## Table of Contents

Puzzles
Extraordinarily Easy BrainStarters ..... 4
Magnificently Medium BrainStarters ..... 14
Definitely Difficult BrainStarters ..... 24
BrainStarter Worksheets
Sudoku 1-2-3 ..... 34
Sudoku A-B-C ..... 35
When I Grow Up (Deductive Reasoning) ..... 36
Pen Pals (Deductive Reasoning). ..... 37
Written in Pictures (Rebus) ..... 38
Historic Icons (Rebus) ..... 39
Step-By-Step ..... 40
Down the Stairs ..... 41
Around the World ..... 42
A Presidential Puzzle ..... 43
Answer Key ..... 44
Page

## Extraordinarily Easy BrainStarters

1. Three students had been involved in an arm-wrestling game that had gotten out of control and were sent to the principal's office. After having a short discussion with all three students, the principal learned the following:

- The three students' names were Ben, Carl, and Joey.
- Joey said that one of the other two students was not wrestling.
- Ben said that one of the other two students was not wrestling.
- Carl refused to say anything.


## Which two students were arm-wrestling?

2. Stacie really loves animals, and her parents let her keep a few of them as pets. If all of her pets are birds except for two of them and all of her pets are dogs except for two of them, how many pets does Stacie have?
3. Try doing this math puzzle in your head:

Begin with the number 1,000 .
Add 40 to it.
Add another 1,000.
Now add 30.
Add another 1,000.
Add 20 to it.
Add another 1,000.
Now add 10.

What is your total?
4. Peter and Zach were asked to write a social studies report together on ancient Egypt. Peter wrote 10 more pages than Zach wrote. When they handed it in to the teacher, the report was 76 pages long.

## How many pages did each student write?

5. You and your parents are on a road trip to Florida. There are two possible routes to get to the hotel: one is by driving over country roads, and the other is by passing through the toll on the highway. It is your job to find the cheapest way to get to the hotel. Here's what you know:

- It requires $\$ 50$ in gas per hour to drive the car.
- It takes three hours to get to the hotel on the country roads.
- It takes two hours to get to the hotel on the toll road.
- The toll road costs $\$ 20$ to cross.

What is the least expensive way to get to the hotel?
6. There has been a terrible plane crash right on the border between Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. The plane had actually landed in the Ohio River, which is mostly in Kentucky, but the river's flow pushed the plane over to the exact spot where the Ohio and Indiana borders meet.

Where should the survivors be buried?

7. Your mother had four children. She named the first child Summer, the second one Fall, and the third child Winter.

## What is the name of her fourth child?


8. Danny was new to the neighborhood. He wanted very badly to make friends, so when he saw a boy and girl playing across the street, he went over to introduce himself. As he approached them, Danny noticed that the boy was playing with a gardening hose and was spraying water around the yard. Danny immediately asked the girl, "Will your brother spray me with the water?" The girl answered that he wouldn't, but as she said this the boy turned and sprayed Danny with the hose. Even though Danny was soaking wet, the girl never lied.

## How is this possible?

9. Kim has a baseball card collection that she has decided to sell. The local trading card shop has offered her the following:

- $10 \not \subset$ each for 35 common cards
- $\quad \$ 1.00$ each for seven special edition cards
- $\$ 4.50$ each for six rookie cards

Kim was hoping to get $\$ 40$ for the entire collection.

Should she take the offer from the trading card shop?

