

Lateral thinking...

Portfolio
... because everyone's different...



Lateral Thinking Puzzles

The Boat Ladder

The rope ladder of a boat hangs over the side of the boat and just touches the water. The ladder rungs are 8 inches apart. How many rungs will be under the water when the tide rises 3.5 feet?

The boat floats so when the tide rises 3.5 feet, the boat and its ladder will also rise, no rungs will be under the water.

Carl Wins

Carl wins race after race, he is the fastest runner, yet he gets no trophy, why?

Carl is a horse.

To Light a Fire

You are hiking with a friend in the deep woods of northern Canada. A cold front quickly approaches and you find cover behind a sheltered boulder. A fire will be necessary if you are to survive the storm. In your pack you have only one match, a candle, a tightly wound ball of birch bark and a roll of toilet paper. Which would you light first?

The Match

A Good Guess?

There is a man who guesses the score of every football game before Kick-off. How can he do this?

Before the game starts the score is always 0-0

Train Dodge

There is a man walking down a set of railroad tracks. He notices a train speeding towards him. He runs forward towards the train and then jumps off the tracks. Why did the man run forward and not just jump off the tracks?

The man was nearing the end of a tunnel when he saw the train. He needed to run towards the train to get out of the tunnel before he jumped off the tracks.

Don't Touch the Bottle

You have a beer bottle. There is a small pen cap inside the bottle. You must get the pen cap out of the bottle. Here's the catch, you cannot touch or break the bottle...

Just pour some water in the bottle, the pen cap will rise up and out of the top of the bottle.



Digging Dirt

How much dirt is in a round hole that is 7 feet deep with a diameter of 4.5 feet?

None at all. The hole is made by digging dirt out, so... the hole is empty.

The Crazy Cat

A cat jumped out the window of a 30 storey apartment building and lived. How?

He jumped out the ground floor window.

The Pilot

There is a boy and his father on a late flight from New York to Denver. Part way through the flight the boy becomes curious and asks to see the plane controls. They allow him in the cockpit, the pilot shows him the controls and after the boy goes back to his seat the pilot tells one of the attendants, "that's my son". How is this possible?

The pilot is the boy's mother, and you thought all pilots were men!

Frequent Occurrence

It occurs once in a minute and once in an hour, but never in a second. What is it?

The letter U.