

Peaches Today…Peaches Tomorrow

**(i)** A little monkey had 60 peaches.

On the **first** day he decided to keep **3/4** of his peaches.  
He gave the rest away. Then he ate one.

On the **second** day he decided to keep **7/11** of his peaches.  
He gave the rest away. Then he ate one.

On the **third** day he decided to keep **5/9** of his peaches.  
He gave the rest away. Then he ate one.

On the **fourth** day he decided to keep **2/7** of his peaches.  
He gave the rest away. Then he ate one.

On the **fifth** day he decided to keep **2/3** of his peaches.  
He gave the rest away. Then he ate one.

How many did he have left at the end?

**(ii)** A little monkey had **75** peaches.

Each day, he kept a fraction of his peaches, gave the rest away, and then ate one.  
These are the fractions he decided to ***keep:***

**1/2,1/4,3/4,3/5,5/6,11/15**  
In which order did he use the fractions so that he was left with just one peach at the end?

**(iii)** Peach Rationing  
  
Whenever the monkey has peaches, he always keeps a fraction of them each day, gives the rest away, and then eats one.

I wonder how long he could make his peaches last for?

Here are his rules:

* Each fraction must be in its simplest form and must be less than 1.
* The denominator is never the same as the number of peaches left (for example, if there were 45 peaches left, he would not be allowed to keep 44/45 of them).

Can you start with fewer than 100 peaches and choose fractions so that there is at least one peach left after a week?

**http://nrich.maths.org/**