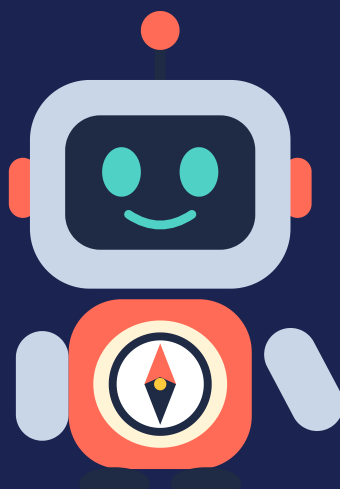




The New Year Puzzle Pack

30 puzzles for ages 4 to 10, with answer keys

Word searches · mazes · secret codes · picture sudoku · number pyramids · number patterns · number machines · story problems · picture sums · detective cases · odd one out



This pack belongs to:

How to use this pack

There are ten puzzles for each age group, easiest first. Start with your child's age, and move up when it feels easy. Colour a star for every puzzle solved. When all the stars for an age group are coloured, fill in the certificate.

Little and often. One or two puzzles a day keeps it fun.

Praise the effort. "You kept going after that dead end" matters more than speed.

Answers at the back. Check together and talk about how they solved it.

Levels: 1 Starter (4–5) · 2 Easy (4–7) · 3 Medium (6–7) · 4 Tricky (8–10) · 5 Challenge (8–10). Levels follow skills as well as age: if a level feels easy, move up one.

#	Puzzle	Group	Level	Time	Star
1	New Year Word Search	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
2	Take the balloon to the midnight clock	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
3	Find the way to the party	Ages 4–5	2 · Easy	5 min	☆
4	New Year Secret Word	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
5	Party Picture Sudoku	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
6	Countdown Number Pyramid	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
7	Fireworks Number Patterns	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
8	New Year Story Problems	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
9	New Year Picture Sums	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
10	New Year Odd One Out	Ages 4–5	1 · Starter	5 min	☆
11	New Year Word Search	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
12	From the calendar to the fireworks	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
13	New Year Riddle Code	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
14	Party Picture Sudoku	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
15	Countdown Number Pyramid	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
16	Countdown Number Machine	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
17	Fireworks Number Patterns	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
18	New Year Story Problems	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆
19	New Year Detective Case	Ages 6–7	3 · Medium	10 min	☆

1

New Year Word Search

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

Find and circle each word, then tick it off the list. Words go across from left to right.

H	L	O	B	P	V
G	L	T	P	T	A
C	H	A	T	W	O
P	M	G	N	E	W
V	P	O	P	J	T
A	E	H	F	U	N

☐ FUN

☐ HAT

☐ NEW

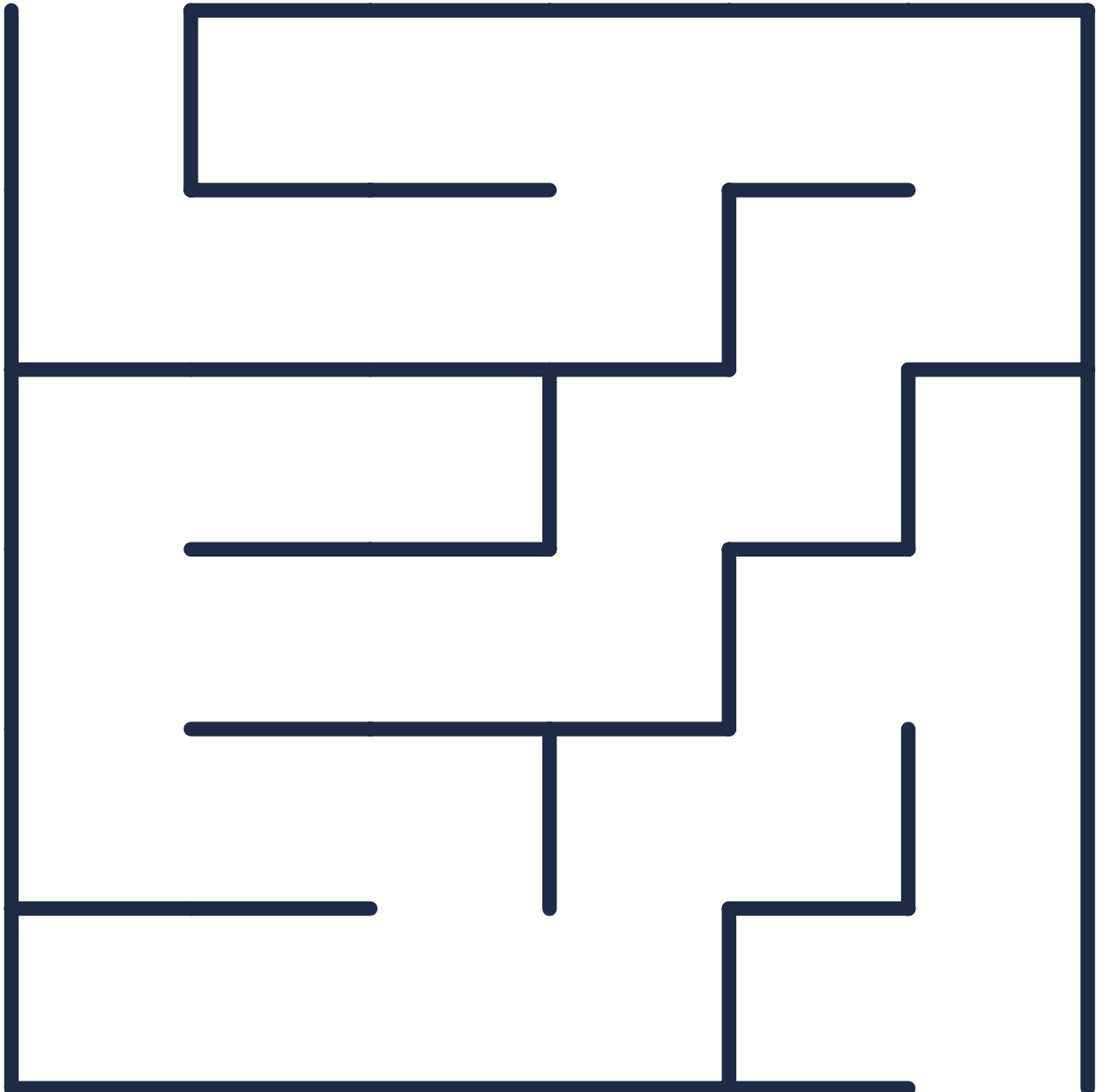
☐ POP


2

Take the balloon to the midnight clock

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

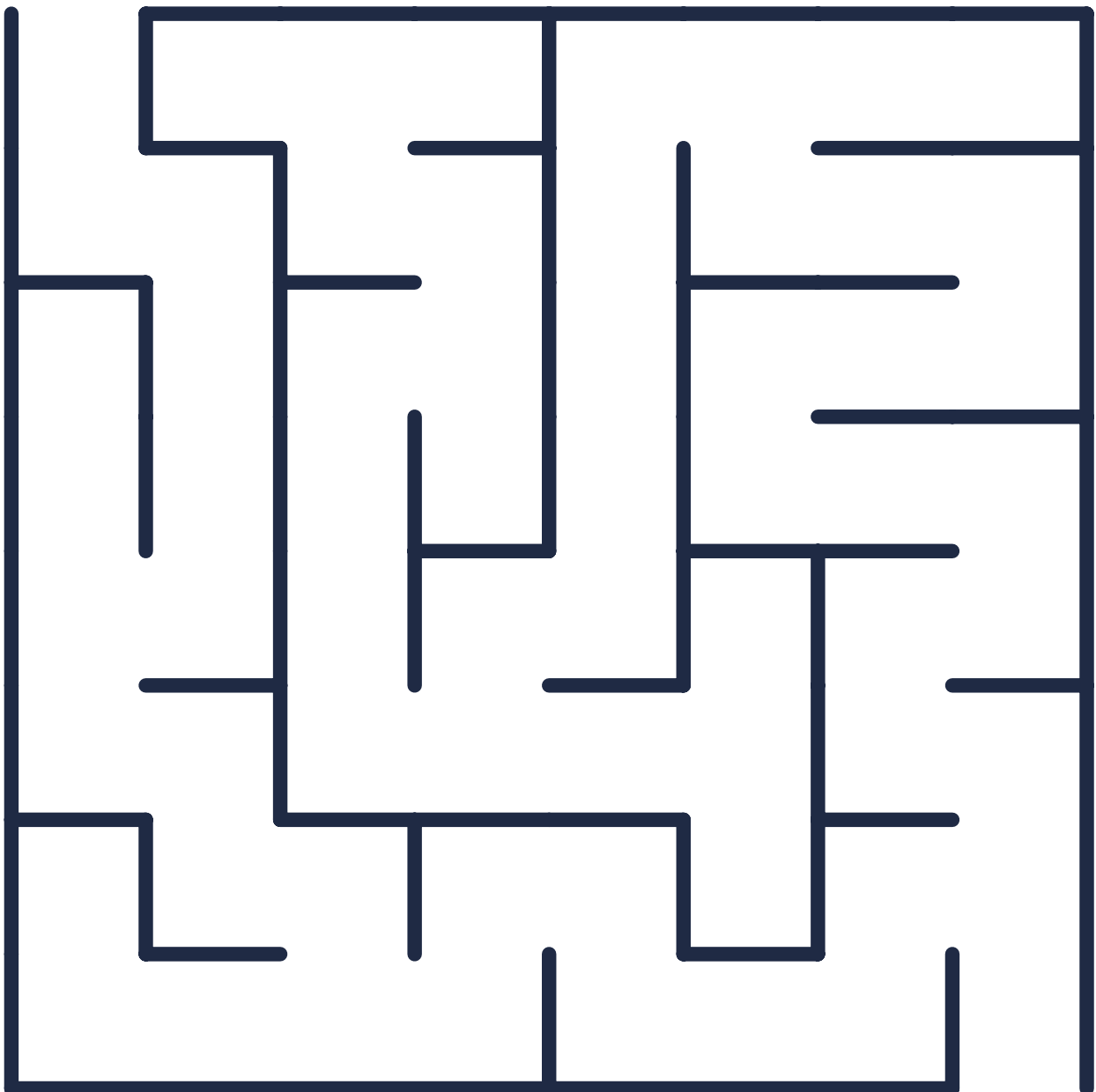
Start at the balloon and find the one path to the clock. Use a pencil so you can rub out dead ends.

 **Start**

Finish 


Find the way to the party

Ages 4–5 · Level 2 (Easy) · about 5 minutes

Start at the party popper and find the one path to the party hat. Use a pencil so you can rub out dead ends.



Finish



4

New Year Secret Word

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

Use the key to swap each shape for its letter. What is the secret word?



×	+	~
---	---	---

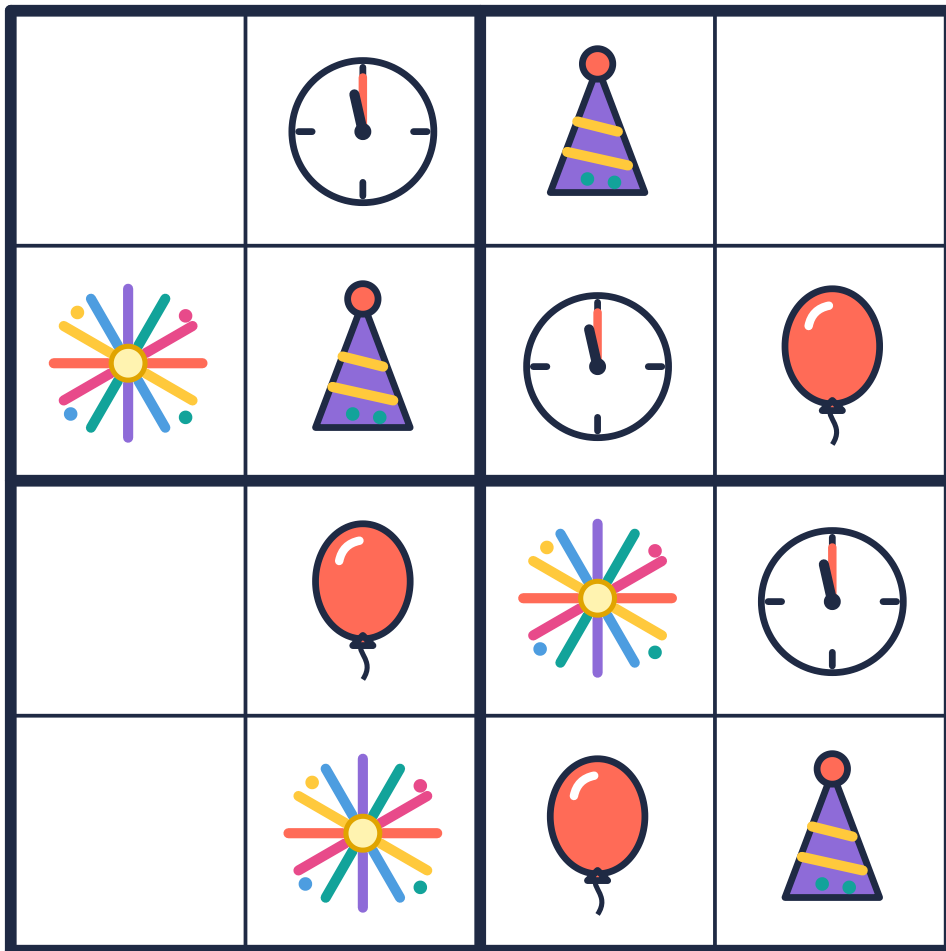
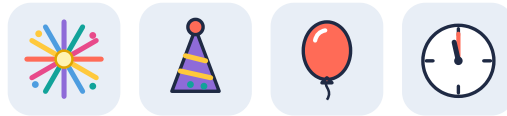


5

Party Picture Sudoku

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

Draw the missing pictures. Each picture appears once in every row, every column and every 2×2 box.

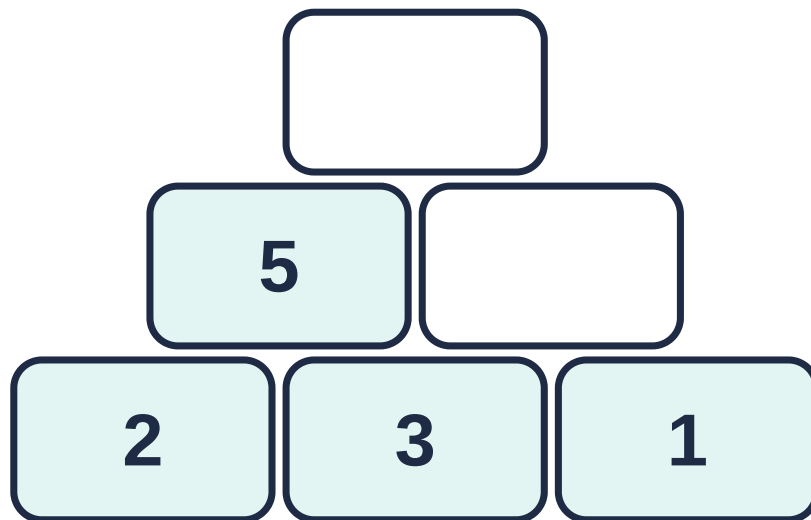


6

Countdown Number Pyramid

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

Each brick is the sum of the two bricks under it. Add to fill in the empty bricks.



7

Fireworks Number Patterns

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

Look at the pattern. Write the missing numbers in the empty boxes.

1.

7	9	11	13	
---	---	----	----	--

2.

1	3		7	9
---	---	--	---	---

3.

15	16	17	18	
----	----	----	----	--



8

New Year Story Problems

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

Read each story carefully. Draw a picture if it helps, then write the answer in the box.

- 1 3 balloons are red and 4 are blue. How many balloons are there?

Answer:

- 2 There are 9 party hats. 4 children put one on. How many hats are left?

Answer:

- 3 Sam sees 2 big fireworks and then 6 more. How many fireworks does he see?

Answer:



9

New Year Picture Sums

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

Each picture stands for a number. Use the values given to work out each sum.

$$\text{balloon} = 1$$

$$\text{fireworks} = 5$$

$$\text{balloon} + \text{fireworks} = \boxed{?}$$

$$\text{fireworks} + \text{balloon} = \boxed{?}$$

$$\text{balloon} + \text{balloon} = \boxed{?}$$



10

New Year Odd One Out

Ages 4–5 · Level 1 (Starter) · about 5 minutes

In each row, circle the picture that is different.

1.



2.



3.



4.



11

New Year Word Search

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Find and circle each word, then tick it off the list. Words go across, down or diagonally.

M	D	M	C	M	J	V	B	W	H
M	R	I	H	B	W	W	U	S	W
K	M	D	E	F	E	C	P	I	S
E	W	N	E	D	B	L	A	K	B
S	F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	A
W	O	G	A	W	G	C	T	T	L
I	I	H	A	G	K	K	Y	C	L
S	J	T	D	J	L	S	G	Y	O
H	O	J	P	I	C	N	D	L	O
H	J	J	A	N	U	A	R	Y	N

☐ BALLOON

☐ CHEER

☐ CLOCK

☐ FIREWORK

☐ JANUARY

☐ MIDNIGHT

☐ PARTY

☐ WISH


12

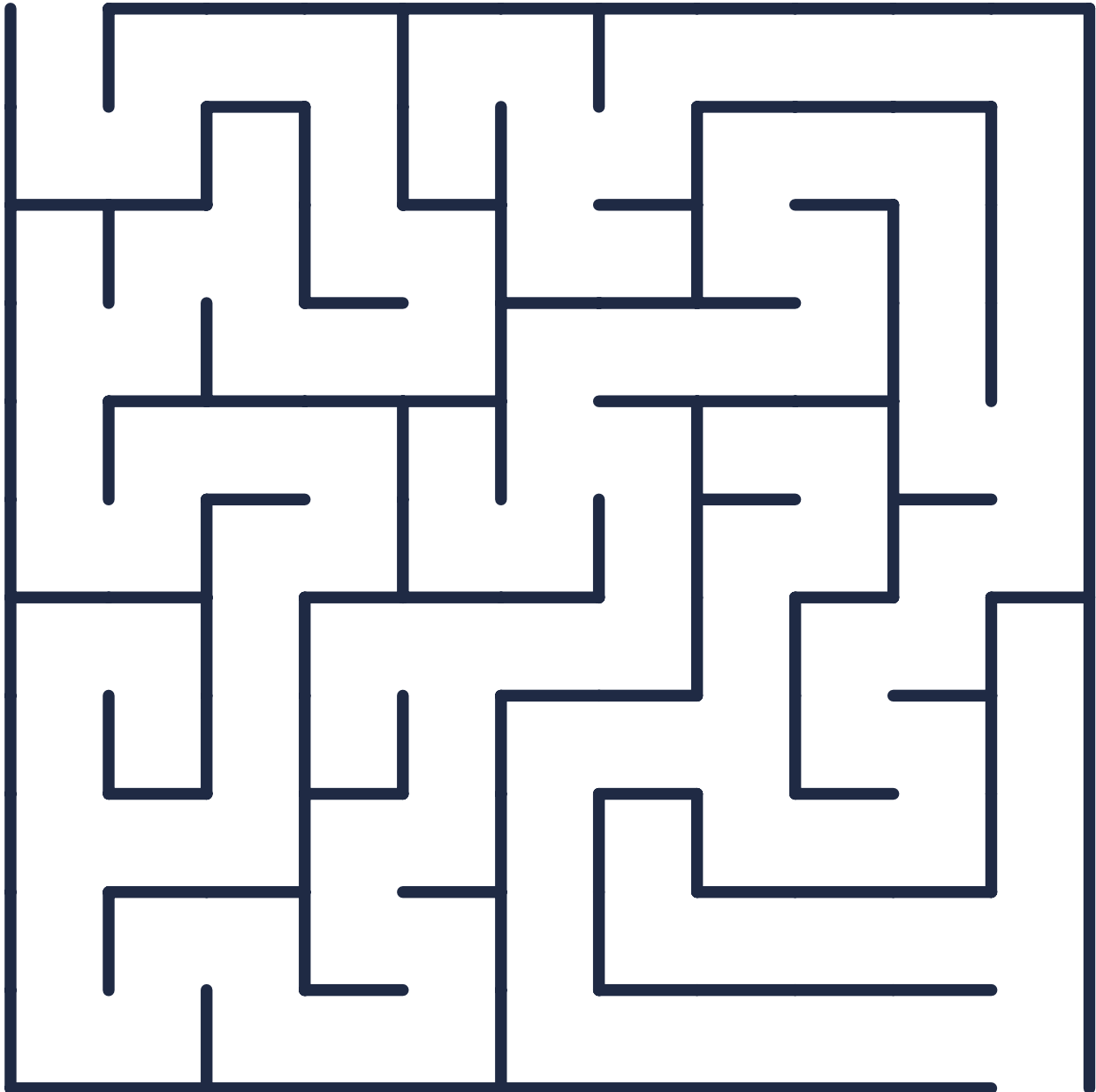
From the calendar to the fireworks

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Start at the calendar and find the one path to the firework. Use a pencil so you can rub out dead ends.



Start



Finish



13

New Year Riddle Code

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Read the riddle, then crack the code to find the answer.

What starts again brand new on 1 January?



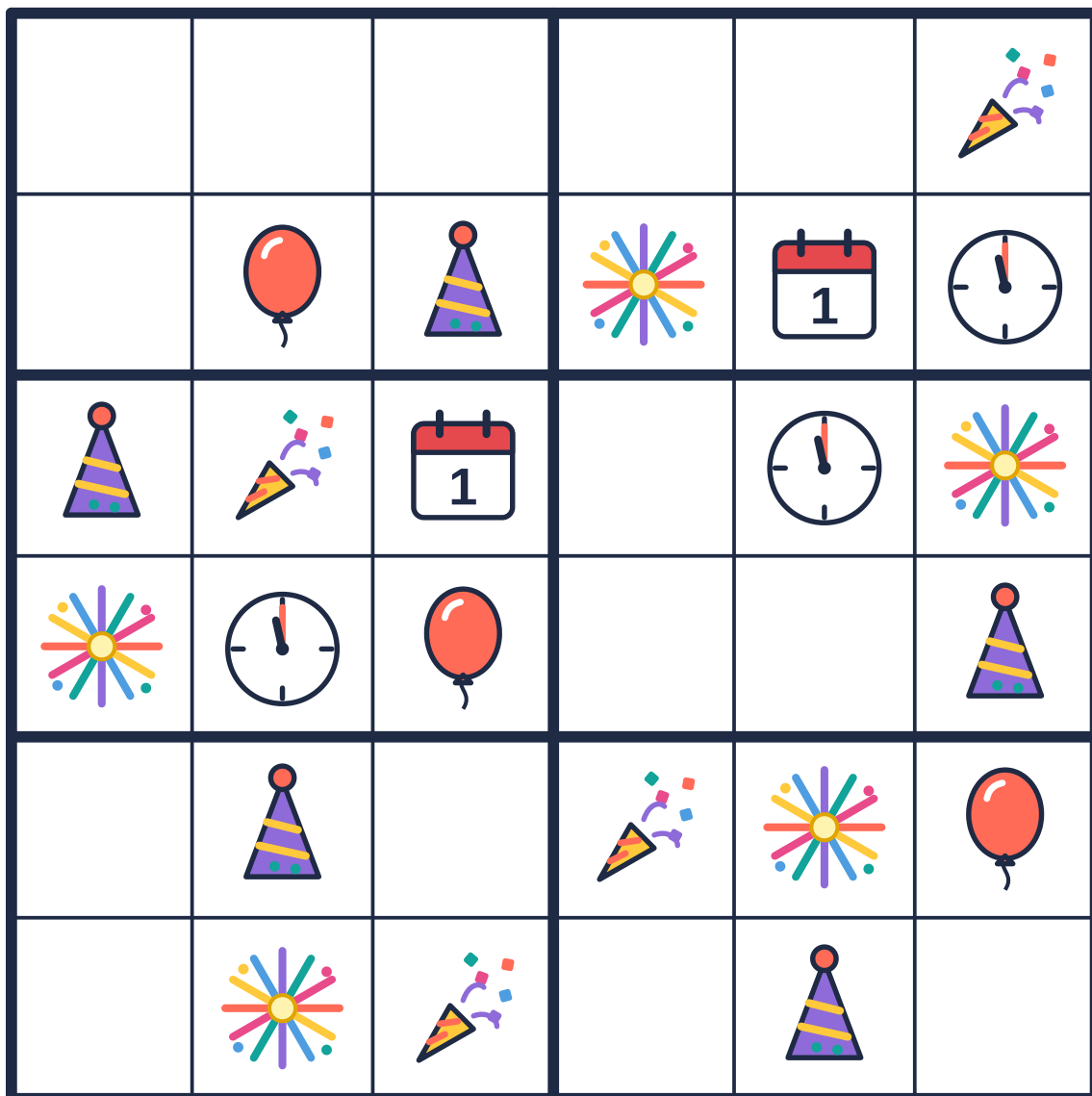


14

Party Picture Sudoku

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Draw the missing pictures. Each picture appears once in every row, every column and every 2×3 box.

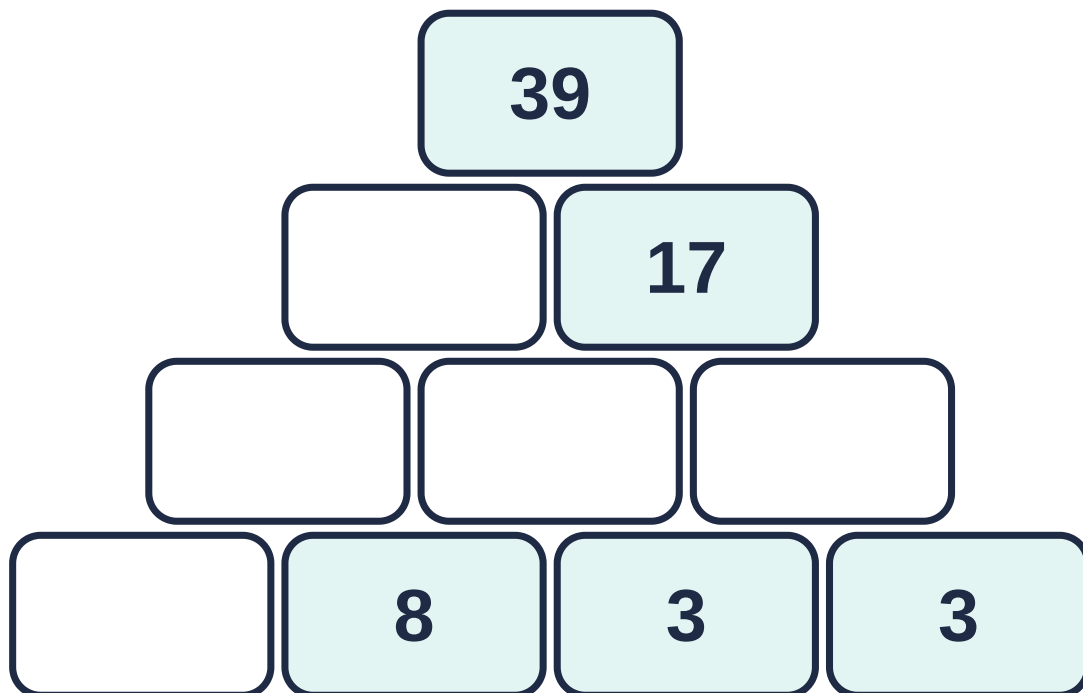


15

Countdown Number Pyramid

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Each brick is the sum of the two bricks under it. Some empty bricks need adding and some need taking away.



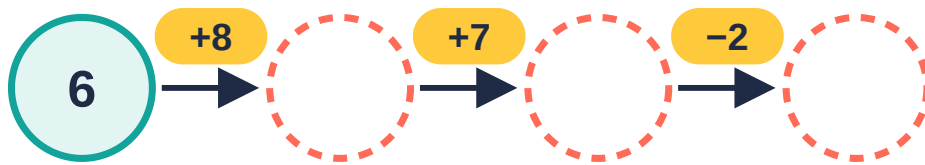
16

Countdown Number Machine

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Start with the first number. Do each step in the yellow tags and write the answer in the next circle.

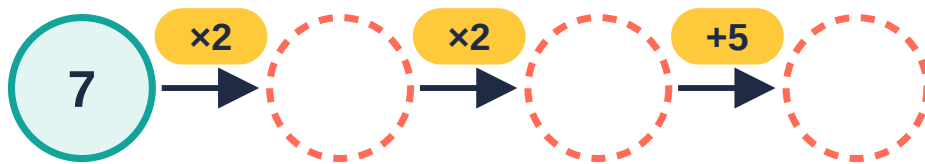
1.



2.



3.



17

Fireworks Number Patterns

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Work out the rule for each pattern, then write the missing numbers.

1.

4		16		64
---	--	----	--	----

2.

40	33	26			5
----	----	----	--	--	---

3.

44			56	60	64
----	--	--	----	----	----

4.

53	45		29		13
----	----	--	----	--	----



18

New Year Story Problems

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Read each story carefully. Draw a picture if it helps, then write the answer in the box.

- 1 10 children each blow up 2 balloons. How many balloons are there?

Answer:

- 2 50 treats are shared equally between 5 friends. How many treats does each friend get?

Answer:

- 3 A year has 12 months. 7 months have gone by. How many months are left?

Answer:

- 4 The fireworks start at 9 o'clock and stop 3 hours later. At what o'clock do they stop?

Answer:

o'clock



19

New Year Detective Case

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

Read the clues like a detective. Use the grid to mark what each child has and likes, then fill in the answer.

Clues

1. Leo does not love reading.
2. The child who loves reading eats the apple.
3. The child who loves football eats the banana.
4. Ben does not love chess.
5. Leo does not love chess.

	Fruit			Hobby		
	grape	apple	banana	football	reading	chess
Mia						
Leo						
Ben						

Tip: put ✓ for yes and × for no. Each row and column has only one ✓.



20

New Year Odd One Out

Ages 6–7 · Level 3 (Medium) · about 10 minutes

In each row, circle the one that does not belong. Can you say why?

1.

71

35

75

45

2.

19

32

13

17

3.

50

60

70

97

4.

90

70

66

60



21

New Year Word Search

Ages 8–10 · Level 5 (Challenge) · about 20 minutes

Find and circle each word, then tick it off the list. Words hide in all eight directions, including backwards and diagonally up.

I	I	G	P	S	C	O	U	N	T	D	O	W	N
K	I	T	N	N	K	U	M	T	S	I	M	O	G
H	D	K	T	I	R	M	N	I	W	V	I	H	C
G	H	T	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E	J	L
M	N	N	B	I	F	E	E	T	U	B	U	U	R
I	T	C	G	N	F	N	U	L	V	E	F	I	V
D	F	F	A	L	I	H	O	N	J	C	E	S	F
N	M	I	A	L	R	S	N	C	J	N	J	D	T
I	E	C	H	E	E	R	S	W	W	D	U	G	F
G	I	N	P	R	W	N	R	G	G	F	A	A	A
H	T	V	W	P	O	N	D	C	J	O	P	E	H
T	G	U	C	D	R	Y	R	A	U	N	A	J	A
S	A	Y	S	H	K	W	Y	T	R	A	P	L	E
W	K	V	E	E	S	N	O	O	L	L	A	B	S

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ☐ BALLOONS | ☐ CALENDAR | ☐ CELEBRATE |
| ☐ CHEERS | ☐ CONFETTI | ☐ COUNTDOWN |
| ☐ FIREWORKS | ☐ GOALS | ☐ JANUARY |
| ☐ MIDNIGHT | ☐ PARTY | ☐ RESOLUTION |



22

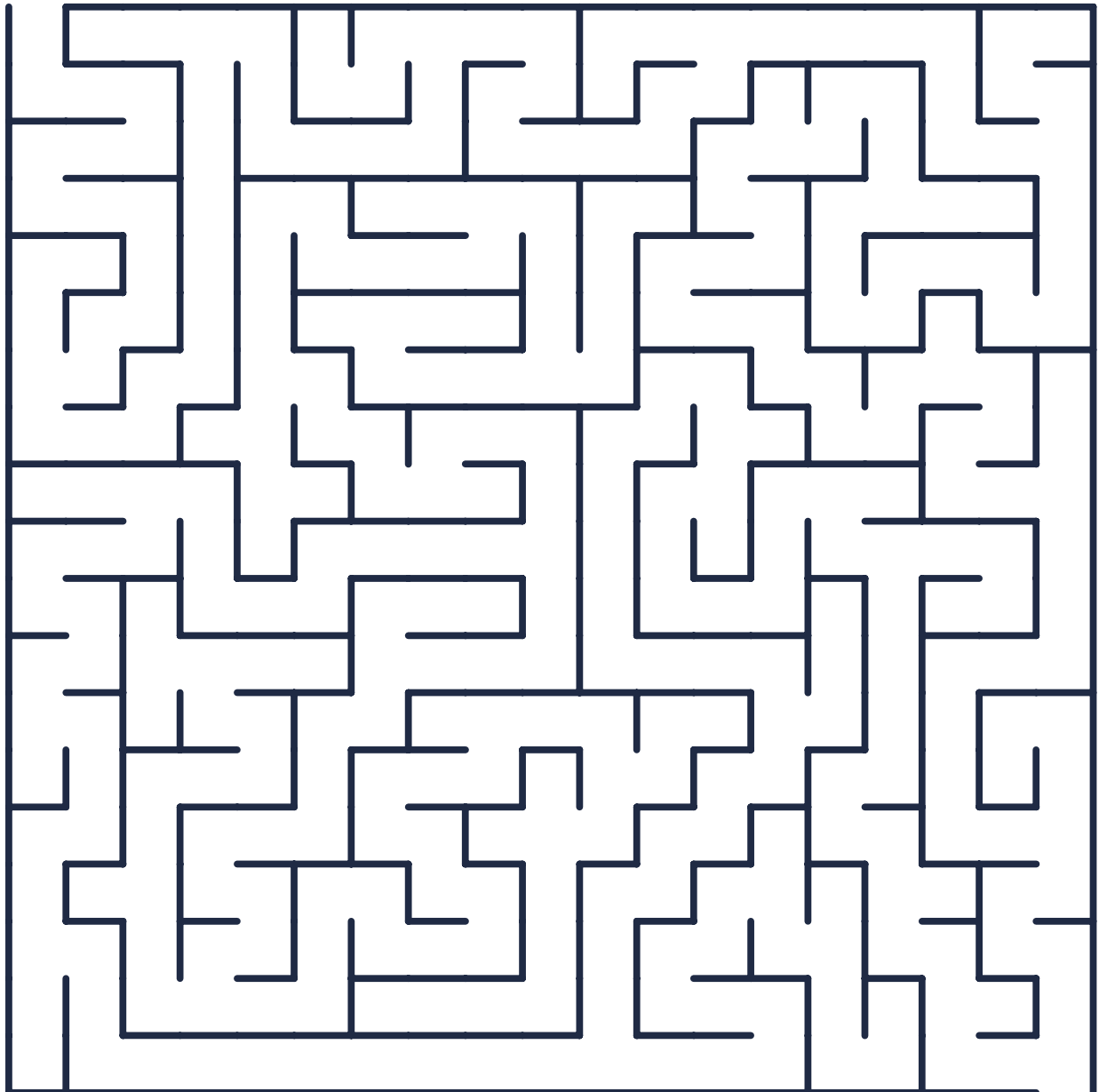
The great New Year maze

Ages 8–10 · Level 5 (Challenge) · about 20 minutes

Start at the party hat and find the one path to the firework. Use a pencil so you can rub out dead ends.



Start



Finish



23

New Year Number Riddle Code

Ages 8–10 · Level 4 (Tricky) · about 15 minutes

Each number stands for a letter: A = 1, B = 2 and so on. Crack the code to answer the riddle.

What do you always run out of on New Year's Eve

A

1

B

2

C

3

D

4

E

5

F

6

G

7

H

8

I

9

J

10

K

11

L

12

M

13

N

14

O

15

P

16

Q

17

R

18

S

19

T

20

U

21

V

22

W

23

X

24

Y

25

Z

26

20

9

13

5



24

New Year Secret Message

Ages 8–10 · Level 5 (Challenge) · about 20 minutes

Every letter in this secret message has moved along the alphabet. Use the clues in the key to fill in the missing letters, then decode the message.

Each letter moved 1 place. Top row = code, bottom row = real letter.

B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
A	?	?	?	E	?	?	?	I	?	?	?	M
O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
?	?	?	Q	?	?	?	U	?	?	?	Y	?

	I	B	Q	Q	Z		O	F	X	
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		_____	_____	_____	
Z	F	B	S		U	P		B	M	M
_____	_____	_____	_____		_____	_____		_____	_____	_____

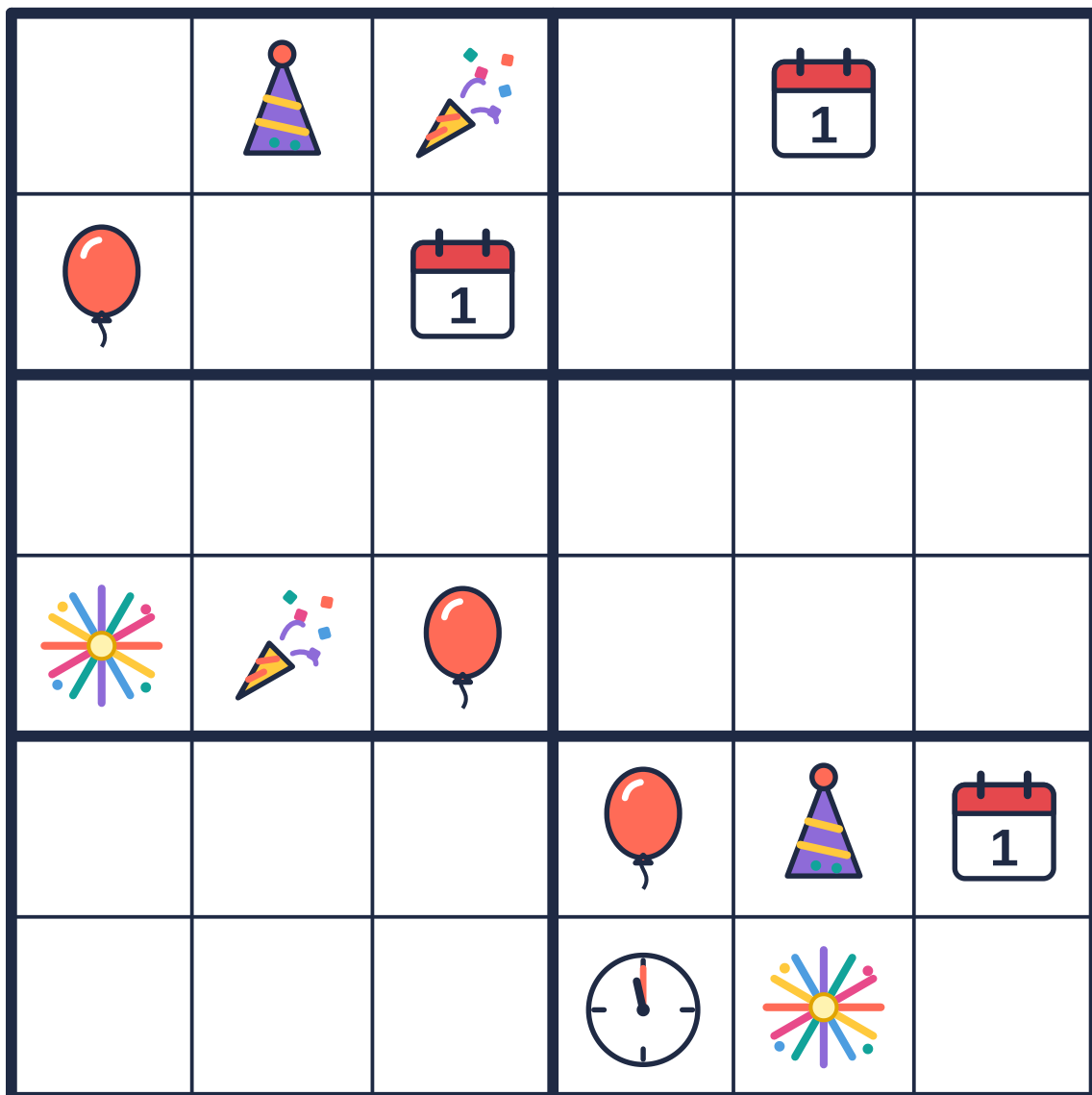


25

Party Picture Sudoku

Ages 8–10 · Level 5 (Challenge) · about 20 minutes

Draw the missing pictures. Each picture appears once in every row, every column and every 2×3 box.

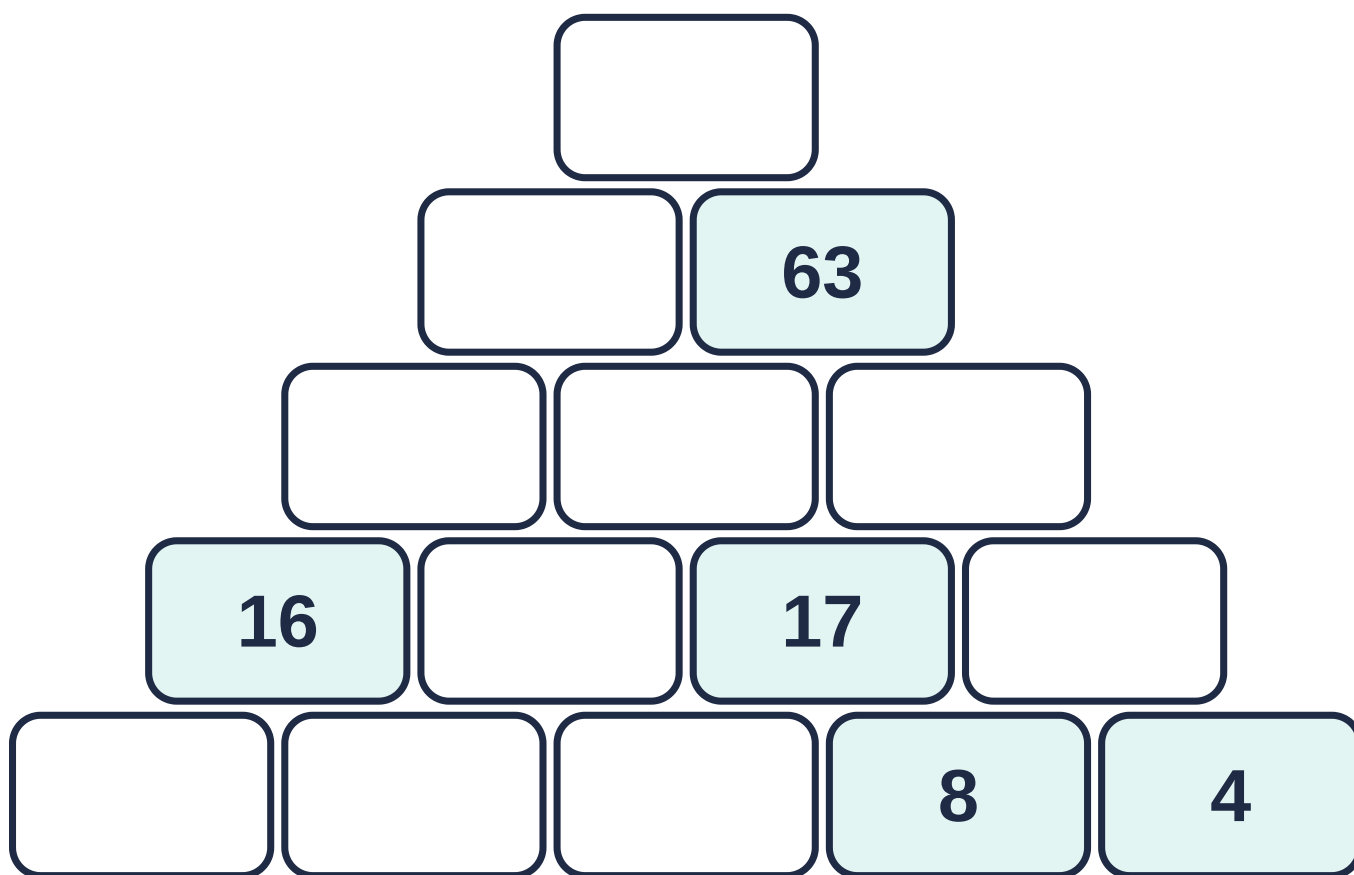


26

Countdown Number Pyramid

Ages 8–10 · Level 5 (Challenge) · about 20 minutes

Each brick is the sum of the two bricks under it. Some empty bricks need adding and some need taking away.

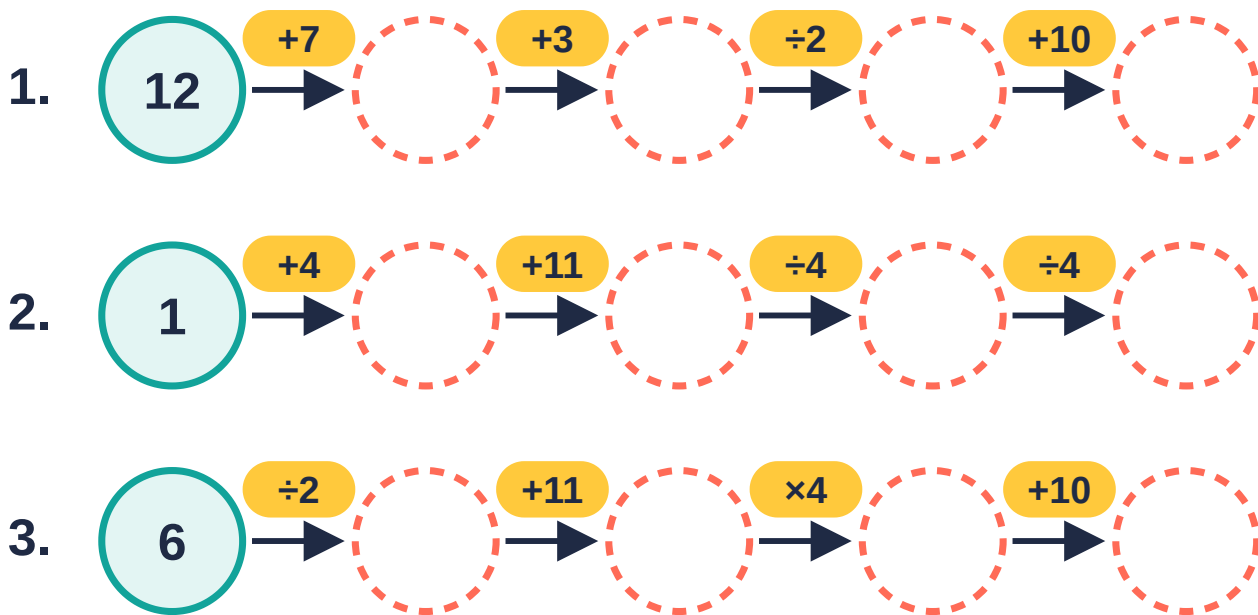


27

Party Planner Number Machine

Ages 8–10 · Level 4 (Tricky) · about 15 minutes

Start with the first number. Do each step in the yellow tags and write the answer in the next circle.



28

New Year Story Problems

Ages 8–10 · Level 4 (Tricky) · about 15 minutes

Read each story carefully. Draw a picture if it helps, then write the answer in the box.

- 1 Leo pays with 100 coins for a party hat costing 35 coins and a balloon costing 18 coins. How much change does he get?

Answer: coins

- 2 A year has 52 weeks. How many weeks are there in 3 years?

Answer:

- 3 Mia saves 15 coins every month. How many coins has she saved after 6 months?

Answer: coins

- 4 What is a quarter of 48 cupcakes?

Answer: cupcakes



29

New Year Picture Sums

Ages 8–10 · Level 4 (Tricky) · about 15 minutes

Each picture stands for a number. Use the first line to find one picture, then use it to find the next.

$$\text{clock} + \text{clock} + \text{clock} = 27$$

$$\text{clock} + \text{clock} + \text{balloon} = 25$$

$$\text{balloon} + \text{confetti} + \text{confetti} = 21$$

Find the value of each picture:

$$\text{clock} = \boxed{}$$

$$\text{balloon} = \boxed{}$$

$$\text{confetti} = \boxed{}$$



30

New Year Detective Case

Ages 8–10 · Level 5 (Challenge) · about 20 minutes

Read the clues like a detective. Use the grid to mark what each child has and likes, then fill in the answer.

Clues

1. The child with the parrot loves swimming.
2. The child with the cat likes green best.
3. Zara does not love chess.
4. Zara does not have the turtle.
5. Hana does not love chess.
6. The child who likes yellow best has the turtle.
7. Zara does not like green best.
8. The child with the dog likes red best.
9. The child who loves football has the cat.
10. The child who loves drawing has the turtle.
11. Kofi does not like red best.
12. Kofi does not like green best.

	Pet				Colour				Hobby			
	cat	turtle	dog	parrot	orange	red	yellow	green	swimming	chess	drawing	football
Hana												
Kofi												
Ravi												
Zara												

Tip: put ✓ for yes and × for no. Each row and column has only one ✓.

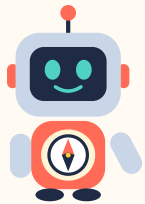




New Year Puzzle Champion

This certificate is proudly given to

for solving the **New Year Puzzle Pack** with patience, focus and
clever thinking.



Aara

Aara, Chief Puzzle Robot



Presented by (parent or teacher)

Date _____

Answer keys

1. New Year Word Search



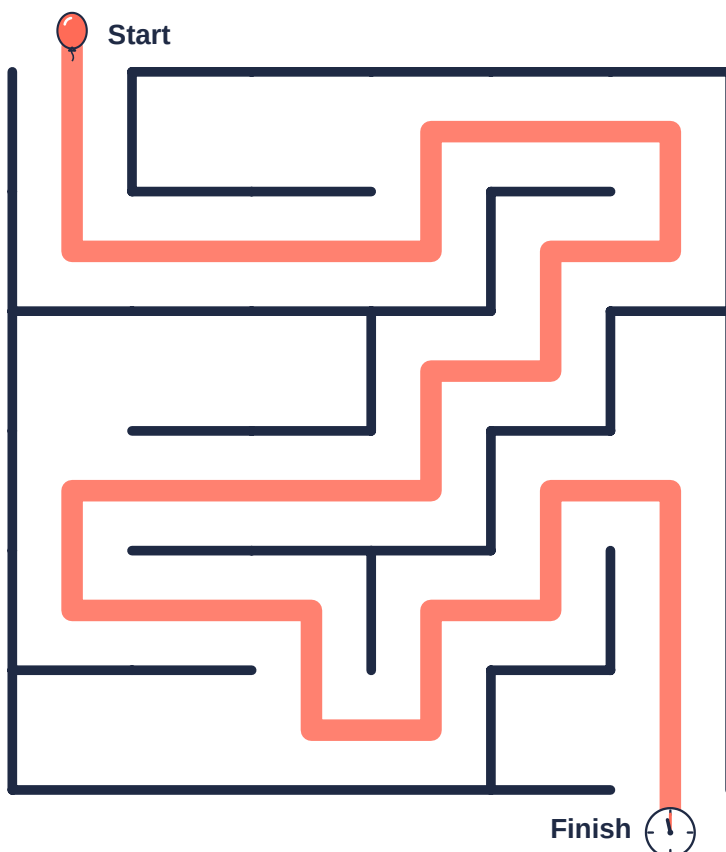
☐ FUN

☐ HAT

☐ NEW

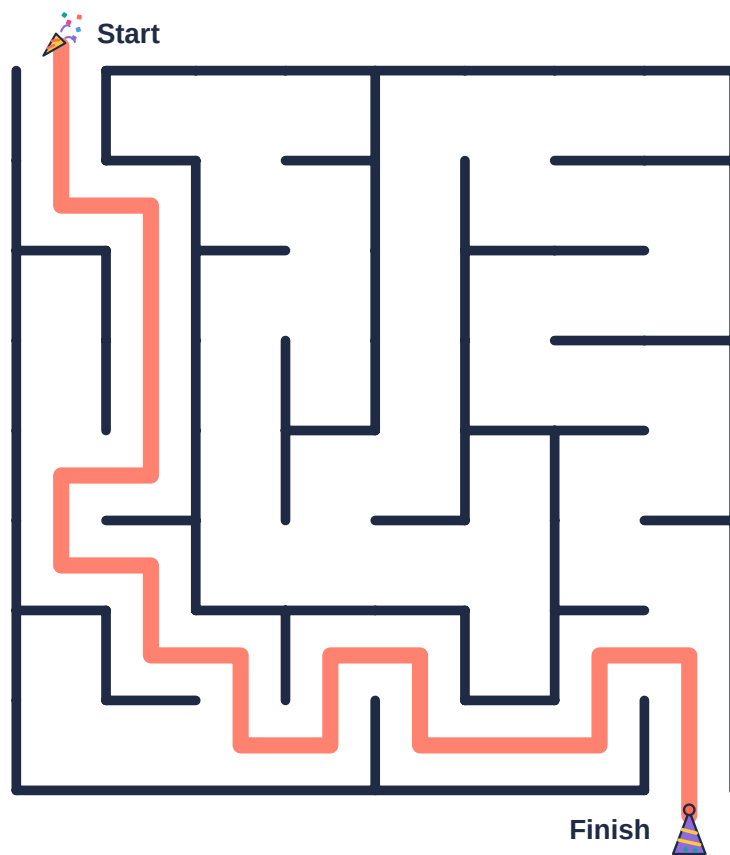
☐ POP

2. Take the balloon to the midnight clock



Answer keys

3. Find the way to the party

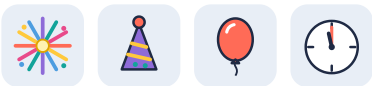


4. New Year Secret Word

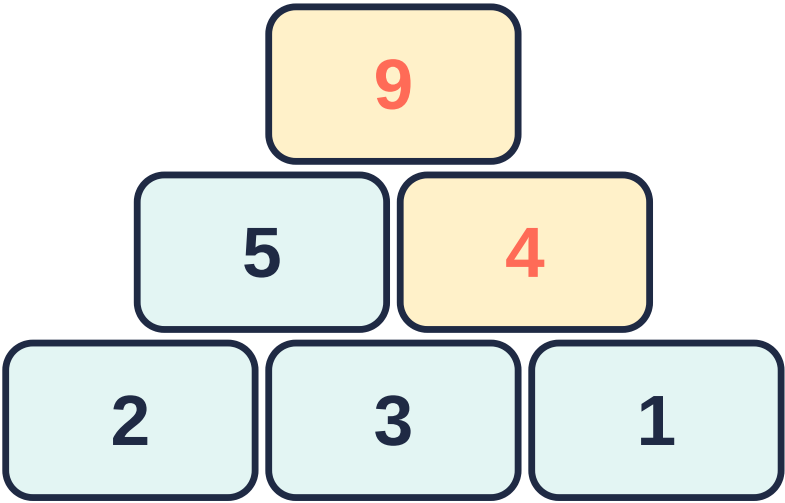

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \times & + & \sim \\ \hline \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{U} & \mathbf{N} \end{array}$$

Answer keys

5. Party Picture Sudoku



6. Countdown Number Pyramid



Answer keys

7. Fireworks Number Patterns

1.



Rule: Count on in 2s

2.



Rule: Count on in 2s

3.



Rule: Count on in 1s

8. New Year Story Problems

- 1 3 balloons are red and 4 are blue. How many balloons are there?

Answer:

7

- 2 There are 9 party hats. 4 children put one on. How many hats are left?

Answer:

5

- 3 Sam sees 2 big fireworks and then 6 more. How many fireworks does he see?

Answer:

8

Answer keys

9. New Year Picture Sums

$$\text{balloon} = 1$$

$$\text{fireworks} = 5$$

$$\text{balloon} + \text{fireworks} = 6$$

$$\text{fireworks} + \text{balloon} = 6$$

$$\text{balloon} + \text{balloon} = 2$$

10. New Year Odd One Out

1.    

It is a different picture.

2.    

It is a different picture.

3.    

It is a different picture.

4.    

It is a different picture.

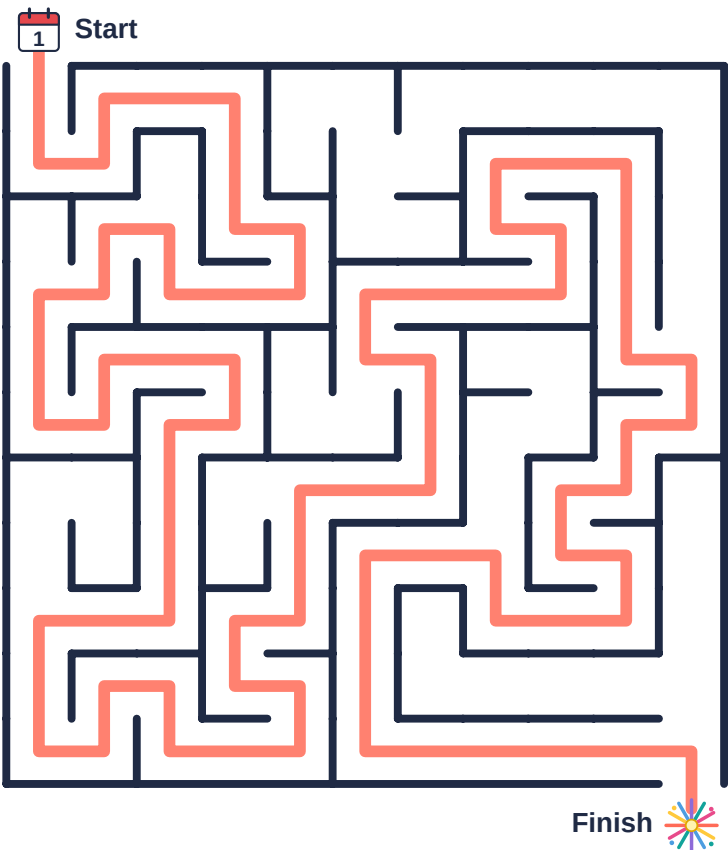
Answer keys

11. New Year Word Search



- ☐ BALLOON
- ☐ CHEER
- ☐ CLOCK
- ☐ FIREWORK
- ☐ JANUARY
- ☐ MIDNIGHT
- ☐ PARTY
- ☐ WISH

12. From the calendar to the fireworks



Answer keys

13. New Year Riddle Code

What starts again brand new on 1 January?

▼
A

^
B

△
C

⬡
D

◆
E

★
G

＋
L

■
M

~
N

□
R

⋯
S

✕
X



A

△
C

▼
A

＋
L

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E

~
N

⬡
D

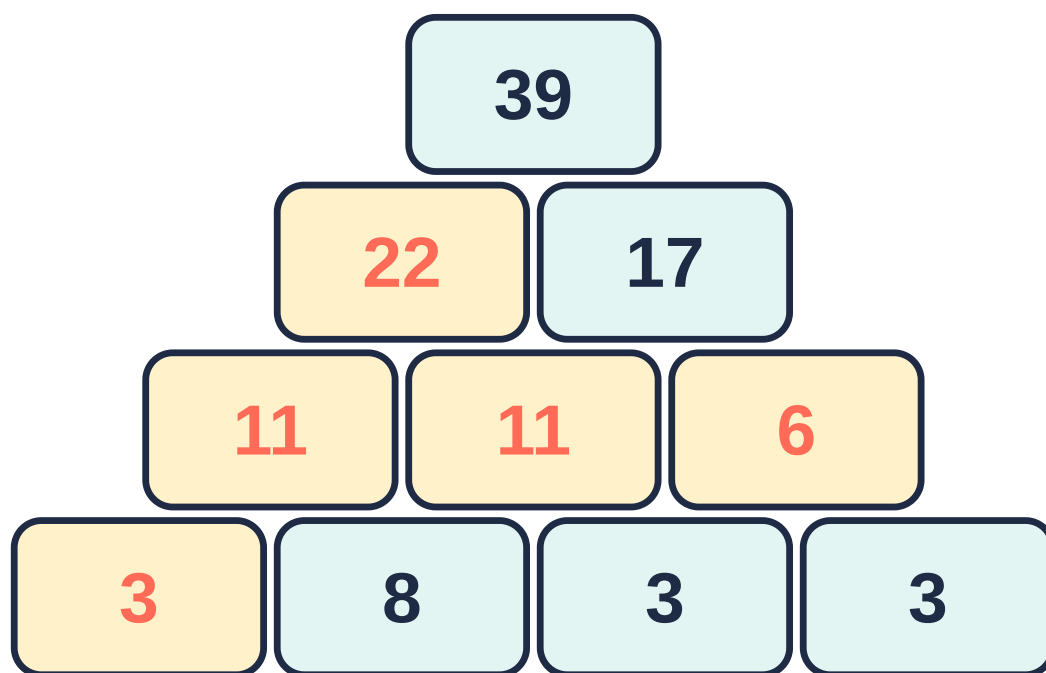
▼
A

□
R

14. Party Picture Sudoku

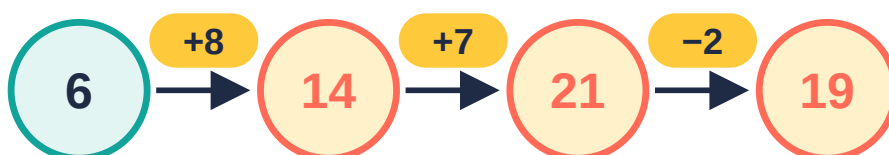
Answer keys

15. Countdown Number Pyramid



16. Countdown Number Machine

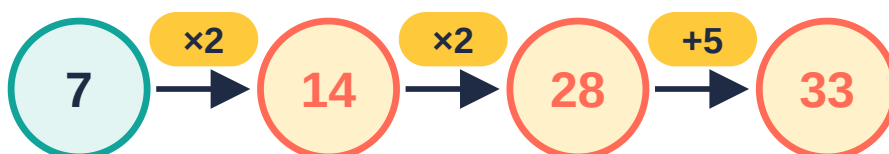
1.



2.



3.



Answer keys

17. Fireworks Number Patterns

1.

4	8	16	32	64
---	---	----	----	----

Rule: Double each time

2.

40	33	26	19	12	5
----	----	----	----	----	---

Rule: Take away 7 each time

3.

44	48	52	56	60	64
----	----	----	----	----	----

Rule: Add 4 each time

4.

53	45	37	29	21	13
----	----	----	----	----	----

Rule: Take away 8 each time

18. New Year Story Problems

- 1 10 children each blow up 2 balloons. How many balloons are there?

Answer: 20

- 2 50 treats are shared equally between 5 friends. How many treats does each friend get?

Answer: 10

- 3 A year has 12 months. 7 months have gone by. How many months are left?

Answer: 5

- 4 The fireworks start at 9 o'clock and stop 3 hours later. At what o'clock do they stop?

Answer: 12 o'clock

Answer keys

19. New Year Detective Case

Clues

1. Leo does not love reading.
2. The child who loves reading eats the apple.
3. The child who loves football eats the banana.
4. Ben does not love chess.
5. Leo does not love chess.

	Fruit			Hobby		
	grape	apple	banana	football	reading	chess
Mia	✓	x	x	x	x	✓
Leo	x	x	✓	✓	x	x
Ben	x	✓	x	x	✓	x

Mia eats the grape and loves chess.
Leo eats the banana and loves football.
Ben eats the apple and loves reading.

20. New Year Odd One Out

1. **71** 35 75 45

The others are multiples of 5.

2. 19 **32** 13 17

The others are odd.

3. 50 60 70 **97**

The others are tens (10, 20, 30...).

4. 90 70 **66** 60

The others are multiples of 5.

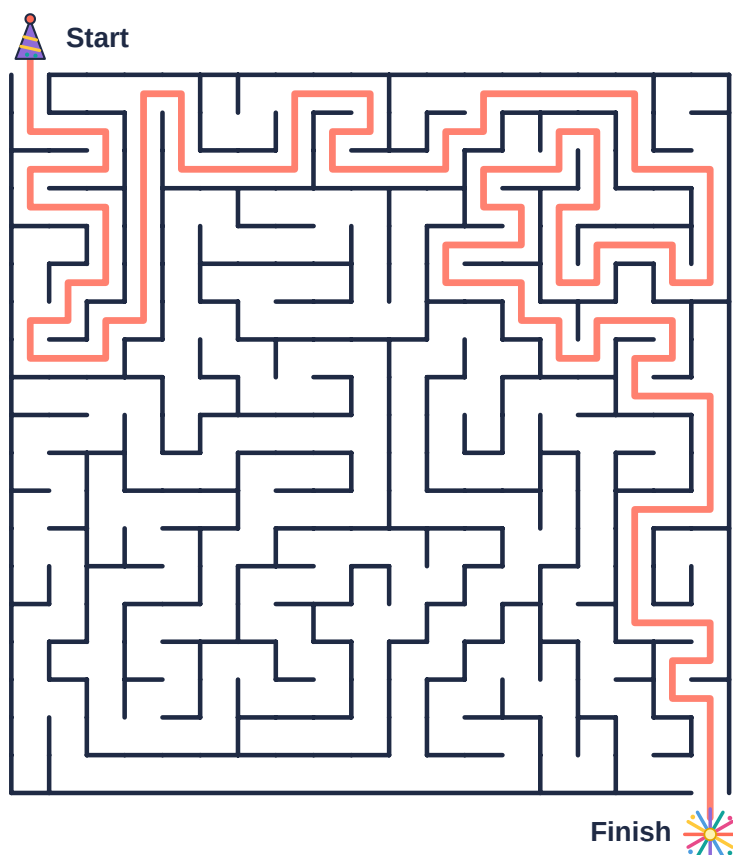
Answer keys

21. New Year Word Search



- ☐ BALLOONS
 - ☐ CALENDAR
 - ☐ CELEBRATE
 - ☐ CHEERS
 - ☐ CONFETTI
 - ☐ COUNTDOWN
 - ☐ FIREWORKS
 - ☐ GOALS
 - ☐ JANUARY
 - ☐ MIDNIGHT
 - ☐ PARTY
 - ☐ RESOLUTION

22. The great New Year maze



Answer keys

23. New Year Number Riddle Code

What do you always run out of on New Year's Eve

A 1	B 2	C 3	D 4	E 5	F 6	G 7	H 8	I 9	J 10	K 11	L 12	M 13
N 14	O 15	P 16	Q 17	R 18	S 19	T 20	U 21	V 22	W 23	X 24	Y 25	Z 26

20 9 13 5
T I M E

24. New Year Secret Message

Each letter moved 1 place. Top row = code, bottom row = real letter.

B A	C B	D C	E D	F E	G F	H G	I H	J I	K J	L K	M L	N M
O N	P O	Q P	R Q	S R	T S	U T	V U	W V	X W	Y X	Z Y	A Z

I B Q Q Z O F X
H A P P Y N E W

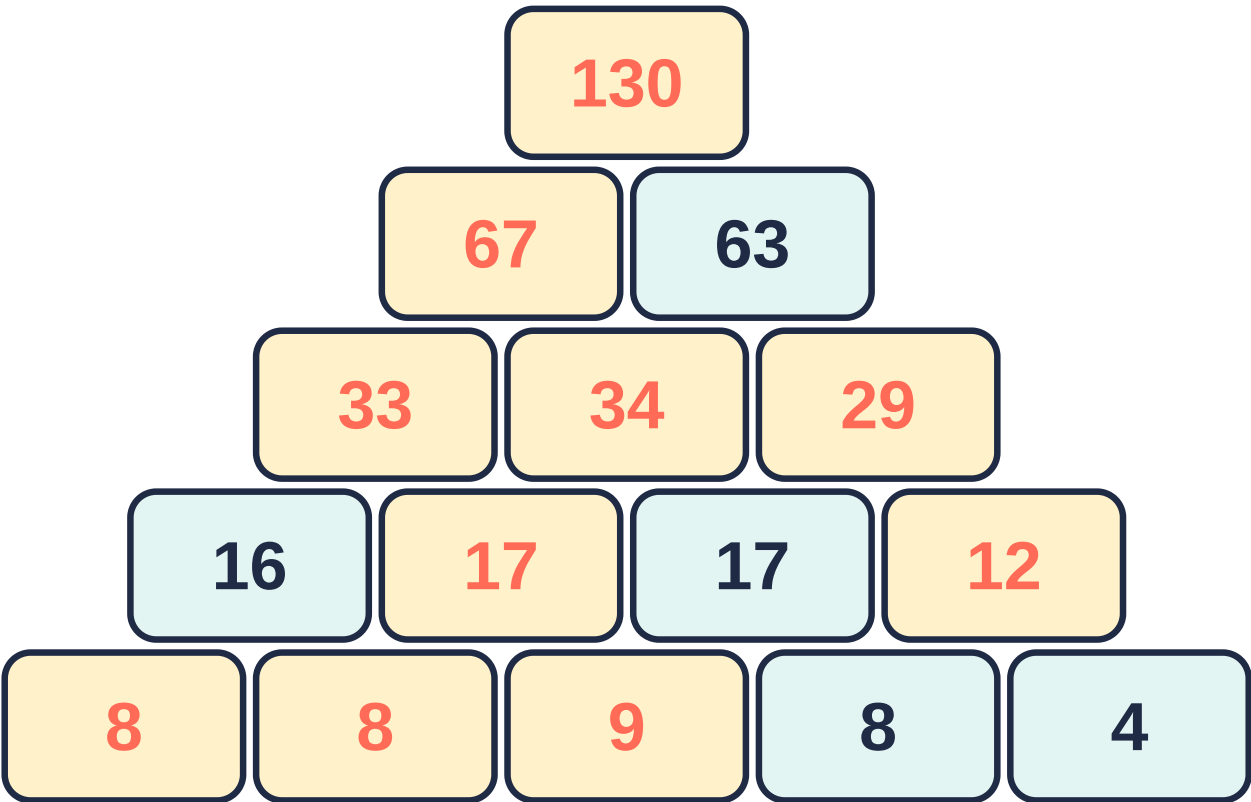
Z F B S U P B M M
Y E A R T O A L L

Answer keys

25. Party Picture Sudoku

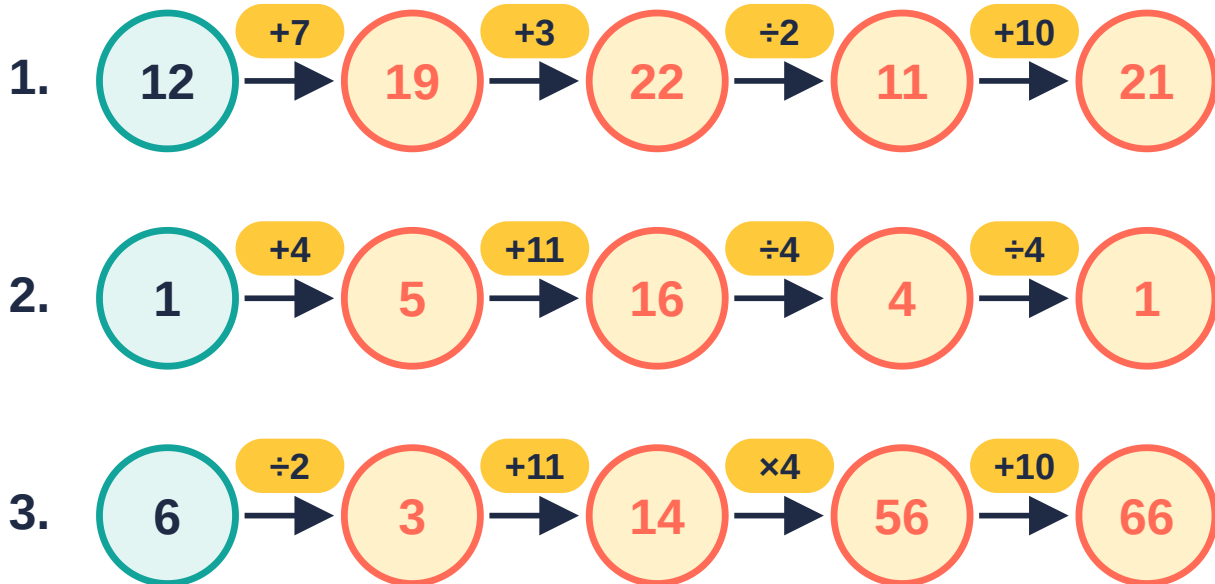


26. Countdown Number Pyramid



Answer keys

27. Party Planner Number Machine



28. New Year Story Problems

- 1 Leo pays with 100 coins for a party hat costing 35 coins and a balloon costing 18 coins. How much change does he get?

Answer: coins

- 2 A year has 52 weeks. How many weeks are there in 3 years?

Answer:

- 3 Mia saves 15 coins every month. How many coins has she saved after 6 months?

Answer: coins

- 4 What is a quarter of 48 cupcakes?

Answer: cupcakes

Answer keys

29. New Year Picture Sums

 +  +  = 27

 +  +  = 25

 +  +  = 21

Find the value of each picture:

 = 9

 = 7

 = 7

30. New Year Detective Case

Clues

- 1. The child with the parrot loves swimming.
- 2. The child with the cat likes green best.
- 3. Zara does not love chess.
- 4. Zara does not have the turtle.
- 5. Hana does not love chess.
- 6. The child who likes yellow best has the turtle.
- 7. Zara does not like green best.
- 8. The child with the dog likes red best.
- 9. The child who loves football has the cat.
- 10. The child who loves drawing has the turtle.
- 11. Kofi does not like red best.
- 12. Kofi does not like green best.

	Pet				Colour				Hobby			
	cat	turtle	dog	parrot	orange	red	yellow	green	swimming	chess	drawing	football
Hana	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	✓
Kofi	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	✓	x
Ravi	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	✓	x	x
Zara	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x

Hana has the cat and likes green best and loves football.
Kofi has the turtle and likes yellow best and loves drawing.
Ravi has the dog and likes red best and loves chess.
Zara has the parrot and likes orange best and loves swimming.

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