

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: The Squirrel's Nut Cache: Memory Scouts First Grade Quiz

Can you remember where an animal hides its winter food? Apply sorting and recall skills to solve brain-teasing secret code scenarios.

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**1. Mia is hiding all her blue marbles in a sandbox and her red marbles in a grass patch. Why is she doing this?**

**Answer:** B) To help her brain group them to remember better

Grouping items by color or location is a cognitive strategy called 'categorization' that makes it easier for our memory to find information later.

**2. Leo wants to remember a secret code: 2-4-6. He pretends he is hopping like a bunny 3 times while saying it. This is called \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** B) Encoding with movement

Encoding is the first step of memory. Using your body and movement helps the brain lock the information in more strongly than just looking at it.

**3. If you look at something once and then never think about it again, your brain will keep it forever like a treasure chest.**

**Answer:** B) False

Memory requires attention and rehearsal. If we don't use or review information, our brain often clears it out (forgetting) to make room for new things.

**4. Sam is trying to solve a puzzle. He tries a square piece, then a round piece, and then a star piece until one fits. What is Sam doing?**

**Answer:** A) Using a mental strategy to solve a problem

Problem-solving is a cognitive process. Testing different options to see what works is a specific strategy called trial-and-error.

**5. A scout remembers the way home by looking for a big oak tree. This tree acts as a \_\_\_\_ to help him find the path.**

**Answer:** C) Memory cue

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A memory cue or 'landmark' is a trigger that helps our brain retrieve stored information about where we are or where to go.

**6. Your brain is like a muscle; if you practice remembering hard things, it gets better at it.**

**Answer:** A) True

Cognitive skills like memory and attention can be strengthened through practice and challenging puzzles.

**7. If you see a bird with a worm in its beak, you might guess it is going to feed its babies. What is this called?**

**Answer:** B) Reasoning

Reasoning is using what you see and what you already know to make a smart guess about what is happening.

**8. Jen wants to remember a store list. She makes up a silly story about a giant banana wearing bread shoes. This is a \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** C) Memory trick

Connecting new information to funny or vivid images makes it more memorable, which is a high-level cognitive trick for storage.

**9. Solving a maze requires you to keep a picture of the path in your head while you move your pencil.**

**Answer:** A) True

This uses 'working memory,' which is the ability to hold and use information for a short time to complete a task.

**10. You see your friend crying and remember when you were sad last week. You decide to give them a hug. This is using memory for:**

**Answer:** C) Understanding how others feel

Retrieving memories of our own emotions helps us with social cognition, allowing us to empathize and solve social problems.