nrich
enriching mathematics

Think of Two Numbers

Think of two whole numbers under 10.
Take one of them and add 1.
Multiply by 5.
Add 1 again.
Double your answer.
Subtract 1.
Add your second number.
Add 2.
Double again.
Subtract 8.
Halve this number and tell me your answer.

From your answer I can
work out both your
numbers very quickly.

How?

Try with different numbers
until you see how it works
and then you're ready to
amaze your friends!