Areas of Knowledge: Mathematics

Knowledge Question: How does intuition relate to our understanding of math?

Human Perception of Numbers

    a. If the 1 inch line below represented the height of a stack of $1 million, how big would a stack of $1 trillion be?

       |--------------|

    b. On the line below, where should the number 1,000 go?

    |---|

    1   1,000
                                               ,000

Consider the following situations:

- I will walk a block away from school to get a can of seltzer for $1 rather than spend $1.50 but when I paid a restaurant bill, I didn't think twice about whether I spent $20 or $21 on a $100 bill.
- When I was in middle school or elementary school, each year of my life seemed so meaningful but in my 30s, this no longer feels like it is the case.
- When I was cooking last night, I used one pound of ground beef and not two but when adding black peppercorns, I just grabbed a bunch of 20 or so and it didn't matter whether it was 23 or 18.

What do these situations tell us about how sense of numbers.

Read and discuss *A Natural Log: Our Innate Sense of* Numbers is Logarithmic, Not Linear

What does this article tell us about our innate perception of numbers and quantities?

Why would we perceive numbers this way?