

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.

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.