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Preparing the Cards

To create Brain Teaser Cards, choose the card size that you require and print on cardstock or print on paper and laminate. To create worksheets just print a page of mini cards.

using the Brain Teaser Cards

Try using the Brain Teasers in different ways until you find the approach that best meets your needs and the needs of your students.

- **Individuals** can work on the Brain Teasers attempting to find an answer by themselves.
- Students can work in pairs. This encourages peer tutoring and also cooperation. Students also have the opportunity to communicate mathematical concepts and explain their reasoning and strategies. Each pair must give one agreed upon solution which means that they are required to convince their partner that they are correct.
- Small groups can be given the Brain Teasers to solve and then encouraged to
 provide just one agreed upon answer for each. This method develops group
 skills, cooperation and communication of mathematical concepts as students
 explain their reasoning and strategies.

The following are different suggestions for incorporating Math Brain Teasers into your classroom routine.

Daily Challenge

Each day, a Brain Teaser can be used to introduce math time. This is an engaging way to start each lesson. A daily Brain Teaser can also be used in the following way. Choose one brain teaser for each day. Introduce it at the start of the day and allow students to work on it in their own time or when they finish work early. At the end of the day solve it as a group and those who have the correct answer can go on the Puzzler Champ of the Day chart or they can be given a small prize.

Math Centers

These cards are ideal for a math center activity. 4 - 7 cards can be put out at a time. Some students may require some discussion about the Brain Teasers before attempting to solve them while others may be expected to read and understand the problem being presented without any discussion.

Display on SmartBoard

The cards can be projected onto your SmartBoard for your whole class to read. This can be done with the large cards so that two Brain Teasers are displayed at a time or with the small cards so that six Brain Teasers are displayed at a time.

Charts

Print the large sized Brain Teasers and then enlarge on a photocopier. This can then be displayed as a chart for viewing by a group or whole class.

whole Class Lessons

Display chart sized Brain Teasers for the whole class to view. Discuss the Brain Teasers discussing the meaning and clarifying what is being asked. Allow students time to work out the answer either individually, in pairs or in a small group. Then ask students to share the strategies they have used and work through the problem together. Allow students to offer different strategies that they may have used and discuss which are the most appropriate.

Brain Teasers of the week

Select 3 Brain Teasers to be the Puzzlers of the week. These can be introduced on a Monday. Students can then work on them in their own time or when they finish work early. At the end of the week, discuss the Brain Teasers and solve them as a class, discussing strategies that were used. Any student who solves all 3 can be rewarded with a certificate or a prize or they can be named the Puzzlers Champ of the week.

Brain Teasers Lucky Draw

Select an extra challenging Brain Teaser to be the challenge for the day or week. Once students have an answer they write the answer and their name on a piece of paper and enter it into the draw for the day/week. Solve the Brain Teaser together as a class, discussing strategies and then draw out entries, until a correct answer is found and the winner is selected. The winner can be the Champ of the Day/Week.

Brain Teaser Competition

Have a competition to see who can solve the most Brain Teasers in an allocated time e.g. 20 minutes. Display 4 or more Brain Teasers on cards, charts or the Smartboard. Students could also be given a sheet of the mini cards with each student having a copy of the own. Students can work individually, in pairs or in small groups, trying to solve as many Brain Teaser as possible in the allotted time. Discuss and solve them as a class after the time has expired.

I would like to wish you and your students, lots of fun and lots of learning whichever way you choose to use the Math Brain Teasers!

Teresa



Three friends have all been collecting shells.

Bree has twice as many as Dylan. Ashley has one more than Bree. Dylan has 12 shells.

List the three friends in order from who has the least shells to who has the most. How many does each person have?







Math Brain Teasers Freebie

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B Favorite numbers

Bella has several favorite numbers. Read the clues to work out what they are.

- Each one is an odd number.
- Each one has two digits.
- The sum of the digits is 6.

What are Bella's favorite numbers?

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In a Circle

A number of children are standing in a circle.

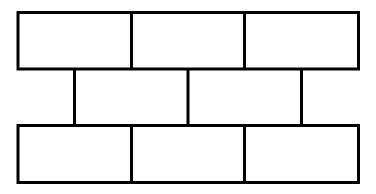
If the 5th person is opposite the 13th person, how many people are in the circle?

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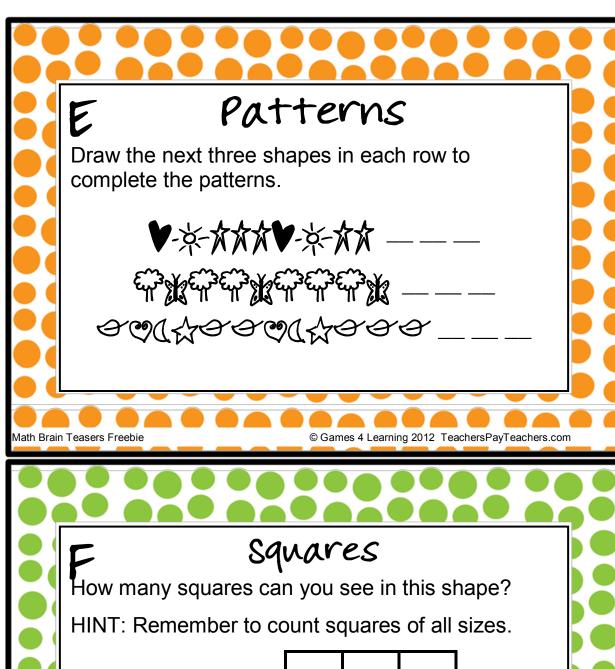
3 Colors

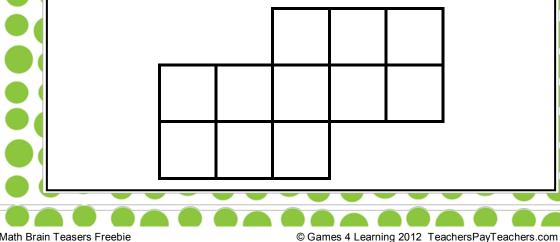
Can you color the bricks using 3 different colors, so that no 2 bricks of the same color are touching?

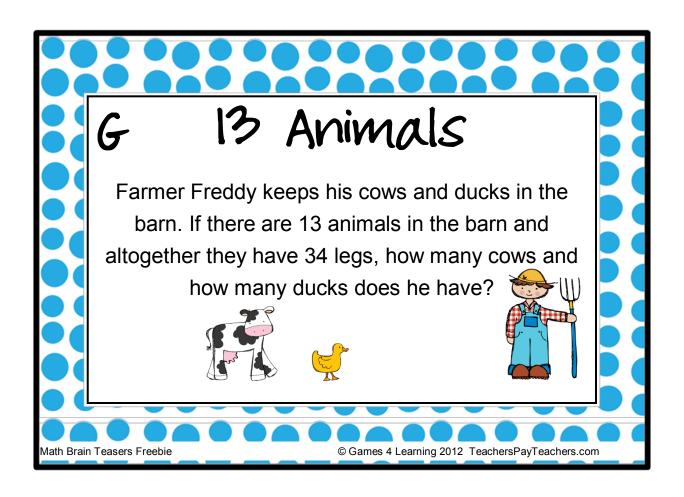


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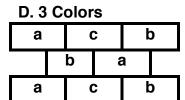


Answers

A. Who Has the Most Shells? Dylan(12), Bree(24), Ashely(25)

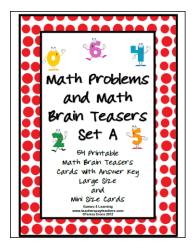
B. Favorite Numbers 15, 33, 51

C. In a Circle 16 Children



G. 13 Animals 4 cows 9 ducks

I hope you enjoy using these Math Brain Teasers. More Math Brain Teasers are available in

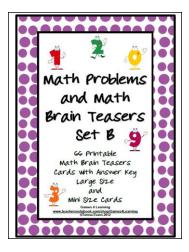


Math Problems and Math Brain Teasers Set A

54 Math Brain Teasers Cards
in 2 different formats
— large size 2 to a sheet and
- mini size 6 to a sheet ideal as a worksheet

The fun way to math skills, thinking skills and problem skills.

<u>www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Math-Problems-and-Math-Brain-</u> Teasers-Cards-Set-A



Math Problems and Math Brain Teasers Set B

66 Math Brain Teasers Cards
in 2 different formats
– large size 2 to a sheet and
- mini size 6 to a sheet ideal as a worksheet

The fun way to math skills, thinking skills and problem skills.

<u>www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Math-Problems-and-Math-Brain-Teasers-Cards-Set-B</u>

