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  Program description: This program takes a user input integer from the command
  line and applies the Collatz conjecture to it. A first child process is forked
   for this. A second child adds 4 to the userInput and also applies the
   Collatz conjecture
  Task 2: What I've been taught is that these processes are non deterministic,
  and there is no way you can predict in which order the processes will
  finish/complete. The scheduler controls this function. Curiously when I run
  this application on a Mac child 1 always completely executes before child 2
  starts. On Ocelot I ran the application approximately 200 times now and there is
  definitely randomness in the outcomes in how the processes concurrently
  run. Child 2 mostly completes after child 1. Child1 mostly initiates first, and
  completes first. There have been instances (thought rare) where child 2 has
  initiated first and completed first. So there is some randomness in that.
#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int q = 0; // Global variable to omit first userMessage as per project example output
int userMessage(int child, int number)
  printf("From child%d: number = %d\n", child, number);
  return 0;
// collatz conjecture recursive method
int collatz(int processNumber, int n)
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if (q > 0)
    userMessage(processNumber, n);
  q++;
  if (n == 1)
    return 0;
  else
    if (n % 2 == 0)
    {
       return collatz(processNumber, n / 2);
    else
    {
       return collatz(processNumber, 3 * n + 1);
  }
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
  pid_t pid1, pid2;
  extern char *optarg;
  extern int optind;
  int userInput = 0;
  int n = 0; // child 1 variable
  int n2 = 0; // child 2 variable
  if (optind < argc)
                                // these are the arguments after the command-line options
    for (; optind < argc; optind++) // work through the command line options
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userInput = atoi(argv[optind]); // save comand line option to userInput
// Project parameters call for a user entered integer between 1 and 39
if (userInput <= 0 || userInput >= 40)
  printf("Please enter an integer between 1 and 39.\n");
  exit(0);
}
printf("\ncollatz%d\n\n", userInput);
// fork a child process
pid1 = fork();
// error occured
if (pid1 < 0)
  fprintf(stderr, "Fork failed");
  return 1;
// child process 1
else if (pid1 == 0)
  n = userInput;
  printf("From child1, pid=%d, init: number=%d\n", getpid(), n);
  // apply Collatz conjecture
  collatz(1, n);
  printf("From child1, pid=%d I'm done!\n", getpid());
// child process 2
else
  pid2 = fork();
  if (pid2 < 0)
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fprintf(stderr, "Fork failed");
     return 1;
  else if (pid2 == 0)
  {
     n2 = userInput + 4;
     printf("From child2, pid=%d, init: number=%d\n", getpid(), n2);
    // apply Collatz conjecture
     collatz(2, n2);
    printf("From child2, pid=%d I'm done!\n", getpid());
  }
  // parent process
  else
  {
     wait(NULL);
     wait(NULL);
     printf("All my children Complete\n\n");
}
return 0;
```