

Eureka!'s General Thinking Processing Chart

The brain is a complex bundle of neurons which hold memories and allows us to make many-layered connections between them. Different parts of the brain are tuned for different kinds of mental processes – language, creativity, logic thought, sequencing, music appreciation, physical dexterity, etc. All of these processes are strengthened through use, and can be exercised enjoyably with games and puzzles. The following chart highlights the connections between specific mental process and selected games.

Thinking Categories	Types of thinking processes	Selected puzzles or games that can be played individually	Selected games for multiple players
Language	Spelling, Sentence, Word Association, Storytelling	Word Finds, Crossword puzzles, Word problems, Mystery puzzles, Bananagrams	Scrabble, Once Upon a Time, Disorder, Unspeakable Words, Quiddler, Pass the Bomb, Bananagrams, Gloom
Mathematics	Number sense, arithmetic, abstract representation, sequencing, pattern recognition, grouping, probability, statistics	Graduated Puzzles (Rush Hour, River Crossing, Tip Over, Tridio, Animal Logic) 15 Puzzle, mechanical puzzles, sliding puzzles, Game of Chips, Set, Reflection, Equi	Prime Number, Pass-the-Pigs, Yahtzee, Equate, Smath, Perudo, Rumikub, Puzzle books, Labyrinth, Gloom, Guillotine, Poker, Wizard, Gobblet, Go, Abalone
Spatial Ability	Geometric thinking in 2D and 3D, visualization, geometric transformation, geographic thinking	Lonpos, Knoodle, Rolling block puzzles (Hedghog Escape, Say Cheese), Soma cubes, jigsaw puzzles, spatial puzzle books, pentominoes, tangram type puzzles, clicko series, maze puzzles, mechanical puzzles (packing puzzles, burr puzzles)	Blokus, Ricochet Robot, Reflection, Ubongo
Memory	Concentration, recall	Concentration, Perplexus, Rubiks Cube	Gobblet, Concentration, Trivia or fact based games, Sherlock, Pengalo, Magic Labyrinth
Emotion	Recognition, identification, understanding	Grimaces, Trading Faces	Grimaces, Trading Faces, PsychoBox
Flexibility of Mind	Reframing situations, understanding rule sets, data exploration, making and changing hypotheses	Mechanical puzzles, optical illusions, mystery puzzle books, lateral thinking problems, science experiments	Fluxx, Clue, storytelling games (Once Upon a Time, Gloom)
Reasoning	Logic skills, lateral thinking skills, assessment, judgment, strategic thinking	Graduated Puzzles (Metaforms, Zoologic, Animal Logic) Sudoku, Logic and lateral thinking puzzle problem books, mystery puzzle books	Go, Abalone, chess, checkers, backgammon, Mindtrap, Clue, Spy Ally, Scotland Yard, Mr. Jack

Compiled: March 2016

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