



FOOTBALL CRYPTOGRAMS

117 JOKES & RIDDLES: BEGINNER



SECRET MESSAGE PUZZLES

Secret Message Puzzles (or Cryptograms) are great for teaching problem solving that helps in math, science, and computer programming. And they're super fun, too! These 117 puzzles are all at the beginner level to help young kids learn the rudimentary skill of using a code. They'll also be practicing letter recognition and early reading skills.

You can do these together as a class, use them as a bell ringer or down-time activity, or give them as homework or extra credit.

Football Jokes



Secret
Message

What do football players wear on Halloween?

2 1 5 6

!
0 1 3 4 3

Letter combinations

Problem solving

Code breaking

Perseverance

0 = 1 = 2 = 3 =

4 = 5 = 6 =



Secret
Message

Why did the football coach go to the bank?

7 10

5 13 7

0 2 4

8 12 9 6 7 13 6

.
11 9 1 3

0 = 1 = 2 = 3 = 4 =

5 = 6 = 7 = 8 = 9 =

10 = 11 = 12 = 13 =

117 Beginner Cryptograms



What's Included:

- 117 jokes in cryptogram form, each on a half sheet of paper
- The key is filled in at the bottom
- An answer key at the back
- Black and white and A4 (international) versions of all the pages

How to Play:

Transfer the letters from the key at the bottom to the appropriate box at the top by matching up the numbers. When all letters are transferred, the answer to the riddle will be revealed.

The image displays five 'Secret Message' cryptogram worksheets. Each worksheet has a cartoon character at the top and a riddle. The worksheets are arranged in a collage, showing both color and black and white versions.

Top Left (Color): Riddle: "Why did the football coach go to the bank?"
Grid: 6 9, 8 2 6, 11 5 7
Key: 0=A, 1=U, 2=, 5=I, 6=T, 7=, 10=K, 11=H, 12=

Top Right (Color): Riddle: "What do football players wear on Halloween?"
Grid: 1 3 5 6, 0 3 2 4 2 !
Key: 0=A, 1=U, 2=, 5=I, 6=T, 7=, 10=K, 11=H, 12=

Middle Left (Black and White): Riddle: "Why did the football coach go to the bank?"
Grid: 6 9, 8 2 6, 11 5 7
Key: 0=A, 1=U, 2=, 5=I, 6=T, 7=, 10=K, 11=H, 12=

Middle Right (Black and White): Riddle: "What do football players wear on Halloween?"
Grid: 1 3 5 6, 0 3 2 4 2 !
Key: 0=A, 1=U, 2=, 5=I, 6=T, 7=, 10=K, 11=H, 12=

Bottom Left (Color): Riddle: "Why did the football coach go to the bank?"
Grid: T O, G E T, H I S
12 4, 8 2 12, 7 9 10
Q U A R T E R
1 3 5 0 12 2 0
B A C K .
13 5 11 6
Key: 0=N, 1=L, 2=S, 3=O, 4=A, 5=W, 6=I, 7=H, 8=E, 9=T, 10=R, 11=A, 12=I, 13=F

Bottom Right (Color): Riddle: "What do football players wear on Halloween?"
Grid: F A C E, M A S K S !
6 2 3 0, 5 2 4 1 4
Key: 0=N, 1=L, 2=S, 3=O, 4=A, 5=W, 6=I

MORE LEARNING

For older kids, or kids who are ready for more advanced puzzles, you can get these same riddles with only a few letters entered into the key, or a hard version with only a single letter filled in.

Kids will need to use their knowledge of common words, letter combinations, and patterns to help them solve the riddle. They'll need to look for clues in the length of the words and in guesses about what the phrase is likely to be. It's a wonderful mix of pattern recognition, spelling, problem solving, and even computer science as they test out possible solutions to see if they work.

You can also create your own, custom puzzles on any topic using [TheTripClip.com](https://www.thetripclip.com)