Riddlepedia Name _____ Date _____

Hedgehog Riddles



30 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1. I'm small and round, with a pointy nose and a back covered in spines. At night, I snuffle through the garden looking for bugs. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. Thousands of us cover a hedgehog's back. We're stiff and sharp, and we keep hungry animals away. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

3. When a hedgehog gets scared, it tucks in its head and legs and turns into this shape, with only its spines showing. What shape is it?

   ANSWER _____

4. I sleep most of the day, tucked away in a cozy nest. When do I wake up and go out to find food?

   ANSWER _____

5. I'm a baby hedgehog. My name sounds like a tiny version of a pig. What am I called?

   ANSWER _____

6. My eyesight isn't very good, so I use this long, twitchy part of my face to sniff out food under leaves and soil. What is it?

   ANSWER _____

7. Beetles, caterpillars, earwigs and other creepy-crawlies are my favorite food. What kind of animals do I mostly eat?

   ANSWER _____

8. Before winter, I gather these from under hedges and trees and pile them into a cozy nest. They crunch when you jump in a pile of them in fall. What are they?

   ANSWER _____

9. I'm slimy and slow, I leave a shiny trail behind me, and I munch holes in garden lettuce. Hedgehogs love to eat me, so gardeners love hedgehogs. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

10. What did the hedgehog say to the cactus?

    ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11. A hedgehog's spines are really hollow hairs, made of the same tough stuff as your fingernails and hair. What is it called?

ANSWER _____

12. I'm the one part of a hedgehog that has no spines at all. I'm covered in soft fur, and a hedgehog protects me by rolling up. What am I?

ANSWER _____

13. People often mix us up because we're both spiny, but we're not close relatives. My quills come out easily and have tiny barbs, but a hedgehog's spines stay put. What animal am I?

ANSWER _____

14. Hedgehogs aren't related to porcupines. Their closest relatives are two small animals that also eat insects: one has a long pointy nose, and the other digs tunnels and makes molehills. What are they?

ANSWER _____

15. People used to leave out a saucer of this for hedgehogs, but it gives them a tummy ache. Fresh water is much better. What drink is it?

ANSWER _____

16. When it gets cold and bugs are hard to find, wild hedgehogs in places like Europe go into a long, deep sleep in their leaf nests until spring. What is it called?

ANSWER _____

17. Hedgehogs got their name because they live in hedges and make little grunting, snuffling sounds while they look for food. Which animal do those sounds remind people of?

ANSWER _____

18. I'm a small hole, about 5 inches (13 cm) wide, cut at the bottom of a garden fence so hedgehogs can travel from yard to yard. What am I called?

ANSWER _____

19. Long ago in England, hedgehogs had another name. A spiny sea creature is still named after them today. What was the old name?

ANSWER _____

20. When a hedgehog finds a new smell, it licks and chews the thing, makes a frothy spit, and then wipes the foam all over its spines. Scientists still aren't sure why. What is this called?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

21. How many spines does a grown-up hedgehog have? Is it about 50, about 500 or about 5,000 to 7,000?

ANSWER _____

22 Hoglets are born with spines, but their mother doesn't get hurt. Why not?

ANSWER _____

23 I live in Madagascar, I have spines, I eat insects, and some of me roll into a ball. I look just like a hedgehog, but I'm not related to them at all. What am I?

ANSWER _____

24 Hedgehogs live wild in Europe, Asia and Africa, and people brought them to New Zealand. But on which two continents will you never find a wild hedgehog?

ANSWER _____

25 Most pet hedgehogs are this small kind from Africa. They don't need to hibernate, and getting too cold is actually dangerous for them. What kind of hedgehog are they?

ANSWER _____

26 Hedgehogs can climb walls and fences. They can also do something else you might not expect from a spiny ball: cross a pond. How?

ANSWER _____

27 A hedgehog has a great sense of smell and good hearing. Which sense is its weakest?

ANSWER _____

28 In one night of hunting, a wild hedgehog can wander about how far: a few steps, about a mile, or a hundred miles?

ANSWER _____

29 When a hedgehog rolls up, a ring of strong muscle around its body pulls tight, closing its spiny coat around it like what kind of bag?

ANSWER _____

30 What do you get if you cross a hedgehog with a snake?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Hedgehog Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. **A hedgehog**
2. **Spines**
3. **A ball**
4. **At night.** Hedgehogs are nocturnal.
5. **A hoglet**
6. **The snout** (its nose)
7. **Insects.** Hedgehogs also eat worms, slugs and snails.
8. **Leaves**
9. **A slug**
10. **"Is that you, Mom?"**
11. **Keratin**
12. **Its belly**
13. **A porcupine**
14. **Shrews and moles**
15. **Milk.** Hedgehogs can't digest it well, so leave out water and meaty cat or hedgehog food instead.
16. **Hibernation**
17. **A pig** (a hog)
18. **A hedgehog highway**
19. **Urchin.** Sea urchins were named after hedgehogs.
20. **Self-anointing**
21. **About 5,000 to 7,000**
22. **The spines are under the skin.** They're covered by a soft, fluid-filled layer of skin at birth and pop out within a few hours.
23. **A tenrec**
24. **North and South America.** Hedgehogs there are only pets.
25. **The African pygmy hedgehog**
26. **They swim.** Hedgehogs are good swimmers.
27. **Its eyesight**
28. **About a mile.** Hedgehogs often roam 1 to 2 kilometers in a night.
29. **A drawstring bag**
30. **Barbed wire**

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at riddlepedia.com/hedgehog-riddles/, where you can also play them as a game.