GRADES 3-8 · VISUAL SUPPORTS COLLECTION

EDITABLE

Brain Teasers Task Cards



38 PAGES | 40 PUZZLE CARDS | ANSWER KEY | GRADES 3-8

✦ BRIGHT PATH SPED

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☆ START HERE Start Here — Three Steps

1

Print and cut

Print the worksheets (pages 6–13): a worked example, a puzzle helper, Number Detective with 4 patterns, a logic grid, a word lab with 4 scrambles, a thinking space, a make-your-own riddle page and a class graph.

Print the puzzle cards (pages 15–19) and cut them apart: 2 across, 4 rows, so each cut is one straight line. 40 cards in all: 5 kinds of 8.

2

Read, think, try, check

Start with Try One Together (page 6). Then read a card out loud, give think time, and let students write a guess on their answer sheet (page 21).

The answer key is on pages 27–29. Keep it with you. The puzzle time plan is on page 25; hints that are not answers are on page 26.

3

Log it, roll it up, send it home

One row on the log (page 31) for each card: the card number, how many tried it, how many solved it on their own and how many with a hint.

Total the week on the roll-up (page 32). Send the family page (page 34) home; the hand-off page (page 35) goes to any other adult.

WHAT THIS FILE IS

A fillable PDF: 40 brain teaser cards in 5 kinds (riddles, logic puzzles, think-sideways puzzles, number patterns and word puzzles), 8 blank cards, worksheets with room to work, a three-page answer key, and the log, roll-up, family and hand-off pages, with type-in fields on the name lines, the answer sheets, the writing lines, the grid, the log and the blank cards. It works offline with no account and prints the same on every machine.

WHAT THIS FILE IS NOT

It is not an editable online slideshow or word-processor document, and it is not a curriculum, an assessment, a counseling program or a clinical procedure. It follows no named method and promises no outcome; it gives a class puzzles to think about, talk about and check.

WHICH PAGE, WHEN

YOUR SITUATION	GO TO
I want puzzle cards to cut and read	Pages 15–19
I want the answers	Answer key, pages 27–29
I want a worksheet with room to work	Pages 6–13
A student is stuck	Hints, page 26
A student wants to write a riddle of their own	Page 12; blank cards, page 20
Another adult takes over	Hand-off, page 35

IF SOMETHING DOES NOT WORK

A field will not hold my typing. Open the file in Adobe Acrobat Reader (free) or Preview, not a browser tab. **A student found another answer.** If it fits every clue, it is a good answer; the key lists the other answers it accepts, and the **Ask a Question** tab on the product page reaches me. **Confidentiality:** a filled-in log with student names is a student record — initials only on anything that leaves your hands.

EXAMPLE

Try One Together

SAMPLE · INVENTED STUDENT

My name _____ **Today** _____

☆ **See how it works. Then you try.**



What has four legs and a back, but cannot walk?

1

Read it twice.

Say it out loud. Listen for every word.

2

Find the clues.

four legs · a back · cannot walk

3

Make a guess.

Sam guesses a chair.

4

Check every clue.

A chair has four legs and a back, and it cannot walk. It fits all three clues!

Sam is made up. Some puzzles have more than one good answer. Now you try a card.

PRACTICE

Number Detective

My name _____ **Today** _____

Find the rule. Write the next two numbers.

1 5 8 11 14 17 → ☐ ☐

My rule: _____

2 3 6 12 24 48 → ☐ ☐

My rule: _____

3 50 45 40 35 30 → ☐ ☐

My rule: _____

4 1 2 4 7 11 → ☐ ☐

My rule: _____

PRACTICE

Logic Grid

My name _____ **Today** _____

Use the clues. Fill the grid. Who has which pet?

Three friends each have one pet.

1. **Ana does not have the dog.**
2. **Cy does not have the cat.**
3. **Ben does not have the fish.**
4. **Ana does not have the fish.**

	 dog	 cat	 fish
Ana			
Ben			
Cy			

Make an X where a pet does not fit. Make a check where it does.

Ana has the _____

Ben has the _____

Cy has the _____

Ana, Ben and Cy are made up.

CARDS

Cards 1–8: Riddles

Cut the cards. Pick one. Think. Write my answer.

1 Riddles

What has hands but cannot clap?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

2 Riddles

What gets wetter the more it dries?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

3 Riddles

What has a neck but no head?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

4 Riddles

What has keys but cannot open a door?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

5 Riddles

What goes up when the rain comes down?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

6 Riddles

What has an eye but cannot see?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

7 Riddles

What has teeth but cannot bite?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

8 Riddles

I am tall when I am young and short when I am old. What am I?

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

CARDS Cards 25–32: Number Patterns

Cut the cards. Pick one. Think. Write my answer.

25 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

4, 8, 12, 16, 20, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

26 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

2, 4, 8, 16, 32, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

27 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

1, 4, 9, 16, 25, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

28 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

29 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

3, 6, 5, 10, 9, 18, 17, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

30 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

1, 3, 6, 10, 15, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

31 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

100, 90, 81, 73, 66, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

32 Number Patterns

What number comes next?

2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, ___

Write my answer on my answer sheet.

REFERENCE

Answer Key 1

CARD	KIND	ANSWER	WHY IT FITS
1	Riddle	A clock	The hands of a clock point, but they cannot clap.
2	Riddle	A towel	A towel dries you and gets wet.
3	Riddle	A bottle	Also accept a shirt or a guitar.
4	Riddle	A piano	Also accept a keyboard.
5	Riddle	An umbrella	You lift it up when rain falls.
6	Riddle	A needle	Also accept a storm (the eye of a storm).
7	Riddle	A comb	Also accept a zipper or a saw.
8	Riddle	A candle	Also accept a pencil.
9	Logic	Cy	Order: Ana, Ben, Cy. Cy is last.
10	Logic	9 sheep	“All but 9” means 9 stay.
11	Logic	Blue	Red and green must be on the two ends.
12	Logic	Dot	Order: Dot, Eli, Fay.
13	Logic	A quarter and a nickel	25 + 5 = 30. The quarter is not a nickel.
14	Logic	They weigh the same	Both are one pound.
15	Logic	5 cents	5 + 105 = 110, and 105 is 100 more than 5.
16	Logic	All 12	Every month has at least 28 days.

Cards 1–16: riddles and logic puzzles. Every logic answer was worked out by listing every possible order or total.

TRACKER

Weekly Roll-Up and Graph

CLASS OR GROUP

GOAL (YOUR OWN WORDING)

CRITERION (YOUR TEAM SETS IT)

#	WEEK OF	CARDS USED	TRIES	ON THEIR OWN	WITH A HINT	PERCENT SOLVED	NOTES
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							

PERCENT OF TRIES SOLVED · ONE DOT PER WEEK, THEN DRAW THE LINE



FIGURING THE PERCENT

From the log (page 31): add the Tried it column over the week for tries. Add On their own plus With a hint for solved. Solved divided by tries, times 100, rounded to the nearest whole number.

BRINGING THIS PAGE TO A MEETING

The criterion field is where your own number goes, so every dot is read against the same line. This page counts what is plotted; it does not decide what a flat line means.