Maths Week Ireland

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BE LOGICAL!

Three boxes are respectively labelled Apples, Bananas and Combo. One does indeed contain only apples, another only bananas, and the third is a combination of both fruits. However, all three boxes are mislabelled. You are allowed to reach into one box -- no peeking and no feeling around -- and extract one piece of fruit. From that you must deduce the correct labelling for all three boxes. What should you do, and why?

MATHS WEEK IRELAND 15TH - 22ND OCTOBER 2011

As George Boole knew only too well, maths is fundamental to almost every aspect of our lives. Whether as a subject of study, or simply as a tool to deal with everyday tasks - Maths Week will bring home the importance of maths in fun and relevant ways. Get Involved (and check your answer) at www.mathsweek.ie

George Boole - Your mobile phone, computer, IPod, MP3 Player and your car, washing machine all use mathematics that I developed

George Boole, born Lincoln England 1815, and died in Cork 1864. A self-educated man from a modest background, he became professor of maths at Queen's College, now University College Cork where he developed Boolean algebra. He believed that logical arguments could be expressed in maths and his mathematics became the system by which all digital computers work. Boole's wife Mary was an influential educational psychologist and they had three daughters who, despite the restrictions at the time, excelled in maths, science and literature. For more information on George Boole, visit www.mathsweek.ie

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