

Teacher
Timesaver

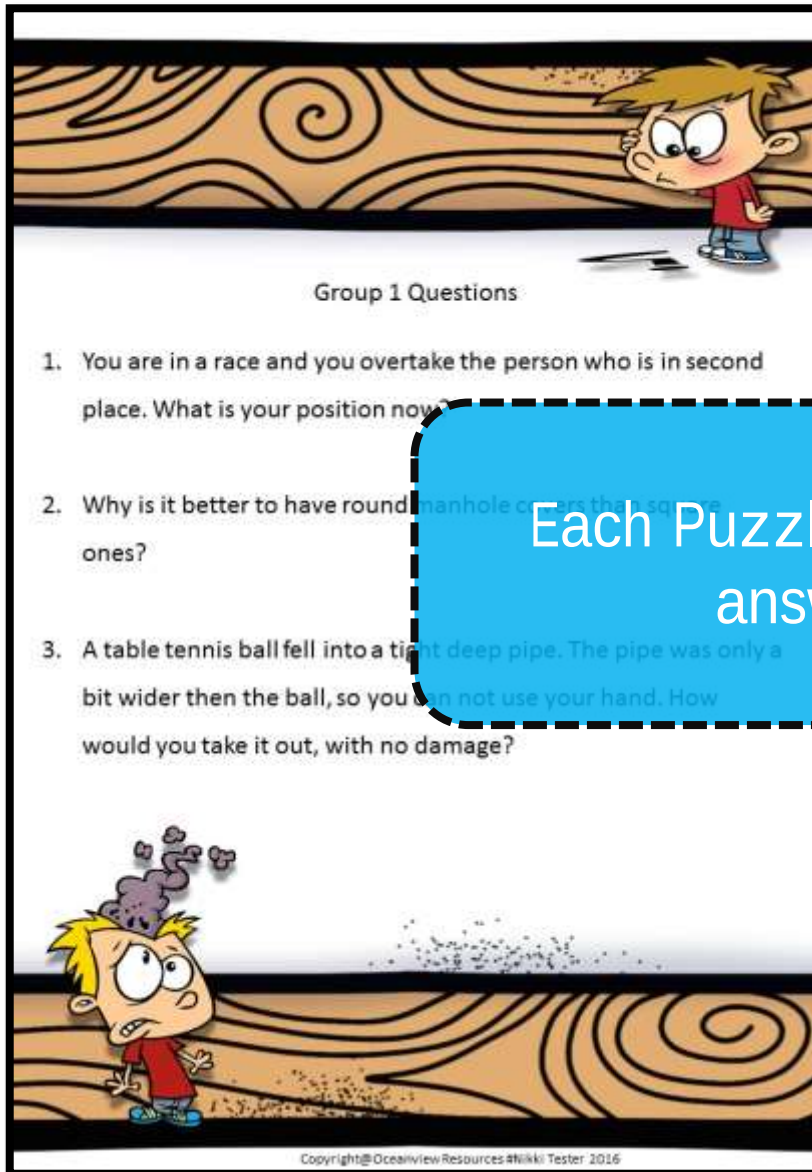
Lateral Thinking Puzzles

Compiled by Nikki Tester
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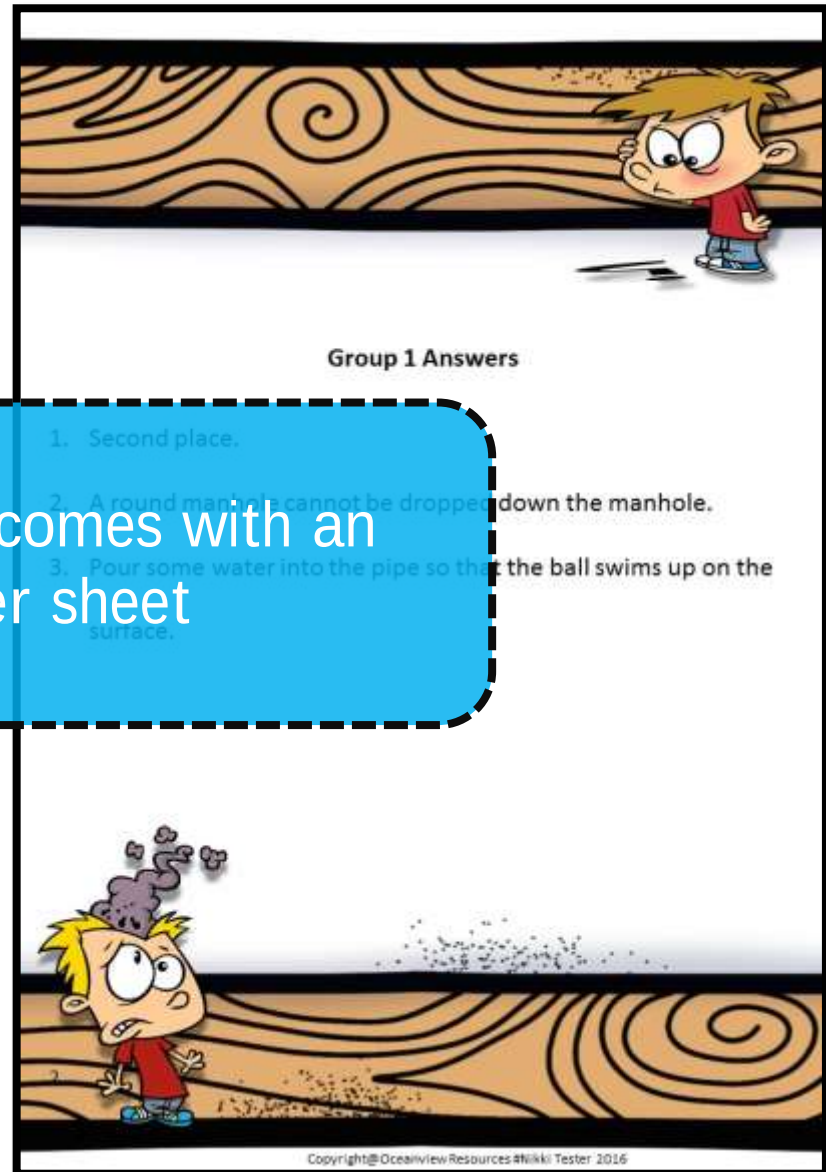
What is in this resource

- 30 pages of activities to challenge your students and get them thinking. They can be used on the IWB as extension activities, or starter ideas.
Students love these and when they figure out the puzzle before anyone else.....they have to keep it a secret.
That is part of the fun.
- Great for explanation activity too where students have to describe what they see, or how they arrive at the answer to the problem.
- These are always a great hit with my students



Group 1 Questions

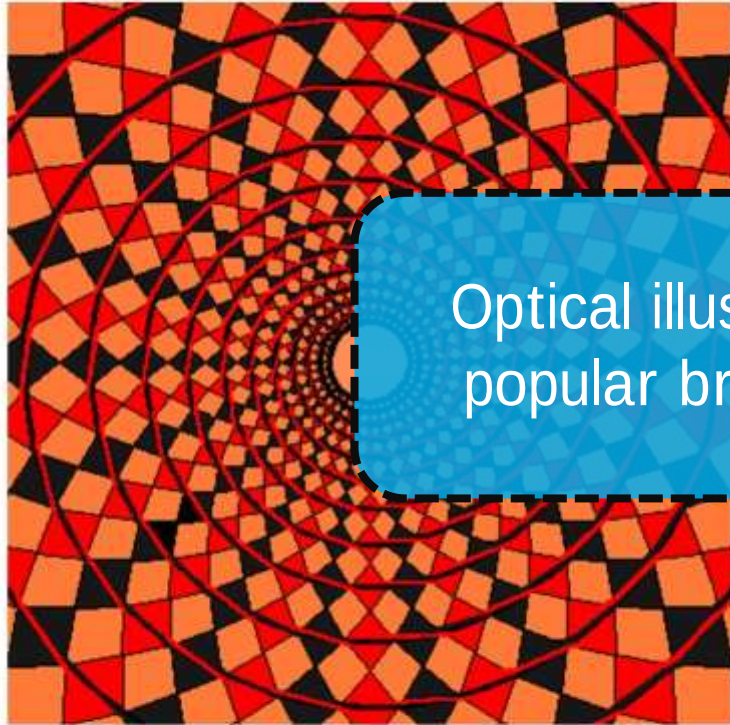
1. You are in a race and you overtake the person who is in second place. What is your position now?
2. Why is it better to have round manhole covers than square ones?
3. A table tennis ball fell into a tight deep pipe. The pipe was only a bit wider than the ball, so you can not use your hand. How would you take it out, with no damage?



Group 1 Answers

1. Second place.
2. A round manhole cannot be dropped down the manhole.
3. Pour some water into the pipe so that the ball swims up on the surface.

What do you see?



Circle or Spiral?

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What do you see?



Rabbit or duck?

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Optical illusions are always a popular brain break activity

Group 5 Questions

1. A truck is 10 cm taller than a tunnel it wants to go through. How can the truck pass through the tunnel?
2. Complete the X grid

6	7	8	2
2			
3			
0			

3. Anthony and Cleopatra are lying dead on the floor of a room. Nearby is a broken bowl. There is no mark on either of their bodies and they were not poisoned. How did they die?

Group 2 Questions

1. Jake was standing on one side of the river, and his dog Scruffy was standing on the other side. "Come on Scruffy, come, boy!" shouted Jake. Scruffy crossed the river, ran to Jake, and got a treat for being a good dog. The amazing thing was that Scruffy didn't even get wet! How did Scruffy do that?
2. Which numbers is the odd ones out in this row and why?

14 42 15 72 29 32

3. A man was outside taking a walk, when it started to rain. The man didn't have an umbrella and he wasn't wearing a hat. His clothes got soaked, yet not a single hair on his head got wet. How could this happen?

Group 3 Questions

1. All of Jenny's pets are dogs except one. All of her pets are cats except one. How many cats and dogs does Jenny have?
2. Five stones, a carrot and a scarf are lying on the lawn. Nobody put them on the lawn but there is a perfectly logical reason why they should be there. What is it?
3. Study the first 2 circles in each row and complete the 3rd one. Describe the rule

Group 4 Questions

1. All insects have six legs, and all spiders have eight legs. So if some insects and spiders went to a dance, and there were 48 dancing legs, how many insects and how many spiders were at the dance??
2. How many triangles can you see in this shape?

3. A window cleaner is cleaning the windows on the 25th floor of a skyscraper; when he slips and falls, he is not wearing a safety harness and nothing slows his fall, yet he suffered no injuries. Explain how this could have happened.

30 pages in the pack.
Great to use with IWB

What do you see?

What do you see?

What number do you see in the orange circle?

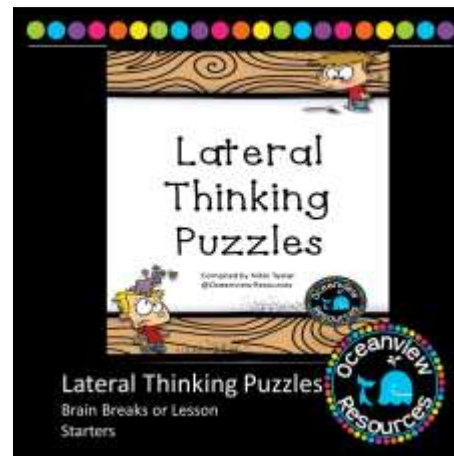
What do you see?

One car or two?

What do you see?

Is this possible?

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