

Science Riddles

From brainpuzzles.games

1.

Why can't you ever trust an atom?

3.

I'm lighter than what I'm made from, and I rise while my parent sinks. Watch a kettle to meet me. What am I?

5.

You can see me in water and glass, and I turn white light into seven colors. What am I?

7.

The more of me there is, the less you see. I'm not a wall, I'm weather. What am I?

9.

I'm faster than sound but I make no noise myself. You see me before you hear my partner. What am I?

11.

I can be solid, liquid, or gas, I cover most of your planet, and you're mostly made of me. What am I?

13.

I'm a force you fight every time you stand up, yet without me you'd float away. What am I?

15.

Break me and I still work. I'm the only bone in your body that... wait, I'm not a bone at all. I bend light onto your retina. What am I?

2.

I can burn you from 93 million miles away, yet without me nothing on Earth would grow. What am I?

4.

I'm the only metal that's liquid at room temperature. What am I?

6.

I'm a star's leftover heartbeat, so dense that a teaspoon of me would weigh billions of tons. What am I?

8.

I have a bark but no bite, rings but no fingers, and I breathe in what you breathe out. What am I?

10.

I'm the powerhouse of the cell, or so every biology poster says. What am I?

12.

Squeeze me and I push back. Heat me and I spread out. You can't see me, but you breathe me every second. What am I?

14.

I'm the red planet, named after a god of war, and robots keep landing on me. What am I?

16.

I have a tail I only show when I visit the Sun, and my heart is a dirty snowball. What am I?

17.

I'm the hardest natural material on Earth, yet I'm made of the same element as pencil lead. What am I?

19.

I'm a cold-blooded time traveler: I ruled Earth for over 160 million years, and my closest living relatives now eat birdseed. What am I?

21.

I'm a magnet's favorite metal, I make your blood red, and I'm forged inside dying stars. What am I?

23.

I'm 8 legs of laboratory nightmares for some, but my silk is stronger than steel of the same thickness. What am I?

25.

I freeze from the top down, which is lucky for the fish below. What am I?

27.

I'm the fastest thing in the universe, yet you catch me every day with your eyes. What am I?

29.

Which gas makes up most of the air you're breathing right now?

31.

What is the human body's largest organ?

33.

Lightning never strikes the same place twice.

18.

You'll never hear me scream in space, no matter how loud I am. Why not?

20.

I never sleep, I beat about 100,000 times a day, and I'm roughly the size of your fist. What am I?

22.

The more you charge me, the more I repel my twin. Rub a balloon on your hair to make me. What am I?

24.

I'm a number you can never finish writing, and I live inside every circle. What am I?

26.

I'm your body's chemical messenger service, and adrenaline is my most famous delivery. What am I?

28.

I erupt without being angry, I'm a mountain with a temper, and islands are my children. What am I?

30.

A feather and a hammer are dropped together on the Moon. What happens?

32.

Which of these is a chemical change rather than a physical one?

34.

There are more bacterial cells in and on your body than there are stars visible to your naked eye at night.

35.

Sound travels faster in water than in air.

37.

I'm the gas plants breathe in that you breathe out. What am I?

39.

+P + Ø=Ü

41.

I swallow everything that drifts too near, and not even light can climb back out of me. What am I?

43.

I'm a twisted ladder coiled inside nearly every cell, holding the recipe that makes you you. What am I?

45.

I paint leaves green and trap sunlight so plants can cook their own food. What am I?

47.

I'm a crystal you sprinkle on food, yet I'm born from a metal that bursts in water and a gas that can kill. What am I?

49.

I lift party balloons and squeak up your voice, and I'm the second lightest thing in the universe. What am I?

51.

I always try to point you north, but wave a magnet near me and I lose my way. What am I?

36.

On Venus a single day lasts longer than a whole year.

38.

I'm the closest star to Earth. What am I?

40.

Ø=Ý% + Ø>Ð°

42.

I have two ends that never make peace: push my north toward another north and I shove right back. What am I?

44.

I wear a set of shining rings that no jeweler ever made, just ice and rock. What am I?

46.

I fly in total darkness yet never crash, because I see the world using echoes. What am I?

48.

I always have six sides, I fall by the millions, and no two of me are ever exactly alike. What am I?

50.

I twist a spinning funnel from storm cloud down to the ground and toss houses aside. What am I?

52.

You have never left me and never will in your lifetime, yet I'm a spiral of hundreds of billions of stars. What am I?

53.

I store energy inside a little can and release it as electricity the moment you need it. What am I?

55.

I'm smaller than a grain of sand, yet I can survive boiling, freezing, and even the vacuum of space. What am I?

57.

I have no light of my own, yet I brighten the night sky by reflecting the Sun. What am I?

59.

I'm the reason a seatbelt matters, because I keep you moving forward even when your car slams to a stop. What am I?

61.

I'm the coldest anything can ever get, the point where atoms nearly stop jiggling altogether. What temperature am I?

63.

I'm a state of matter that is neither solid, liquid, nor gas, and I make up most of the visible universe. What am I?

65.

I'm the mirror twin of ordinary particles, and if we ever touch we both vanish in a burst of pure energy. What am I?

67.

I'm the reaction that crushes hydrogen into helium and lights up every star, the Sun included. What am I?

54.

I'm the tiny negative speck that whirls around an atom's core, and my rush is what you call current. What am I?

56.

I'm solid stone today, but I still keep the exact shape of a creature that lived millions of years ago. What am I?

58.

You breathe me in to stay alive, and green plants hand me back out while they make food. What am I?

60.

Drop me and a rock in water and the rock sinks while I might float, even if we're the exact same size. The real difference isn't weight, it's what?

62.

No matter how big a radioactive sample you start with, I'm the fixed time it takes for exactly half of it to decay. What am I?

64.

I let dry ice turn straight into fog without ever leaving a puddle, skipping the liquid stage completely. What am I?

66.

You can't see me, touch me, or shine a light on me, yet my gravity is what keeps whole galaxies from flying apart. What am I?

68.

Cool me down far enough and I carry electricity with zero resistance, losing not a single scrap of energy. What am I?

69.

I'm a protein that speeds up your body's chemical reactions but walk away unchanged, ready to do it again. What am I?

71.

I carry your every thought as a tiny electric spark, and billions of me are wired together inside your head. What am I?

73.

Lose a leg, an eye, or even part of my heart, and I calmly grow a brand new one. What am I?

75.

I'm not truly an eel at all, but I can deliver a jolt strong enough to stun a full grown horse. What am I?

77.

Three oxygen atoms bond to make me, and high in the sky I block the Sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. What am I?

79.

For a few minutes I turn day into night, when a smaller body slides exactly in front of a giant one. What am I?

70.

I'm not quite alive, since I can't copy myself on my own, yet I can hijack your cells to build more of me. What am I?

72.

I have three hearts, blue blood, and I can taste the whole world using my arms. What am I?

74.

When I grow old or badly hurt, I don't die, I rewind my body to a younger stage and begin again. What am I?

76.

I slowly eat away iron bridges and old cars, and I'm really just oxygen mounting a quiet chemical attack. What am I?

78.

I paint the polar sky green and pink when the Sun's charged particles smash into the air far above. What am I?

80.

Twice a day I lift the entire ocean and let it fall again, tugged mostly by a faraway rock hanging in the sky. What am I?

Answer Key

Science Riddles, from brainpuzzles.games

1. Because they make up everything. Fact: your body contains roughly 7 octillion atoms, and most of them are hydrogen.
2. The Sun. Fact: sunlight takes about 8 minutes and 20 seconds to reach Earth.
3. Steam. Fact: water expands about 1,600 times in volume when it turns to steam.
4. Mercury. Fact: it's so dense that a cannonball can float on it.
5. Refraction, the bending of light. Fact: rainbows appear because raindrops bend and split sunlight.
6. A neutron star. Fact: some spin hundreds of times per second.
7. Fog. Fact: fog is just a cloud that touches the ground.
8. A tree. Fact: one large tree can absorb around 48 pounds of carbon dioxide a year.
9. Lightning. Fact: light travels about 900,000 times faster than sound, so the flash always beats the thunder.
10. The mitochondrion. Fact: mitochondria have their own DNA, separate from the cell's nucleus.
11. Water. Fact: the human body is about 60 percent water.
12. Air. Fact: air is about 78 percent nitrogen, not mostly oxygen as many people guess.
13. Gravity. Fact: gravity on the Moon is about one sixth of Earth's, which is why astronauts bounce.
14. Mars. Fact: Mars hosts Olympus Mons, the tallest volcano in the solar system, about two and a half times the height of Everest.
15. The lens of your eye. Fact: your eye's lens keeps changing shape all day to focus near and far.
16. A comet. Fact: a comet's tail always points away from the Sun, pushed by solar wind.
17. A diamond. Fact: both diamond and graphite are pure carbon, just with different atomic arrangements.
18. Sound needs a medium like air to travel, and space is a near-perfect vacuum. Fact: astronauts' radios convert sound to radio waves, which travel fine in a vacuum.
19. A dinosaur. Fact: birds are living dinosaurs, descended from small feathered theropods.
20. Your heart. Fact: in an average lifetime the heart beats more than 2.5 billion times.
21. Iron. Fact: the iron in your blood was literally created by ancient stars.
22. Static electricity (electric charge). Fact: like charges repel, which is why charged hair strands push apart and stand up.
23. A spider. Fact: by weight, spider silk is about five times stronger than steel.
24. Pi. Fact: pi has been computed to over 100 trillion digits, and its decimals never repeat.
25. A lake (or any body of water). Fact: ice floats because water is one of the few substances less dense as a solid than as a liquid.
26. Hormones. Fact: adrenaline can make your heart rate jump within seconds of a scare.

27. Light. Fact: light travels at about 299,792 kilometers per second in a vacuum.
28. A volcano. Fact: the Hawaiian islands were built entirely by volcanic eruptions over millions of years.
29. Nitrogen. Air is about 78 percent nitrogen and only 21 percent oxygen. Most people guess oxygen.
30. They land at the same time. With no air resistance they fall together. Apollo 15 astronaut David Scott actually tested it on the Moon in 1971.
31. The skin. Your skin wins, at around 8 pounds and 2 square meters on an adult.
32. Paper burning. Burning creates brand new substances (ash, smoke, gases). Melting, breaking, and dissolving keep the original stuff.
33. False. False. The Empire State Building is hit about 20 to 25 times every year.
34. True. True, and it's not close. You carry trillions of bacteria; the naked eye sees only a few thousand stars.
35. True. True. Sound moves about four times faster in water, roughly 1,480 meters per second.
36. True. True. Venus spins so slowly that one full rotation takes about 243 Earth days, while one lap around the Sun takes only about 225. So a day outlasts a year.
37. Carbon dioxide
38. The Sun
39. Starfish (star + fish). Biology bonus: a starfish has no brain and no blood, yet it can regrow an arm it loses to a predator.
40. Firefly (fire + fly). Nature bonus: its glow comes from a chemical reaction called bioluminescence, which gives off light with almost no heat.
41. A black hole.
42. A magnet.
43. DNA.
44. Saturn.
45. Chlorophyll.
46. A bat.
47. Salt.
48. A snowflake.
49. Helium.
50. A tornado.
51. A compass.
52. The Milky Way.
53. A battery.
54. An electron.
55. A tardigrade.
56. A fossil.
57. The Moon

58. Oxygen
59. Inertia
60. Density
61. Absolute zero
62. A half-life
63. Plasma
64. Sublimation
65. Antimatter
66. Dark matter
67. Nuclear fusion
68. A superconductor
69. An enzyme
70. A virus
71. A neuron
72. An octopus
73. An axolotl
74. The immortal jellyfish
75. An electric eel
76. Rust
77. Ozone
78. The aurora
79. A solar eclipse
80. The tides