

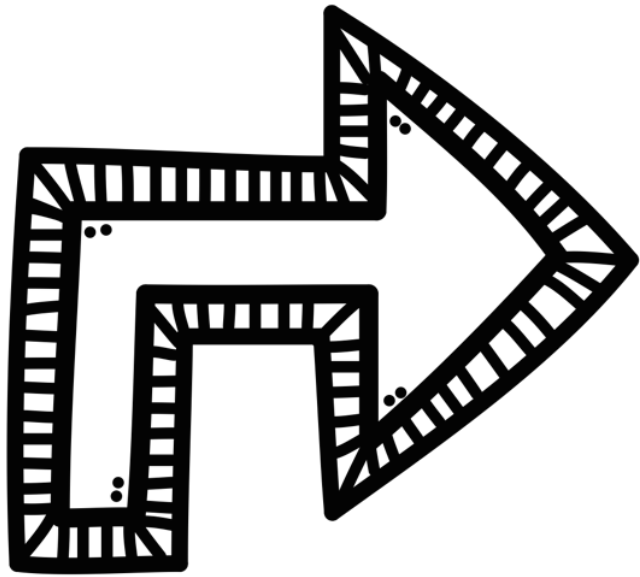
JANUARY DAILY DENDRITE CHALLENGE

a digital resource for critical thinking



PAPERLESS, QUICK, AND FUN!

- 1) Open the slideshow or the PDF file.
- 2) Click on a brain-teaser.
- 3) Think, share, and grow new dendrites!





**ACTIVATE CRITICAL
THINKING SKILLS
EVERY DAY!**



A variety of brain teasers, problems, logical thinking questions, and open-ended challenges are included for each month!


1

Brrr! It's cold outside!
My nose is cold, but my smile is wide.
I'm ready to play, sing, and give cheers.
I'm thankful my headpiece is covering my ears. Who am I?

A  B 

7

Find three differences.




10

How many words can you make out of the letters in this word:

SNOWFLAKE


After you share your thoughts and ideas, click the button to go back to the home screen.




4

The answer is seven fish. What is the question?

Use the picture below to create your story problem or question.




After you share your thoughts and ideas, click the button to go back to the home screen.




6

Pretend that you are stuck in a snow globe. Oh, no! What is inside of the snow globe with you? What will you do all day? Use complete sentences when you share your story.




24

hot is to fire
as
cold is to _____



28


I am a bird, but I cannot fly.
I lay eggs, but I am not a chicken.
I eat fish, but I am not a seagull.
Who am I?



25

code. What's the secret word?


a t s w o e f n



15

Which fact does NOT belong in the set?

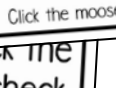
11-2 2+7 6+3 12-4 4+5



28

Which doesn't belong in this set? Why? Check the fact to check your answer.


5+3 2+6 4+4 2+7 1+7



1


How does Polar Bear feel and why?

Share your ideas. Then, click the face to check your answer.




25

First Next Last



15

After you share your thoughts and ideas, click the button to go back to the home screen.




SELF-CHECKING AND INTERACTIVE






Challenges include a clickable self-checking feature!

I'm showing an emotion on my snowy, cold face. I dropped my lunch and watched it fall all over the place! It didn't make me angry, and it didn't make me blue, but I'm worried I'll be hungry because I spilled all of my stew!

How do I feel now?

19




				
furious	gloomy	anxious	pleased	jubilant

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Try again!

Click the picture below to go back to today's daily dendrite challenge.





You are correct!

Way to go! You used your brain power!
Click the picture below to go to the home screen.




I am a bird, but I cannot fly.
I lay eggs, but I am not a chicken.
I eat fish, but I am not a seagull.
What am I?

28




Click the moose button to check your answer.

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penguin

Way to go! You used your brain power!
Click the picture below to go to the home screen.



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THIS RESOURCE IS PART OF A BUNDLE

If you are interested in purchasing the BUNDLE pack for the whole year, click below to learn more!

GROWING BUNDLE

DAILY DENDRITE CHALLENGE

a digital resource for critical thinking



MISS DECARBO 

IDEAS FOR USE

- morning circle
- before dismissal
- before or after lunch
- as an “exit” challenge each day
- as a “wake-up” challenge each day
- centers
- computer time
- transitions
- a warm-up or exit for small groups



ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

Thank you for choosing the Daily Dendrite Challenge! This is a fully digital and paperless resource for primary critical thinkers. Our students are not born with the ability to think critically. As educators, we must foster this type of thinking with the experiences, activities, discussions, and instruction we provide to our students. This resource was designed as a fun and engaging way for students to practice thinking creatively and critically. Furthermore, problem-solving, persistence, and an ability to see situations from different viewpoints are essential skills students need to develop.


The brain teasers provided in each month's Daily Dendrite Challenge vary from day to day. These teasers were created to help your students practice thinking critically, logically, creatively, and "out-of-the-box!" At times, you, as the educator, may need to provide assistance or facilitation in completing the brain teaser. You may also wish to provide a "think-aloud" to help students comprehend or work their way through the brain teaser. How much assistance you provide your students should be at your own discretion. The degree of assistance provided by the teacher may depend upon the grade level, classroom, students, goals, uses, time of the year, and individual needs.

Each month is designed around a theme, season, or holiday. In the future, additional Dendrite Challenges that are more general and not seasonal may be created by the author. However, at this time, the monthly resources are not editable or available for customization unless in the event of a technical error by the author. Thank you for your understanding. We hope you enjoy this critical thinking resource!


WHAT YOU NEED

To use the slideshow file, you will need a device that has Microsoft PowerPoint installed. The PDF file can also be used, as it contains clickable links. Sometimes, the text formatting can appear to be “off” when the slideshow file is used on a Mac. If this should happen, simply use the PDF file on your Mac device. The PDF file will work in the same way the slideshow does. As with all digital resources, you will want to ensure your computer and your Adobe is up-to-date.

Due to the digital nature of this resource, there is no worksheet or printable provided with this resource. If you wish to have your students show their work or thinking, I recommend having the students use individual whiteboards with a dry-erase marker. You could also have the students record their thinking into journals, notebooks, or on blank paper. An example of a brain teaser that you will want students to have workspace for is shown below. You can see that there could be multiple, open-ended answers for this brain teaser.



Pretend that you are stuck in a snow globe. Oh, no! What is inside of the snow globe with you? What will you do all day? Use complete sentences when you share your story.



After you share your thoughts and ideas, click the button to go back to the home screen.

6

DO YOU WANT TO TRY IT OUT FIRST?

On the next page, try out THREE daily dendrite challenges for FREE using this clickable PDF preview file. Simply click on the pictures the arrows are pointing to. Are you ready to use your brain and grow some dendrites?! Head to the next page and let's get started!



As you learn, dendrites grow so that neurons in your brain can make connections. When you challenge your brain by thinking hard to solve a problem, you are growing dendrites!

JANUARY DAILY DENDRITE CHALLENGE

TRY ME! #1



1

Brainy Bears

Snowflake Friends



3

Snow Day Fun



4

Fishing Frenzy



5

Polar Pick



6

Snow Dreams



7

Selfie Surprise



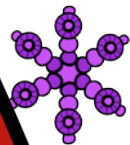
8

Snowy Puzzler



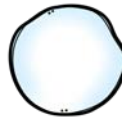
9

TRY ME! #15



10

Winter Words



11

Snowball Sums

TRY ME! #11



13

Hot It Up



14

Snowy Stories



15

Snowy Spelling



17

Tasty Words



Bird Buster



18

I Spy Snowmen



19

Winter Feelings



20

Polar Problems



21

Tricky Trees



22

Walrus Words



23

Story Skating



24

Analogy Action



25

Frozen Facts



26

Snowman Soup



27

Snow Day Fun



28

Animal Riddle



29

Fact Fight



30

Winter Recipes



31

Hat Puzzler

Mistakes are proof you're trying.



Credits & TOU

Brr! It's cold outside!

My nose is cold, but my smile is wide.

I'm ready to play, sing, and give cheers.

I'm thankful my headpiece is covering my ears. Who am I?



A



B



C

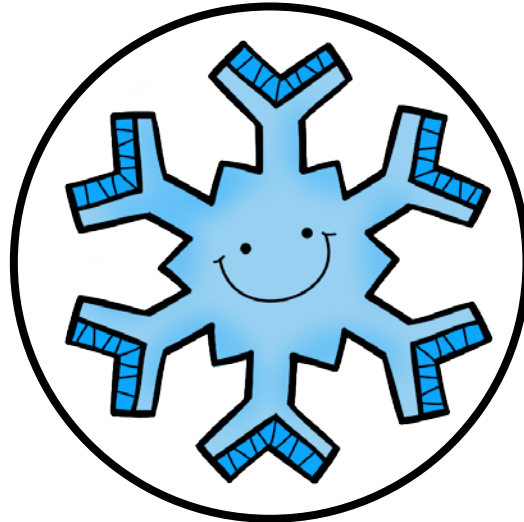
Try again!

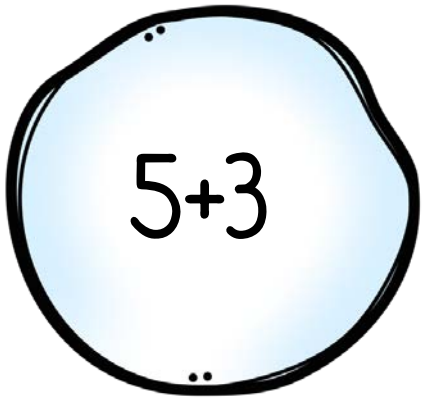
Click the picture below to go back to today's daily dendrite challenge.

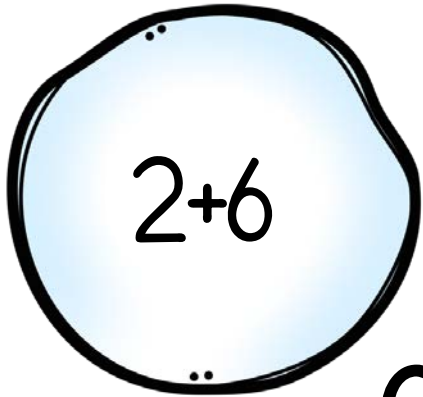


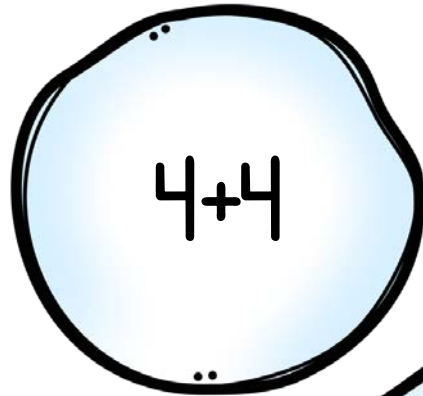
You are correct!

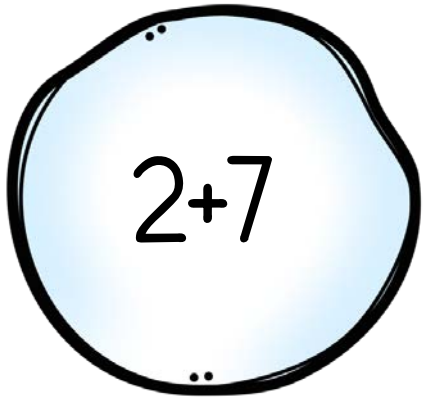
Way to go! You used your brain power!
Click the picture below to go to the home screen.

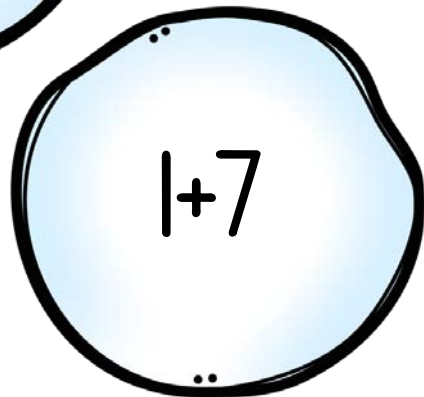


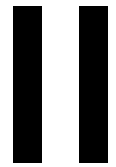
 $5+3$

 $2+6$

 $4+4$

 $2+7$

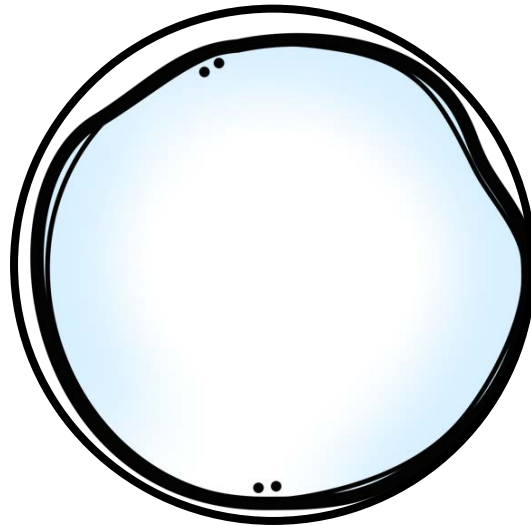
 $1+7$



Which fact
doesn't belong
in this set?
Why? Click the
fact to check
your answer.

Try again!

Click the picture below to go back to today's daily dendrite challenge.

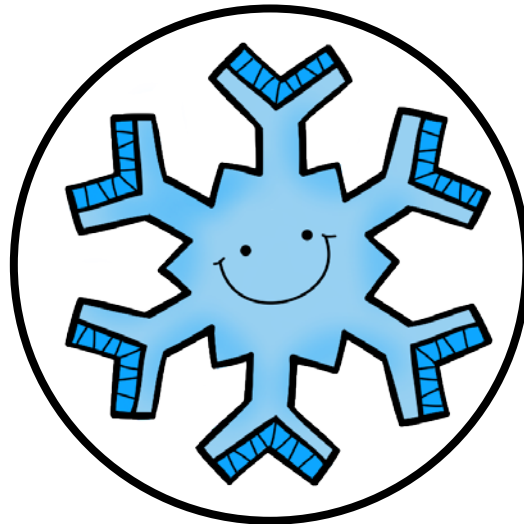


You are correct!


$2+7$ is the only fact in the set that does not have a sum of 8. $2+7=9$.

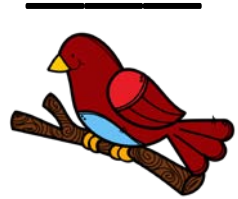
Way to go! You used your brain power!

Click the picture below to go to the home screen.



Use the code. What's the secret word?

									
r	i	a	t	s	w	o	e	f	n

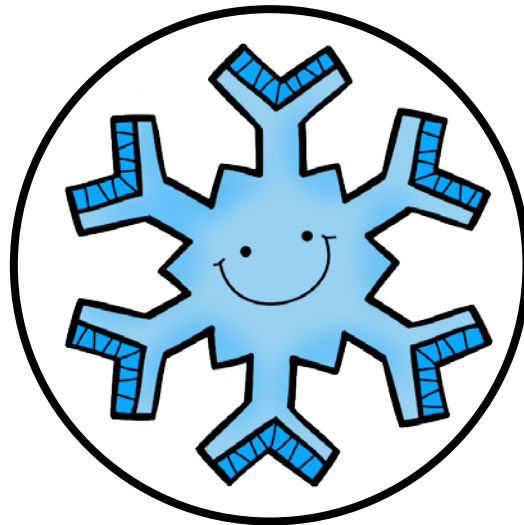


Click the snowy button to check your answer.



winter

Way to go! You used your brain power!
Click the picture below to go to the home screen.



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