



Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Geometrical figure | ___ _ _ A ___ | English landowner | ___ _ _ I ___ |
| 2. ___ con carne | ___ _ _ _ I | Put in the refrigerator | ___ _ _ _ L |
| 3. Paper boundary | ___ _ _ G ___ | Lee or Gaye | ___ _ _ V ___ |
| 4. Canoe oar | P ___ _ _ _ | Cowboy's seat | S ___ _ _ _ |
| 5. Cherub | ___ _ _ _ L | Wrath | ___ _ _ _ R |
| 6. Like snow | ___ _ _ T _ | Whimper | ___ _ _ N _ |
| 7. Land property | ___ _ _ _ T _ | In actual fact | ___ _ _ _ L _ |
| 8. Noggin | ___ _ U _ _ | Knack | ___ _ I _ _ |
| 9. Gadget | ___ _ _ _ G | Ponder | ___ _ _ _ K |
| 10. Wanted sign | ___ _ S _ _ _ | Railroad attendant | ___ _ R _ _ _ |

Micro Crossword

By Elizabeth C. Gorski

Across

- 1 Corporate money execs
- 5 Pancakes served at the Russian Tea Room
- 6 Foodie, basically
- 7 Group of three
- 8 Moving clock parts

	1	2	3	4
5				
6				
7				
8				

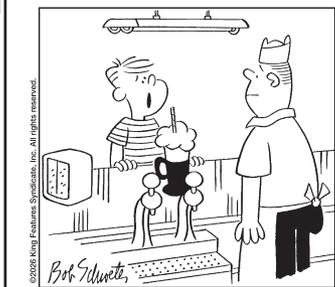
© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Down

- 1 "The Nutcracker" girl
- 2 Belong
- 3 Without interruption
- 4 Horse fathers
- 5 "Owner of a Lonely Heart" author Nguyen



- Which singer-songwriter released "Bring It on Home to Me"?
- Name the artist who released "Bop."
- Which group released "Down on the Corner"?
- "We Built This City" was the debut single for which band?
- Name the song that contains this lyric: "Saving nickels, saving dimes, Working til the sun don't shine, Looking forward to happier times."



"I'm not used to eating lunch like this — what's for _____?"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Bane
RESCU _ _ _ _
- Melody
DOHRC _ _ _ _
- Coach
ETCHA _ _ _ _
- Smell
THENCS _ _ _ _

TODAY'S WORD



- U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Acadia National Park?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was an avid dog breeder who gave his hunting hounds funny names like "Sweet Lips" and "Madam Moose"?
- MOVIES: Who is the antagonist of "Shrek" in the first animated movie?
- LITERATURE: What is the pseudonym of the 20th-century author who was born Adeline Virginia Stephen?
- TELEVISION: What's the family's last name in the TV sitcom "The Middle"?
- HISTORY: Which famous nurse was known as the Lady with the Lamp?
- GEOGRAPHY: Ringgit is the common currency in which Southeast Asian country?
- ANATOMY: Which human organ stores bile?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "Cogito, ergo sum" mean in English?
- MATH: What is the next prime number after 7?

THANK YOU to our Brain Zone! Sponsors!



CITY OF FLORENCE



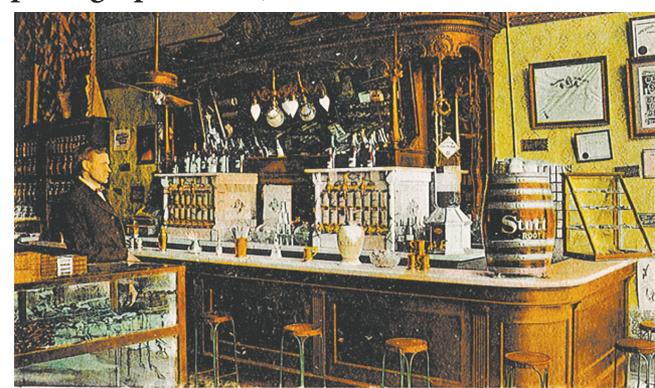
MCCUTCHEON & HAMNER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Jesse Walker Stutts: Pharmacist

As documented in a locally-published, two-volume work entitled *The Early Settlers of Cowpen Creek*, Jesse Walker Stutts was born in 1875 at Cowpen Creek in rural Lauderdale County. He was a brother of Dr. Henry Lee Stutts, who became a local legend through his many years of covering hundreds and hundreds of miles in rural Lauderdale County caring for ill people (even performing tooth extractions) and delivering babies. Jesse was graduated from Vanderbilt University with a degree in Pharmacy in 1902. Soon thereafter, he opened Stutts Drug Store on the northwest corner of Court and Tennessee Streets in downtown Florence – where Jimmy John’s Sandwich Shop is located today.

(See the interior of his drug store in the photograph below.)



Interior View of the J. W. Stutts Drug Co's. Store, Florence, Ala.

Among the offerings at Mr. Stutts’s store were medications which he formulated himself, such as “Ivago” for irritations from contact with poison ivy; “Germ Death,” an antiseptic; and “Nervine” for calming anxieties. His pain relief medication called “Eas-It” was so successful that it put his pharmacy on the local and regional markets, resulting in the establishment of the Eas-It Chemical Company in 1913. He was careful to market it as “non-narcotic”; instead, it was formulated in an elixir base, indicating that it contained a significant percentage of alcohol. Jesse and daughter, Margaret, incorporated the Stutts Laboratories in 1940, though the company was short-lived.

– Billy Warren, *City Historian* (brwarren@florenceal.org)

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: R equals H

IONYG BM YFPNYC CNQT GT
QRGWR FJFYXENBX ONJFP
PGTZGTZ PMWYFB RXLTP NI
DYMGPFF: DPMOL EFMWR.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

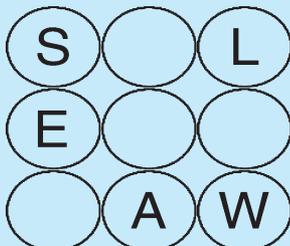
1. Is the book of Colossians (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Whose first chapter begins, “Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month”? *Ezra, Ezekiel, Micah, Malachi*
3. From Exodus 10, what was blown out of Egypt by a strong west wind? *Rivers, Locusts, Sinners, Nightness*
4. In 1 Chronicles, who killed a seven and a half foot tall Egyptian giant? *Benaiah, Gideon, Jannes, Baruch*
5. From Genesis 28, what city was the site of Jacob’s famous dream? *Lachish, Perga, Haran, Bethel*
6. In Colossians 4, what city was home to Philemon? *Berea, Shechem, Beersheba, Colossae*



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Four members of the “Miracle on Ice” 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team — Mike Eruzione, Jack O’Callahan, Jim Craig and Dave Silk — played hockey for what college team?
2. What women’s professional indoor volleyball league had its inaugural season in 2025, with the team from Austin, Texas, winning the first championship?
3. In the 1990-1991 season, which NBA team finished with a historically bad 1-40 road-game record?
4. Which Philadelphia college’s athletic teams are nicknamed the Dragons?
5. Brothers Vince, Joe and Dom DiMaggio all played baseball in the minors for what Pacific Coast League team?
6. Rock climber Adam Ondra, winner of both the lead climbing and bouldering titles at the 2014 Climbing World Championships, hails from what country?
7. What team selected Eric Lindros with the first pick of the 1991 NHL entry draft but was forced to trade him to the Philadelphia Flyers a year later because he refused to play?

WORD SPIRAL



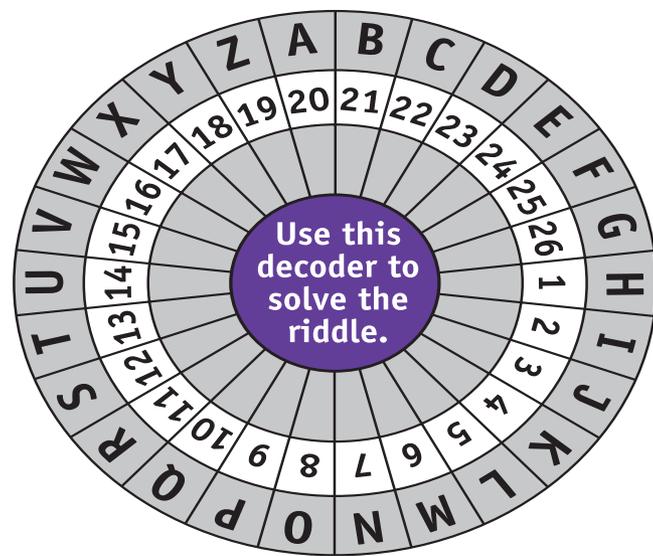
Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.

Brain Zone!

SECRET CODE

What kinds of keys can not open doors?

6 8 7 4 24 18 12 & 23 8 7 4 24 18 12



GO FIGURE!

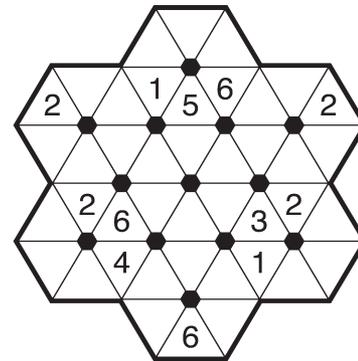
The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	+	+		= 10				
+		+		+				
	+		÷	= 2				
+		+		÷				
	-		-	= 1				
=		=		=				
14		17		6				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

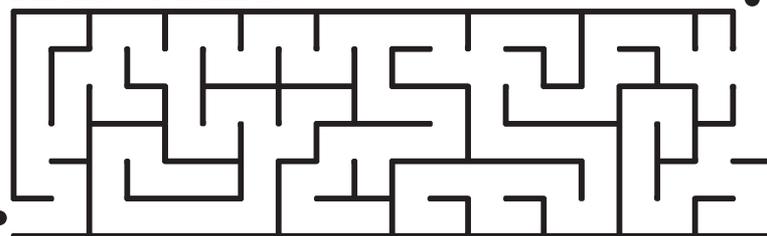
There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

Kids' Maze



Brain Zone! ANSWERS



1. Sam Cooke, in 1962. The song didn't top the charts until The Animals released their cover in 1965 and it went to No. 1 in Sweden.
2. Dan Seals, formerly of England Dan & John Ford Coley, in 1985. After leaving the duo, Seals had 11 chart-toppers, including "Meet Me in Montana" with Marie Osmond.
3. Creedence Clearwater Revival, in 1969. Penned by band member John Fogerty, the song was first released on their "Willy and the Poor Boys" album.
4. Starship, in 1985. Co-written by Bernie Taupin (writing pal of Elton John), the song climbed charts around the globe. However, Rolling Stone pegged it as one of the worst songs of the '80s.
5. "Blue Bayou," by Roy Orbison in 1961. Linda Ronstadt followed with a cover in 1977, and the song has been used in several films, including "American Made" starring Tom Cruise in 2017.

© 2026 King Features Syndicate

Word Spiral Answer
SALTWATER

Even Exchange

answers

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Square, Squire | 6. White, Whine |
| 2. Chili, Chill | 7. Realty, Really |
| 3. Margin, Marvin | 8. Skull, Skill |
| 4. Paddle, Saddle | 9. Thing, Think |
| 5. Angel, Anger | 10. Poster, Porter |

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Ezekiel, 3) Locusts, 4) Benaiah, 5) Bethel, 6) Colossae
"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

CryptoQuip answer

Florida resort town in which everybody loves singing sacred hymns of praise: Psalm Beach.



Answers

1. Maize.
2. George Washington.
3. Lord Maximus Farquaad.
4. Virginia Woolf.
5. Heck.
6. Florence Nightingale.
7. Malaysia
8. The gallbladder.
9. "I think, therefore I am."
10. Eleven (11).

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

1	+	5	+	4	=	10
+		+		+		
7	+	9	÷	8	=	2
+		+		÷		
6	-	3	-	2	=	1
=		=		=		
14		17		6		

SCRAMBLERS solution

1. Curse; 2. Chord
3. Teach; 4. Stench

Today's Word
DESSERT



by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. The Boston University Terriers.
2. League One Volleyball (LOVB Pro).
3. The Sacramento Kings.
4. Drexel University.
5. The San Francisco Seals.
6. The Czech Republic.
7. The Quebec Nordiques.

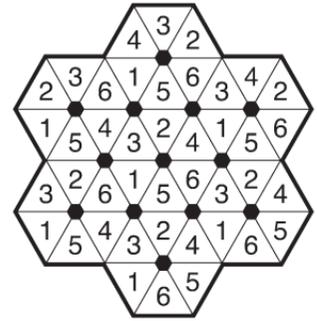
© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Micro Crossword Answer

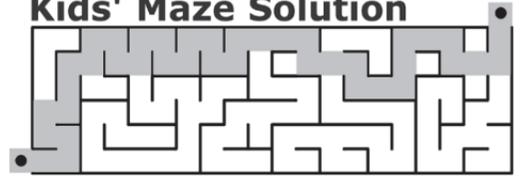
	C	F	O	S
B	L	I	N	I
E	A	T	E	R
T	R	I	N	E
H	A	N	D	S

SNOWFLAKES

solution



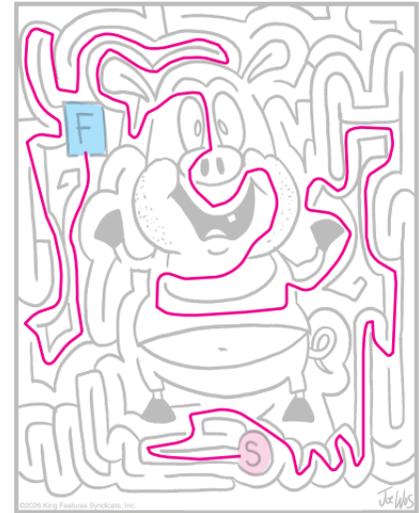
Kids' Maze Solution



SECRET CODE

What kinds of keys can not open doors?

Monkeys & Donkeys



© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.