



Long ago in ancient Greece, there lived a curious boy named Pythagoras.

Pythagoras just couldn't help poking his nose into places. Sometimes, his curiosity got him in trouble, but sometimes it paid off.

One day, Pythagoras sat in the shade of an old olive tree. He could see the harbor and the sparkling blue sea around the island where he lived.

Nearby, two workmen were building a temple. They began to argue. "This ladder is too short to reach the roof," Pepros grumbled.

"That's not possible," said Saltos. "The wall is 12 feet tall, so I made the ladder 12 feet long."

Pepros roared, "The ladder only reaches the roof when it is flat against the wall, and then no one can climb it! This is as bad as the columns on the porch!"

Pythagoras poked his head out from behind the tree. "What's wrong with the columns?" he asked.