

5. Prove that for any integer n , at least one of the integers $n, n+2, n+4$ is divisible by 3

Theorem: Prove that for any integer n , at least one of the integers $n, n+2, n+4$ is divisible by 3.

Proof: By induction.

$n=1$ n , 1 is not divisible by 3

$n+2$, 3 is divisible by 3

$n+4$, 5 is not divisible by 3

Assume n is true. Then $n, n+2$ or $n+4$ is divisible by 3. You can write one of them as that as $3m$, where m is an integer. Now, our number n must leave a remainder of either 0, 1, or 2 when divided by 3, so it can be written as either $3m, 3m+1$, or $3m+2$ for some m (the quotient)

So we have three cases:

n	$n+2$	$n+4$
$3m$	$3m+2$	$3m+4$
$3m+1$	$3m+3$	$3m+5$
$3m+2$	$3m+4$	$3m+6$

At least one of the integers $n, n+2, n+4$ is divisible by 3.

So, let's proof now that $n+1$ is true

$(n+1)$	$(n+1)+2$	$(n+1)+4$
$3m+1$	$3m+3$	$3m+5$
$3m+2$	$3m+4$	$3m+6$
$3m+3$	$3m+5$	$3m+7$

For $n+1$ at least one of the integers $(n+1), (n+1)+2, (n+1)+4$ is divisible by 3, so $n+1$ is true . This proves the theorem.