		
1, 4, 6, 7		

Explore the different totals that can be made with four cards. (It is possible to make any total from 10 to 26.)