



July 2024 – Road Trip Answer Sheet

Welcome to Puzzled Pint!

Tonight

- We're here to help! This is not a competitive event. Ask the Game Control volunteers (GC) for hints as often as you'd like. The goal is to have fun, not to be frustrated!
- You can find complete information about this puzzle set online at: <http://puzzledpint.com>
 - Go to the location page there to find out if your location is running virtually and how to contact your local GC.
 - Look there for online remote solving tools for remote teams, like google-sheets and answer checkers.
- How did tonight go? Email us at Feedback@puzzledpint.com or fill out a brief survey at this QR code link ----->



The Puzzles

- Each puzzle's solution will be a short word or phrase. How do you find it? That's for you to discover!
- Need a code sheet or solving resources? Check out the Resources page on Puzzled Pint's webpage: <http://www.puzzledpint.com/resources/>
- You can use anything to help solve: Use your phone; the internet is fair game! Think your brother might have an insight? Give him a call!
- While each month has a theme, you need no special knowledge of the theme to solve.



About Puzzled Pint

- We're an all-volunteer organization.
- Help us run locally: Talk with Game Control about how you can volunteer.
- Help us run globally: <https://www.patreon.com/PuzzledPint>.

Team Name: _____

Start Time: _____

Team Size: _____

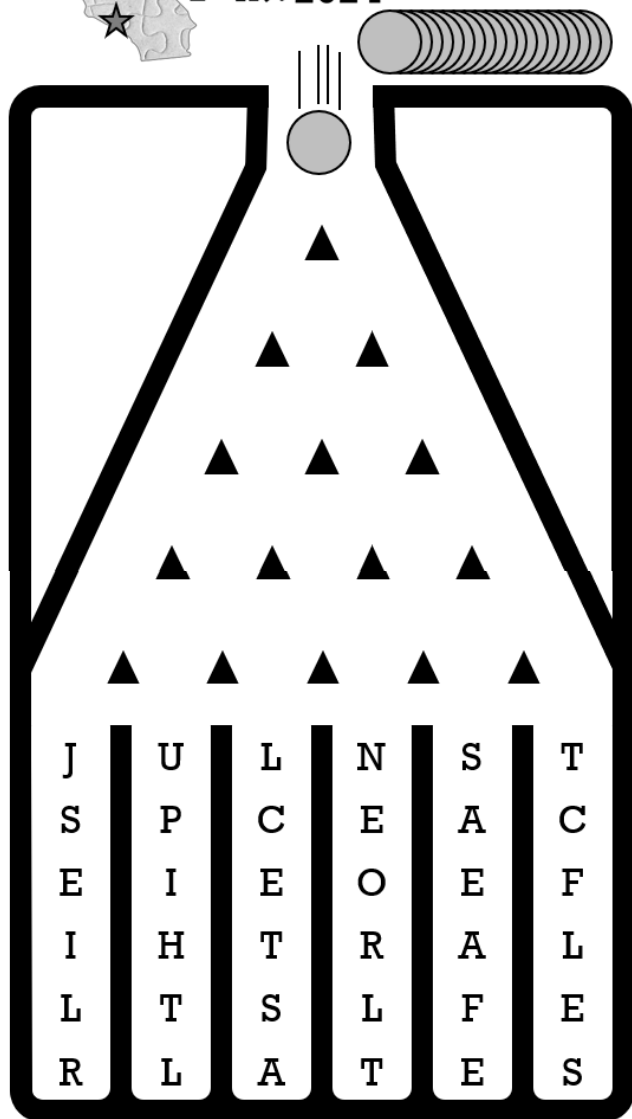
End Time: _____

| Puzzle Answers | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Plinko | |
| Bridges of Madison County | |
| Routes and Ladders | |
| Alternative Math Facts | |
| Meta: Know How to Fold 'em | |
| Bonus: Cue Up the Easy Mark | |



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Plinko



The first stop on our road trip is Television City, CA, and of all the studios, we pick Studio 33 – home for well over half a century to *The Price is Right* – a classic game show chock-full of prices and prizes and challenges. But one game above all the others is the game we came to play – and you surely know which one we’re talking about: PLINKO! It is a game in which a little chip bouncing chaotically down a huge pegboard is the sole determinant of whether a contestant leaves rich or poor.

But we are handed not one chip, but 20! And as we climb the fateful ladder, our future on the line, we know what we must do to bring good luck: spell out “P-L-I-N-K-O-P-L-I-N-K-O-G-O-C-H-I-P-G-O” letter by letter – one for each chip we drop. Strange to think that each bounce off each peg is just a left/right, nay/yay random outcome. When there is **none left**, it does seem there’s just **one right** path. Good luck or bad, chips are gonna do what chips are gonna do. We’ll just let them do it their way.



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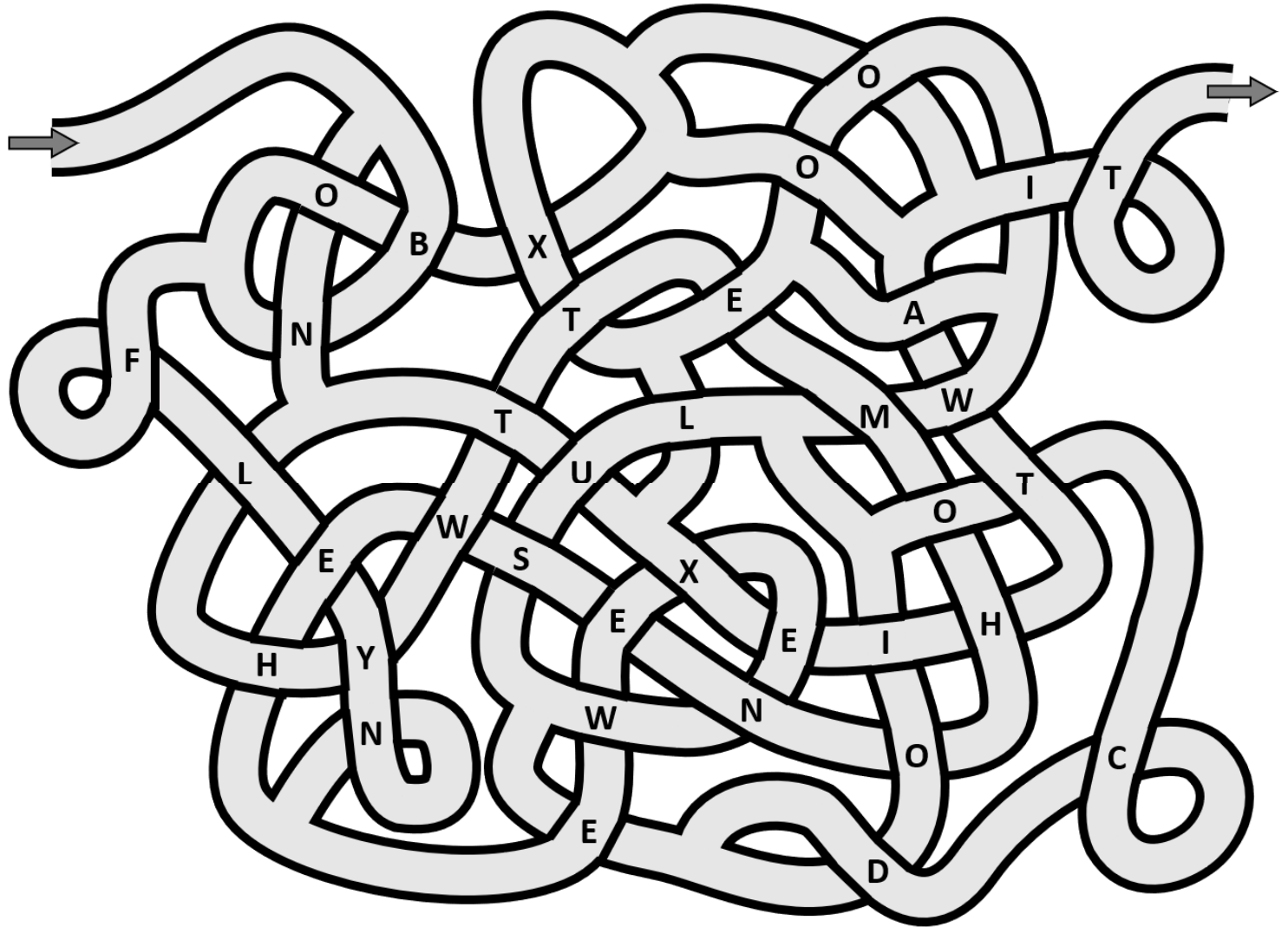
Bridges of Madison County



No road trip would be complete without a visit to Madison County, Iowa. Who knew there were so many bridges there!? And who knew there were so many rules and regulations concerning how we can pass over and under those bridges!?

- 1) We may not pass over the same section of roadway twice.
- 2) We may not pass over two bridges in a row; we may not pass under two bridges in a row.
- 3) We may cross our own path, but we must **keep track of all such re-crossings in the order they occur.**

Hopefully, we will figure out the optimum time to cross one of these Madison County bridges.





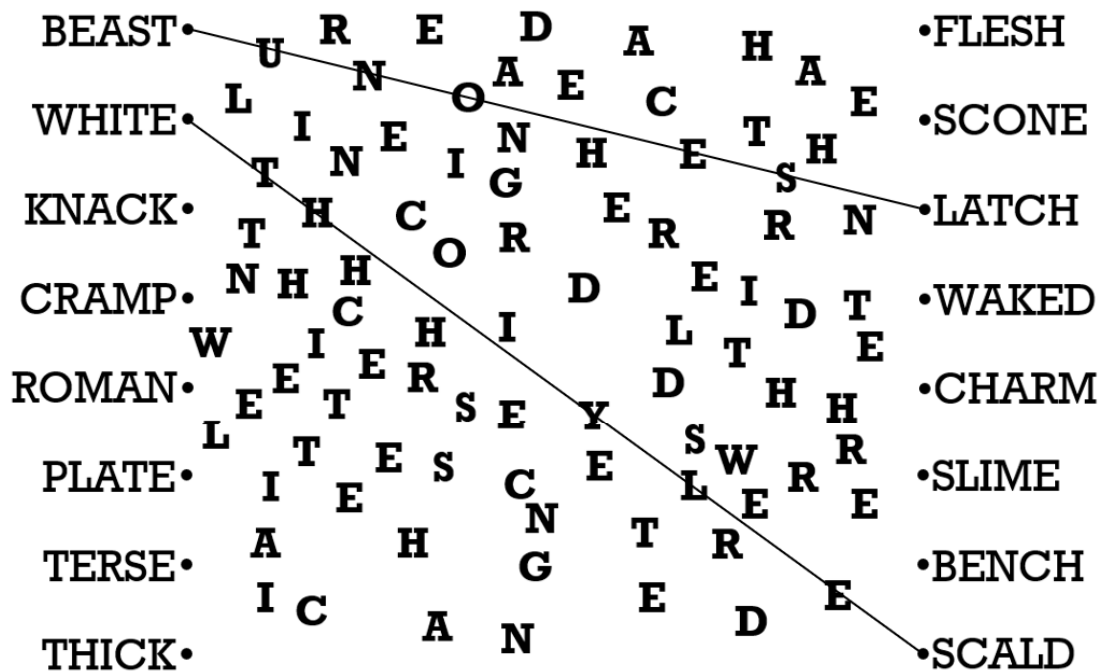
Routes & Ladders



Next stop on our road trip: Brimfield, Massachusetts to visit the famous Brimfield Flea Market. You can bring money, but it's more fun to barter. And when we happened upon the vintage game Routes & Ladders, we knew we just had to get it.

The game instructions read: "BEGET → BERET → BURET → BURNT → BURNS → TURNS. That series is the only real-word, 5-step ladder that completely changes BEGET into TURNS. All five letters get changed: first the 3rd letter was changed, then the 2nd, then the 4th, then the 5th, then the 1st. [3rd, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 1st – that's the order that connects these two words.]"

Each word on the left connects this way with just one word on the right. One has been done for you, and a second one has been started. Complete the rest of the connections; then maybe we can figure out what this flea market really is!



| BEAST | WHITE | KNACK | CRAMP | ROMAN | PLATE | TERSE | THICK |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| LEAST | | | | | | | |
| LEASH | | | | | | | |
| LEACH | | | | | | | |
| LETCR | | | | | | | |
| LATCH | | | | | | | |

replacement order

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1,5,4,3,2 | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|



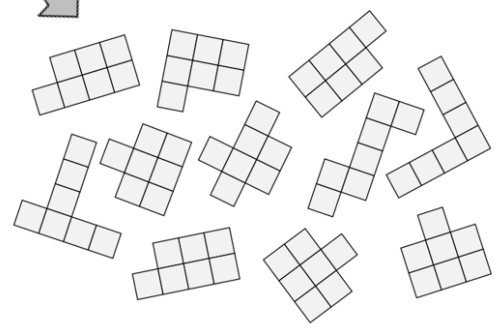
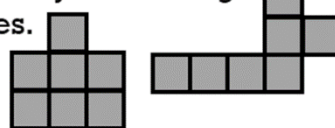
Next on the trip is a visit to an amazing place – The National Museum of Mathematics in New York City. As we arrive, however, the director rushes up to us, and explains she needs our help. Somebody snuck in and started replacing all of their math facts with math lies (AKA “alternative facts”). Conspiracy theories are already spreading that it was a space alien from the *fifth* dimension attempting to destroy our civilization by infecting it with fake math. How dastardly!

As we can see, they managed to get in four or five math lies (we know that $24 + 25 \neq 2 + 3$), but they appear to have been interrupted and then just left a bunch of confused gibberish. We must cut out these eleven heptominoes* and arrange them back into real math facts - facts that fit the framework of our mathematical knowledge – which everyone knows is a seven by eleven rectangle. Civilization depends on it!

I mean, face it, math is like two perpendicular lines...

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|----|----|--------|
| 07 | | | | | - | |
| 8 | = | 91 | + | | = | 4 |
| 7 | | 4 | | | + | 21 |
| 6 | - | 9 | = | 1 | + | 4 |
| 3 | - | 2 | x | 4 | = | 1 |
| 22 | = | 18 | ÷ | 6 | x | 12 |
| 21 | = | 16 | ÷ | 26 | - | 23 |
| 24 | + | 25 | = | 2 | + | 3 |
| 20 | - | 7 | x | 10 | + | 1 |
| | - | 7 | ÷ | 22 | = | 5 |
| | x | x | 7 | = | 14 | 13 |
| 25 | + | 11 | 71 | | 5 | = 20 ÷ |
| 19 | = | 8 | | | | |

*FYI: Just as dominoes are made of two squares:
and pentominoes are made of five squares:
heptominoes are clusters of seven squares joined along edges.





How
Know ~~when~~ to Fold 'em



Our road trip is drawing to a close, and we are eager to get back home. We have *four, five, maybe six letters* we've written to friends back home but haven't sent, so we think it would be fun to mail them from London (Arkansas, that is – not the actual London). Then, right in downtown London, we lose our GPS. Truly upset, we pull off the road and start crying. What are we going to do?

In desperation, we wipe our tears away, and with our vision still hazy, we rummage through the glove box. All we manage to find is this big folded-up piece of paper with lines and colors and words and cryptic writing: "US Interstate Map" across the top. It must have belonged to the car's previous owner – some guy named Rand McNally.

Anyway, this paper is just too big, and we know we somehow have to *fold it to a smaller size to make it useful*. It should take just two creases this way and two creases that way. We finally figure it out and leave town heading *west to east*, but, because it's London, we stop by a souvenir shop to buy a *pretty pitiful Big Ben* replica – caption: "Time to Visit London, ~~UK~~ AK!"

We had hoped this route would be a nice little shortcut instead of a huge _____!

- ALIENS
-
- CHIP
-
- EAGER
- FAKE
-
- HAZY
- MATH
-
-
-
-
-
- WIPE

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | E | W | C | O | T | G | M | E | I | H | E | |
| O | C | X | H | H | N | U | Y | R | | | | |
| H | L | A | E | I | E | I | M | F | O | W | A | |
| G | U | L | M | P | A | S | D | W | S | J | L | L |
| C | J | I | E | B | I | E | L | S | T | I | A | E |
| N | V | T | F | M | Q | O | W | E | C | H | D | |
| T | H | G | I | R | H | W | F | N | H | E | C | W |
| E | N | S | R | E | S | O | I | S | P | L | U | |
| W | A | V | N | G | X | R | T | Y | W | A | L | E |
| O | G | Y | Z | A | H | D | S | F | A | K | E | A |
| O | S | L | A | S | O | S | D | R | O | W | | |
| C | O | V | E | R | U | P | L | T | H | E | S | E |
| L | L | A | H | S | X | W | Z | S | D | L | O | F |
| W | H | E | R | E | T | I | T | A | W | E | N | |
| D | H | G | I | A | L | E | L | T | R | L | U | |
| C | A | T | E | E | M | L | G | L | Y | O | B | A |



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Cue Up the Easy Mark!



The final stop on our road trip – the famous Cue Club in Las Vegas, NV. To our surprise, we find an adorable kid fumbling with a cue stick twice his size. “I bet you fifty dollars I can knock in these nine balls in nine shots!” he says to us.

We laugh: “OK, but you gotta call each shot before you sink it.”

We’re pretty sure this kid is so young, he’d have trouble just **counting 1 to 9**, let alone sinking all nine balls in a row.

“Sounds fair,” he says. Though the kid’s baby face makes him look like an easy mark, his two-piece, custom-made pool cue should definitely have been a red **flag**! He looks at the table a few seconds and then takes out a piece of paper and a pencil, quickly writes out a note and hands it to us:

Using Roman numerals and no spaces, the order in which I will sink the balls in their pockets will be

IIIVVIIIIVIIIIVIXIV.

I will sink three balls into the TLC pocket, and their numbers will all be less than 6.

I will sink three balls into the BLC pocket, and their numbers will all be greater than 4.

I will sink two balls into the RS pocket, and their numbers will have a difference of 5.

I will sink the 9 ball into the TRC pocket.

Three shots in a row will all sink into pockets at the top of the table.

No two sequential shots will sink into the same pocket.

Order of shots
ball pocket

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| 1 st | | |
| 2 nd | | |
| 3 rd | | |
| 4 th | | |
| 5 th | | |
| 6 th | | |
| 7 th | | |
| 8 th | | |
| 9 th | | |

“You got it?” he asks, smugly. Then, without warning, the fumbling baby-face child morphs into a smooth-movin’ baby-shark. He is amazing, sinking shot after shot – sometimes with balls jumping over other balls – and he always manages to stop the cue ball right where it contacts the ball he is sinking. Nine shots later, we’re reaching for our wallets. We definitely “got it!”

