

The Santos Family Vacation (page 1 of 2)

Ms. Santos is a third-grade teacher. Last summer she took her children, Keisha and Edwin, to visit their grandparents. Ms. Santos set the car's trip meter at 0 before leaving. After driving 36 miles, the family stopped at the Pinecrest Diner for lunch.

Ms. Santos didn't want to stop again, but an hour after leaving the diner, she noticed that the gas gauge was almost on empty. She pulled into the next gas station. The trip meter read 79 miles.

"Keisha," said Ms. Santos, "I have a math problem for you."

Keisha had been waiting for this moment. "Okay, Mom. I'm ready," she replied, looking at her brother and trying not to giggle.

"When we stopped at the diner for lunch, the trip meter showed that we had traveled 36 miles. Now the number on the trip meter is 79. How far did we travel from the diner to the gas station?"

Keisha closed her eyes and thought about this question. "I know! I know that we've traveled . . ."

Unfortunately, Keisha's answer was drowned out by the sound of a driver starting the engine of a huge tractor trailer.