MASTERING MATHEMATICS WITH PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

SKE+ Learning together through Problem Solving

An invitation to do some mathematics

Strand F Algebra – F6. Solving Inequalities

Three bags of sweets



Brian, Bella and Bryony were each given a bag of sweets by their mother. She told them not to eat them all at once and that she would check back later.

When she came back an hour later, she asked them how many sweets they had.

Brian looked blank and said, “I don’t know.”

Bella said, “I know I’ve got twice as many as Brian.”

Bryony said, “Well I’ve got three more than Bella.”

“That’s very interesting,” Mum said. “I know each bag contained 16 sweets to start with, so I can draw some conclusions.”

What conclusions could Mum draw?

What difference does it make if Brian says “Actually I have got at least 5 left?”