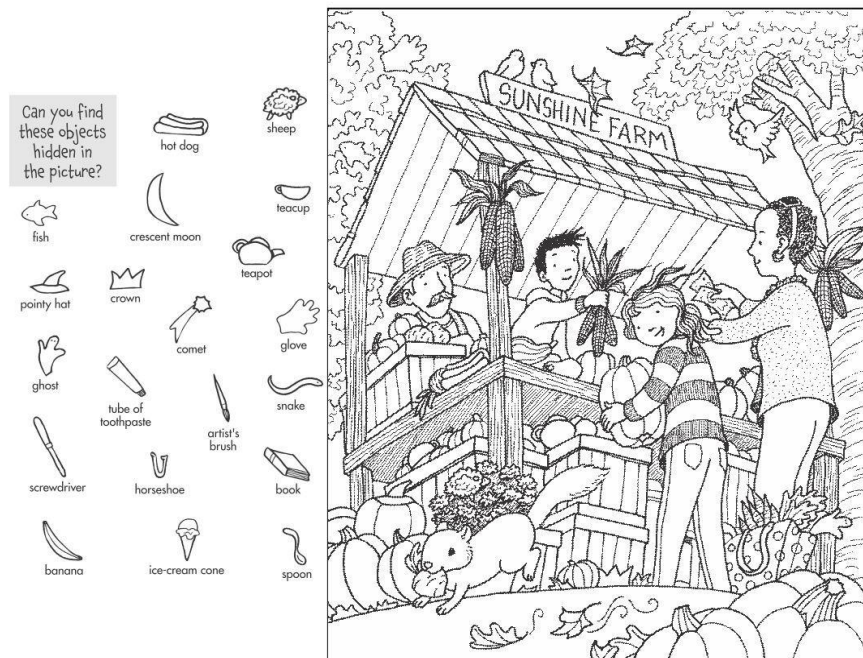


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THE ART OF VISUAL PUZZLES AND IMAGE RIDDLES

Visual conundrums, called image riddles or visual puzzles, are graphical representations intended for individuals to unravel concealed messages, identify objects, or solve problems. These puzzles leverage patterns and visual cues and frequently employ optical illusions to convey their intended meanings. Deciphering image riddles demands the application of perception and problem-solving skills to unveil hidden meanings or solutions. Often featured in children's books and brain-teasing games, image riddles serve as an enjoyable and interactive means to assess cognitive abilities. These puzzles typically rely on visual detection, requiring solvers to observe and identify subtle details keenly. For instance, in a "Find the Hidden Object" riddle, as seen in iSpy children's books and games, solvers must visually discern the camouflaged item within the image.

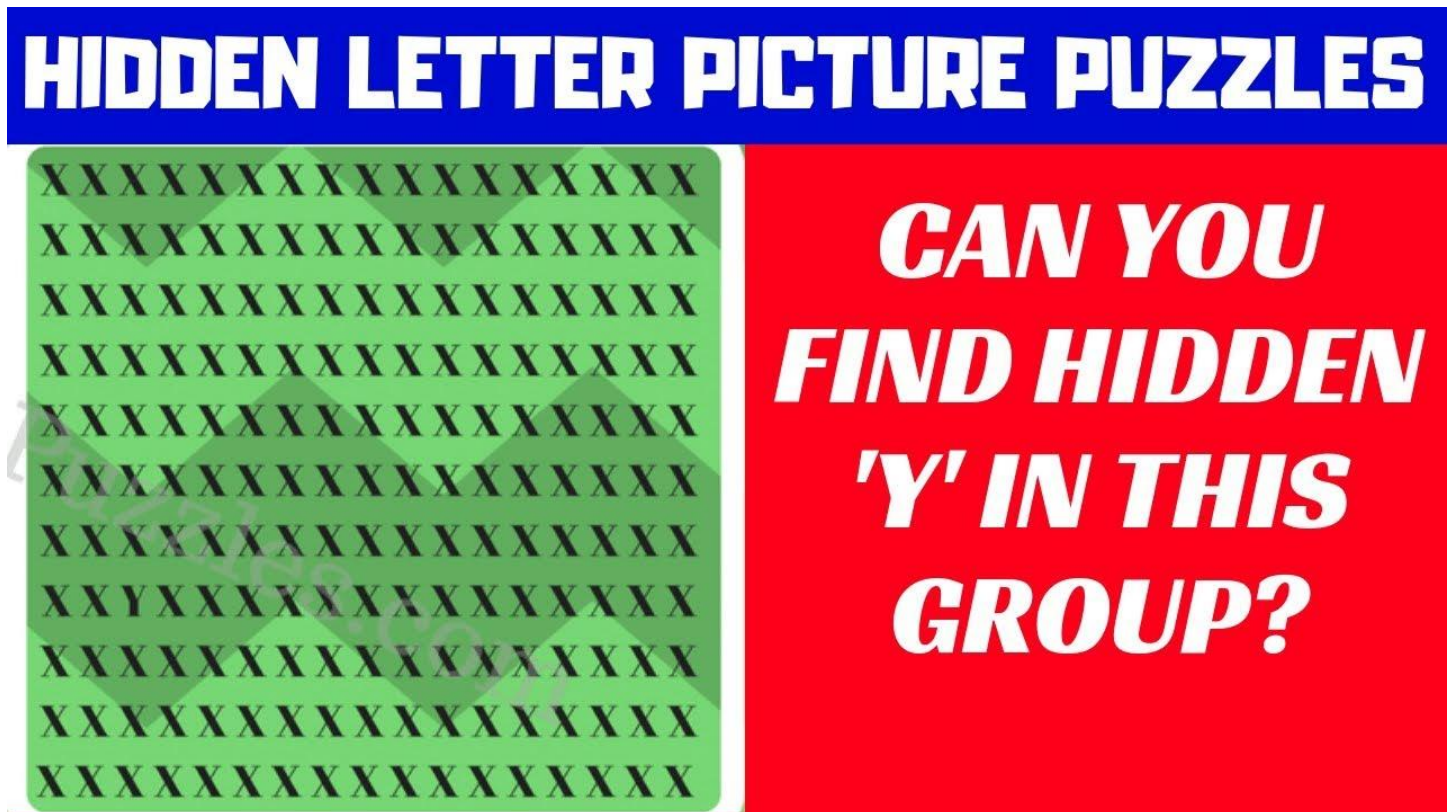


Solving this intricate image puzzle can be time-consuming, as evident from the detailed solution. Each illustration on the left side must be located within the larger image on the right. The crescent moon is cleverly incorporated into the rabbit as part of the pumpkin, while the horseshoe disguises itself as a handle on the spotted bag. Notably, the hot dog is situated in the corner of the table, and the book forms the roof tile above the hanging corn. The glove cleverly becomes part of the tree on the left, and the crown is positioned next to the small pumpkin on the ground behind the rabbit. Discover the hidden banana within the corn on the right, and identify the comet cleverly concealed in the lower right pumpkin stalk. Locate the screwdriver discreetly placed on the backside of the left roof, and find the toothpaste tube adjacent to the small girl's leg on the inside. Spot the upside-down teacup under the table on the left and identify the fish cleverly disguised as a bundle of leaves in the tree on the left. Lastly, observe the snake nestled in the small girl's hair and the sheep subtly integrated into the small bush in front of the stall.

Commonsense reasoning is paramount in solving numerous image riddles, as it requires individuals to apply everyday logic for a successful resolution. Take, for example, an image featuring a melted snowman on a

summer day, where commonsense reasoning would lead to the understanding that the image depicts an unusual scenario.

Textual elements within the images play a significant role in certain image riddles, serving as either a clue or an integral part of the puzzle's narrative. Solvers, therefore, need to skillfully merge the textual information with visual cues to arrive at the correct solution. For instance, a riddle might contain a caption such as "What am I?" or "One of these is NOT like the other," where the textual context is crucial in solving the puzzle.



Within this image puzzle, the task is to "Find the Letter Y" among all of the letters "X"s.

This puzzle works because of the similarities between the two letters.

The riddle is solved once the letter "Y" is discovered in the eighth row, third from the left.

Additional image riddles include Transformation Riddles, wherein an image undergoes changes between two versions. The task involves identifying any number of disparities between the two images. As an illustration, can you discern the 7 differences in the image provided below?



The solution: 1. The dash in the “Ice-Cream” sign disappears. 2. The rabbit at the bottom left corner has one more scope of ice cream. 3. The rabbit at the top left corner faces a different direction. 4. “Differences” is missing an “f”. 5. The bear in the top right corner has one less scoop of ice cream. 6. The pattern of stripes on the awning changes, starting with a white stripe instead of red. 7. The rabbit towards the bottom right is holding ice cream.

We decided that we had a good grasp of the concepts presented. Here are our image riddles:

This first riddle might be easy to solve. We decided to create a compound word puzzle.

1. These two images, when combined, will create an event name. What is it?

$$\square + \square = ?$$

This next riddle took some thinking to create and will need common sense reasoning to solve.

2. Look at the image below. What is this a representation of? The answer is a singular word.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{MARY} \\ + \text{MARY} \\ \hline ? \end{array}$$

Hint: what is happening to the two words in the picture?

Solutions:

1. This riddle shows “world” and a “cup.” When combined, the riddle’s solution is “World Cup.”

$$\square + \square = \text{World Cup}$$

2. The answer to this riddle is the word “SUMMARY.” We are finding the “SUM” of “MARY + MARY.”

Resources:

Jones, Meghan. “Find the Hidden Objects in These Pictures.” *Reader’s Digest*, Reader’s Digest, 10 Aug. 2023, www.rd.com/article/find-the-hidden-objects/.

Tokoto, Skylar Dayas, et al. “Test: Try to Find the Odd One out in Less than 10 Seconds.” *Bright Side - Inspiration. Creativity. Wonder.*, Bright Side, 9 May 2021, brightside.me/articles/test-try-to-find-the-odd-one-out-in-less-than-10-seconds-801866/.

Shandilya, Archana. “Word Puzzles Brain Teaser: Identify the Words inside the Boxes through Hints in 30 Secs.” *Jagranjosh.Com*, Jagranjosh.com, 24 June 2022, www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/word-puzzles-brain-teaser-identify-words-inside-boxes-through-hints-clues-1655989947-1.