

Using Microsoft Excel to solve the Jinx Puzzle

Instructions:

- ✓ Please do not write on these directions so that other classes may use them
- ✓ Follow the directions step by step and they will guide you to completing a spreadsheet that allows you to try any number you want in the Jinx Puzzle and determine the answer.

Directions:

1. Open Microsoft Excel and create a new workbook.
2. In box A4, type "pick a number".
3. In box A5, type "add 11"
4. In box D4, type "=D4+11". Once you type enter, the computer will perform the calculation for you; adding 11 to whatever number is in box D4. Try a couple different numbers and see if it works correctly.

	A	B	C	D
1				
2				
3	Pick a number ----->			=D3+11
4	Add 11			
5				

5. Next type "multiply by 6" in box A6; followed by typing "D5*6" in box D6.
6. Continue down the column until you have type in the correct steps and correct formulas to the puzzle as shown in the box below.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	The Jinx			#1	#2
2					
3	Pick a number ----->				
4	Add 11			=D3+11	
5	multiply by 6			=D4*6	
6	subtract 3			=D5-3	
7	divide by 3			=D6/3	
8	Add 5			=D7+5	
9	Divide by 2			=D8/2	
10	Subtract the original number				

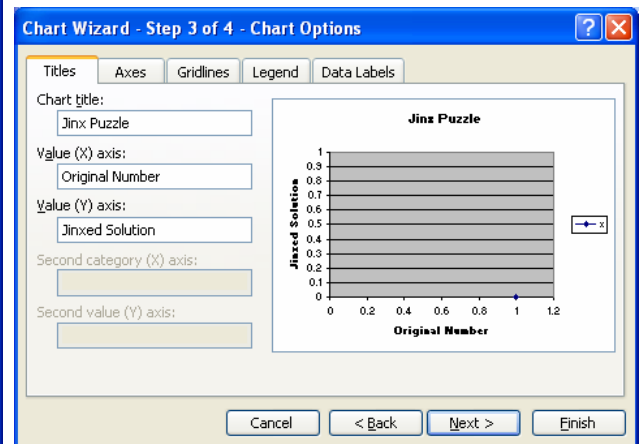
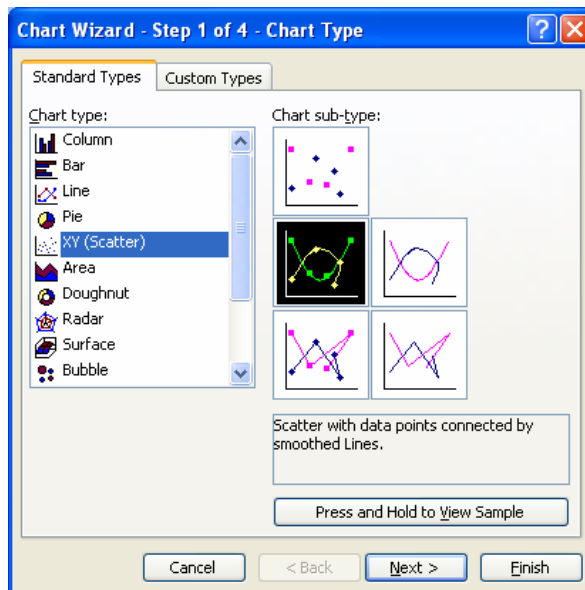
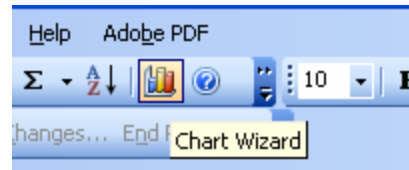
7. Once you have completed your spreadsheet, test the original number you tried before. Since you know the answer, this is a good method for double checking your work. If you do not get the same answer as you had before, look for mistakes and then ask your teacher for some help troubleshooting.
8. Now that your spreadsheet is working, try various numbers to see what answer you get. Specifically try at least 5 numbers.

Now you want to make a graph of your answers:

- Organize your data somewhere else on the spreadsheet so that you have your original number and solution side by side. The “x” represents the various number you tried, “y” represents the answer using the Jinx Puzzle. Highlight the data you have entered.

14	Original number	Solution
15	x	y
16	x	y
17	x	y
18	x	y
19	x	y
20		

- Then Click the Chart wizard and select and XY Scatter plot. Next, title the graph and label axes correctly.



- Lastly we need an equation of the line. Can you tell me what it is? Watch as the instructor shows you how to use Excel to figure it out.

12.

13.