

Monkey Buddies Learning Lab

Brain Maker Logic Puzzles

Read carefully. Think clearly. Prove your answer.

Close Reading

Use exact clue language as evidence.

Deductive Reasoning

Eliminate what cannot work.

Evidence-Based Thinking

Explain how clues prove the answer.

Grades 3-5 | Enrichment | Teacher + Tutor Friendly



How to Solve a Brain Maker Logic Puzzle

Four simple moves for careful thinkers

1. Read the clues

Look for facts that tell you what must be true.

2. Mark what you know

Use a check mark when a clue proves a match.

3. Cross out what cannot work

Use an X when a clue tells you something is impossible.

4. Prove your answer

A finished solution must match every clue.

Remember

Logic puzzles are not guessing games. Each correct answer must be supported by the clues. If two answers still work, go back and check the exact wording.

Try it!

Choose one clue from the first puzzle. Tell a partner what you can mark with a check and what you can cross out with an X.

Brain Maker Logic Puzzle 1

The Book Fair

A book fair was held in the library at Benton Elementary School. Each book came with a free bookmark. Find out which book each student purchased, and what color bookmark each student had.

Students	Book Read				Bookmark Color			
	Space Book	Joke Book	Mystery	Wildlife	Yellow	Green	Blue	Red
Ava								
Ben								
Carlos								
Mia								
Bookmark Color								
Yellow								
Green								
Blue								
Red								

Clues

- Ava did not buy the Mystery book or the Joke Book.
- Ben's bookmark was green.
- The student who bought the Space Book had the yellow bookmark.
- Carlos did not buy Wildlife Story.
- Mia bought the Joke Book.
- The Mystery book did not come with the blue bookmark.
- Ava's bookmark was blue.

Brain Maker Tip

When a clue says, "did not," mark an X before trying to place a check.

Read carefully. Use ✓ for correct matches and X for incorrect choices.

Brain Maker Logic Puzzle 2

Show and Tell

Ms. Johnson's class held a stuffed animal show-and-tell. Find out which stuffed animal each student brought and where each student sat.

	Pet				Seating			
Students	Rabbit	Turtle	Hamster	Parrot	Red Chair	Carpet	Bubble Seat	Standing
Gracie								
Zoey								
Elijah								
Mason								
Seating								
Red Chair								
Carpet								
Bubble Seat								
Standing								

Clues

- A. Gracie did not bring the turtle or the parrot.
- B. Zoey sat in the red chair.
- C. Elijah brought the hamster.
- D. The student with the hamster sat in the bubble seat.
- E. Mason brought the parrot.
- F. Mason was standing.

Brain Maker Tip

A direct clue can give you a check mark and several X marks in the same row or column.

Read carefully. Use ✓ for correct matches and X for incorrect choices.

Brain Maker Logic Puzzle 3

Club / Supply

The students at Valley View Elementary School were joining afterschool clubs. They were required to bring one supply to their first meeting to help with activities. Find out which club each student joined and what supply each student brought.

Students	Club				Supply			
	Art	Drama	Gardening	Robotics	Notebook	Gloves	Tape	Paintbrush
Emma								
Noah								
Aaron								
Claire								
Supply								
Notebook								
Gloves								
Tape								
Paintbrush								

Clues

- A. Emma did not join Art or Drama.
- B. Noah brought the notebook.
- C. The Gardening Club student brought gloves.
- D. Aaron did not bring tape.
- E. Claire joined Drama.
- F. 6. The Art Club student did not bring the notebook.

Brain Maker Tip

Check the category names carefully. Club clues and supply clues work together.

Read carefully. Use ✓ for correct matches and X for incorrect choices.

Brain Maker Logic Puzzle 4

Field Trip Lunches

Students at Washington Elementary School went on a field trip to a Science Center. The students packed bagged lunches. Find out which exhibit each student visited and what food each student brought for lunch.

Students	Exhibit				Lunch Food			
	Dinosaurs	Space	Ocean	Insects	Sandwich	Tacos	Lunchable	Stir-Fry
Jayden								
Lily								
Sophia								
Claire								
Lunch Food								
Sandwich								
Tacos								
Lunchable								
Stir-Fry								
Stir-Fry								

Clues

- A. Jayden visited the Dinosaurs exhibit.
- B. Claire brought a Lunchable.
- C. The student at the Ocean exhibit brought tacos.
- D. Sophia did not visit the Space exhibit.
- E. Lily did not visit the Dinosaurs or Insects exhibit.
- F. The student at the Insects exhibit brought stir-fry.

Brain Maker Tip

If a clue connects two non-student categories, mark that relationship in the lower part of the grid.

Read carefully. Use ✓ for correct matches and X for incorrect choices.

Explain Your Logic

Writing extension

Prompt

Choose one answer from your complete puzzle. Explain how you know it is correct. Use at least two clues as evidence.

First, I knew _____ because clue _____ said _____.

Next, I crossed out _____ because _____.

Then, clue _____ helped me figure out _____.

My final answer is _____ because _____.

Brain Maker Logic Puzzle

Summer Camp Line-Up

Use before/after clues to find each student's position and item.

Goal: Find where each student stood in line and what each student carried.

Clues

1. Cole stood directly after Maya.
2. Leo stood directly before Sam.
3. Cole stood in the middle of the line.
4. The student with the nature journal stood directly before the student with the camera.
5. The student with the water bottle stood after the student with the camera.
6. Sam did not carry the water bottle.
7. The student with the kite stood before Maya.

Students

Nina
Maya
Cole
Leo
Sam

Items

Kite
Nature Journal
Camera
Water Bottle
Sketchbook

Line-Up Chart

Position	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Student					
Item					

Brain Maker Tip: “Directly before” and “directly after” mean right next to. “Before” or “after” can be farther away.

Brain Maker Logic Puzzle

Summer Camp Line-Up

Find out where each student sat and what snack each student brought.

Students

Ruby	Miles	Tessa	Jordan	Caleb
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Snacks

Popcorn	Grapes	Pretzels	Apple Slices	Granola Bar
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Solution

Seat	1	2	3	4	5
Student					
Snack					

Clues

1. Tessa sat in the middle seat.
2. Miles sat somewhere to the left of Tessa.
3. Ruby sat directly next to the student with pretzels.
4. Jordan did not sit on either end.
5. The student with grapes sat two seats away from Caleb.
6. The student with the granola bar sat directly to the right of the student with apple slices.
7. Caleb did not bring popcorn.
8. The student with pretzels sat in Seat 4.

Brain Maker Tip

- Directly next to means the seats touch.
- Two seats away means there is one seat between them.
- Either end means Seat 1 or Seat 5.

Brain Maker Solutions

Answer Key

Puzzle 1: Book Fair Picks

Student	Book Read	Bookmark Color
Ava	Wildlife Story	Blue
Ben	Mystery	Green
Carlos	Space Book	Yellow
Mia	Joke Book	Red

Puzzle 2: Pet Seating

Student	Pet	Seating
Gracie	Rabbit	Carpet
Zoey	Turtle	Red Chair
Elijah	Hamster	Bubble Seat
Mason	Parrot	Standing

Puzzle 3: Club Supplies

Student	Club	Supply
Emma	Gardening	Gloves
Noah	Robotics	Notebook
Aaron	Art	Paintbrush
Claire	Drama	Tape

Puzzle 4: Field Trip Lunches

Student	Exhibit	Lunch Food
Jayden	Dinosaurs	Sandwich
Lily	Ocean	Tacos
Claire	Space	Lunchable
Sophia	Insects	Stir-Fry

Puzzle 5: Summer Camp Line-Up

Position	Student	Item
1st	Nina	Kite
2nd	Maya	Nature Journal
3rd	Cole	Camera
4th	Leo	Water Bottle
5th	Sam	Sketchbook

Puzzle 6: Picnic Table Puzzle

Seat	Student	Snack
1	Caleb	Apple Slices
2	Miles	Granola Bar
3	Tessa	Grapes
4	Jordan	Pretzels
5	Ruby	Popcorn

Teacher Notes + Standards Alignment

Common Core connections for grades 3-5

Ready-to-Use Packet Description

These Brain Maker Logic Puzzles help students in grades 3-5 strengthen close reading, deductive reasoning, problem solving, precision, and evidence-based explanation. Students read clues, use a logic grid to organize information, eliminate incorrect choices, and identify one correct solution.

Math Practice Standards

MP1 - Make sense of problems and persevere
MP2 - Reason abstractly and quantitatively
MP3 - Construct viable arguments
MP6 - Attend to precision
MP7 - Look for and make use of structure

ELA: Reading + Speaking

RI.3.1, RI.4.1, RI.5.1
Students use clues as text evidence.

SL.3.1, SL.4.1, SL.5.1
Students discuss strategies and defend answers.

ELA: Writing Extension

W.3.2, W.4.2, W.5.2
Students write a short explanatory response using clue evidence and sequence words.

Simple Lesson Plan Statement

This activity supports Common Core Mathematical Practice Standards and ELA standards for close reading, evidence-based reasoning, discussion, and explanatory writing. Students use written clues to solve a multi-step logic problem and explain how they reached their answers.