

# The Brain Challenge

*keep your brain active & healthy*



Ages 17+



**May 25 - July 18**

Challenge your brain with this booklet of worksheets.  
Keep your brain sharp and healthy as you solve the games,  
riddles, and brain teasers in this booklet.

Return your completed booklet to the library **by 5:00 pm on July 18**  
for a chance to **win a \$25 Miss B's Cafe gift certificate.**  
On July 19, the winner will be announced and posted on the library's website.

Need a little help?  
Ask library staff to see the answers  
or go to [www.louisburglibrary.org/summerbash-contests](http://www.louisburglibrary.org/summerbash-contests)

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email / Phone** \_\_\_\_\_





# It's a **Kick**

*All the answers in this quiz begin with the letter K.*

- 1 To abduct a person for ransom. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Six-foot-tall Australian marsupial. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 A musical toy that produces a buzzing sound when a player hums into it.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 A smack or a peck. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Menswear, Scottish style. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 A barrel for doling out beer. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 A type of long brown seaweed. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 One seed of corn. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 He lost his bid for the U.S. presidency in 2004 by just over 2% of the popular vote.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Jewish dietary laws. \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 World War II Japanese suicide pilots. \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 A dry dog food. \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 Spicy Polish sausage. \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 An oven for firing pottery. \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 Start of a football game. \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 Yiddish term for a clumsy person. \_\_\_\_\_

# Homonyms

***Homonyms are two or more words that are pronounced the same way but have different meanings and/or spellings. In this game, we supply the definitions, and you must not only provide the homonyms, but SPELL them correctly as well!***

1. Consumed; or seven plus one. \_\_\_\_\_
2. A fragrance; or, a penny. \_\_\_\_\_
3. A blossom; or, a basic baking ingredient. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Plant seeds; or, to use a needle and thread. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The top of a mountain, or, a quick, furtive glance. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. A mortgage or cash advance; or, solitary. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. A part in a play or movie; or, dinner bread. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Having a husky or weak voice; or, a stallion or mustang. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Temporary stop in action or speech; or, an animal's feet. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Spooky, creepy; or, one of the Great Lakes. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Presidential Nicknames

*Can you identify these U.S. presidents by their nicknames?*

1. Bubba \_\_\_\_\_

2. Dubya \_\_\_\_\_

3. The Teflon President \_\_\_\_\_

4. Give 'Em Hell Harry \_\_\_\_\_

5. The Rail Splitter \_\_\_\_\_

6. Ike \_\_\_\_\_

7. Silent Cal \_\_\_\_\_

8. Barry \_\_\_\_\_

9. Tricky Dick \_\_\_\_\_

# DAILY DOUBLE

*All of the two-word answers in this game begin with the initials D and D.*

1. Father who doesn't pay his court-ordered child support.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Chicago-style pizza. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Nickname for the two-story red buses in London.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Rock Hudson's frequent co-star. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Person appointed to make sure everyone gets home safely after a night of drinking. \_\_\_\_\_

6. He is the third-most popular cartoon character of all time behind Bugs Bunny (#1) and Mickey Mouse (#2). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. He played Louie De Palma in the TV show *Taxi*.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. In this jump rope game, two ropes are swung in opposite directions simultaneously. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# endings and beginnings

*A compound word is made up of two smaller words, such as stopwatch or panhandle. In this game, we provide the first half of one compound word and the second half of another. Can you figure out the one word that completes them both? (if you get stuck the first letter of the answer is provided as a hint.)*

1. Super\_\_\_\_\_power (m)
2. Drug\_\_\_\_\_front (s)
3. Pawn\_\_\_\_\_keeper (s)
4. Buck\_\_\_\_\_paste (t)
5. Turn\_\_\_\_\_cloth (t)
6. Pocket\_\_\_\_\_keeper (b)
7. Stove\_\_\_\_\_line (p)
8. Wall\_\_\_\_\_pot (f)
9. Bell\_\_\_\_\_scotch (h)
10. Mouth\_\_\_\_\_tub (w)
11. Ear\_\_\_\_\_leader (r)
12. Fire\_\_\_\_\_pit (a)
13. Bird\_\_\_\_\_robe (b)
14. Hobby\_\_\_\_\_radish (h)

# IT STARTS WITH A LETTER

*All of the answers in this game start with a letter, as in X-Ray, I Beam, or V Chip.*

1. Discount store chain formerly known as S.S. Kresge Company.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. A brand of cotton swab. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Surgical baby delivery. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Cut of steak also called Porterhouse. \_\_\_\_\_

5. June 6, 1944. \_\_\_\_\_

6. U.S. clothing retailer with a popular catalog. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Well-known joint or gasket that caused the space shuttle *Challenger* disaster.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Do-it-yourself moving equipment company. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Some strains of this bacterium can cause serious food poisoning.

\_\_\_\_\_

10. The groups of Hollywood actors who get the best parts, the most money, and often the most attention. \_\_\_\_\_

11. Nuclear weapon that gets its explosive energy from hydrogen fusion.

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Genetically, this separates the men from the women.

\_\_\_\_\_





# Rhymin' Geography

*Each question has clues to two different geographical places that rhyme, such as Bali and Mali or Taos and Laos.*

1. U.S. state that is home to Portland and Kennebunk; and the country where you'll find Madrid and Barcelona. \_\_\_\_\_
2. U.S. state that is home to Lincoln and Omaha; and the U.S. state that is home to Juneau and Fairbanks. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The capital of Texas; and the capital of Massachusetts.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Largest city in New Mexico; and the country where you'll find the cities of Ankara and Istanbul. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Battlefield where Napoleon was defeated; and the Michigan city where Glenn Miller "had a girl." \_\_\_\_\_
6. The "Tac" in Washington's Sea-Tac Airport; and the U.S. state that is home to the cities of Enid and Tulsa. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Windswept island resort near the coast of Venezuela; and the only country in the Western Hemisphere with a Community government.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. A huge, frigid, sparsely populated region of Russia; and the African country settled by American slaves. \_\_\_\_\_
9. The capital of Italy; and the Alaskan city that marks the end of the Iditarod sled dog race. \_\_\_\_\_
10. "The Land of 10,000 Lakes;" and a Florida city on the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf of America) located between Venice and Bradenton.  
\_\_\_\_\_



# ***Put THE LIST in order***

*Put each list of four or five items in the order called for in the question.*

1. Put this list of dog breeds in order, starting with the largest (based on an average-sided adult dog for each breed): \_\_a. German Shepherd  
\_\_b. Great Dane \_\_c. Cocker Spaniel \_\_d. Chihuahua
2. Put this list of continents in order of their total size (in area), starting with the largest: \_\_a. Antarctica \_\_b. South America \_\_c. Africa  
\_\_d. North America \_\_e. Europe
3. Put this list of television series in order of when they were first broadcast, starting with the earliest broadcast date: \_\_a. Bonanza \_\_b. Dr. Kildare  
\_\_c. Jeopardy! \_\_d. What's My Line? \_\_e. Perry Mason
4. Put this list of letters in order of their value in Scrabble, starting with the highest value: \_\_a. L \_\_b. K \_\_c. F \_\_d. J \_\_e. G
5. Put this list of famous women in order of their age, starting with the youngest: \_\_a. Mary Tyler Moore \_\_b. Meryl Streep \_\_c. Katie Couric  
\_\_d. Barbra Streisand \_\_e. Goldie Hawn
6. Put this list of newspapers in order, starting with the one with the largest daily circulation: \_\_a. The New York Times \_\_b. The Wall Street Journal  
\_\_c. USA Today \_\_d. The Washington Post
7. Put this list of states in the alphabetical order of their capital cities, going from A to Z: \_\_a. New York \_\_b. New Jersey \_\_c. Michigan  
\_\_d. Louisiana

# Trivia



## Finish the Song Line

*It might help to sing the answers to this quiz.*

- "That old black magic has me ..." \_\_\_\_\_
- "I'm gonna love you like nobody's loved you ..." \_\_\_\_\_
- "A, You're adorable ..." \_\_\_\_\_
- "Look at me. I'm as helpless as ..." \_\_\_\_\_

## Two Out of Three

*Two answers are required for each question in this quiz.*

- Who are two of the Three Stooges. \_\_\_\_\_
- What are two of the three things that "little girls are made of?"  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What are two of the three branches of the U.S. government?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What are two of the three races that make up the famous Triple Crown of Thoroughbred horse racing? \_\_\_\_\_



# ART



# mark my words

All the answers in this word definition game begin with the letters MAR.



1. It's 26 miles and 385 yards long, precisely. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Teh Taj Mahal is made mostly of this. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Hemp, ganja, Maryjane, or weed. \_\_\_\_\_
4. A bitter jam made from citrus. \_\_\_\_\_
5. These mammals, such as kangaroos, koalas, and possums, have pouches.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The interior portion of large bones; it's where new red blood cells are produced.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. This candy is made from sugar and almond paste and is often colored and shaped into the form of fruits and vegetables. \_\_\_\_\_
8. A traditional Mexican musical ensemble. Originally these bands were street musicians from the state of Jalisco. Today they play the emblematic music of Mexico.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. A puppet controlled by strings. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Gin, vermouth, and an olive. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Someone who suffers persecution and death for refusing to renounce a belief, usually religious. \_\_\_\_\_
12. The sign above the entrance to a movie theater.  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Unlike its cousin the swordfish, this large marine fish with a spear-like snout is rarely eaten. Most sport fishermen unhook and release them.  
\_\_\_\_\_

