INVESTIGATING THE ZERO ${ }^{\text {th }}$ POWER

## SOLUTIONS

TASK $1 \quad$ Follow the powers of 2

| $2^{0}$ | $2^{1}$ | $2^{2}$ | $2^{3}$ | $2^{4}$ | $2^{5}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 |

So what is the value of $2^{0}$ ? 1

TASK 2 Follow the powers of 3

| $3^{0}$ | $3^{1}$ | $3^{2}$ | $3^{3}$ | $3^{4}$ | $3^{5}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 3 | 9 | 27 | 81 | 243 |

According to your investigation, $3^{0}$ must equal 1.

TASK $3 \quad$ Use the rule for dividing numbers with the same base
$y^{3} \div y^{3}=y^{0}$ Subtract the indices and leave the base the same.
But when you divide a number by itself the answer is always 1 .
Therefore, $y^{3} \div y^{3}=1$
So if $y^{3} \div y^{3}=y^{0}$ and $y^{3} \div y^{3}=1$, then $y^{0}=1$.

## TASK $4 \quad$ Write a conclusion

Any number to the power of zero equals 1 .
Using algebra, you can write your conclusion as $y^{0}=1$.

