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Hot Chocolate Riddles



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

Easy riddles ★

1. I'm brown, sweet and warm. You drink me from a mug on a snowy day, and marshmallows like to float on top of me. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. I'm soft, white and puffy. I bob on top of your cocoa until I melt, and at a campfire I get toasted on a stick. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

3. I'm a thick cup with a handle, so you can hold a hot drink without burning your fingers. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

4. I rise from a hot drink like a tiny cloud. You can see me, but you can't hold me, and you blow me away before your first sip. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

5. I start as runny cream, but when you beat lots of air into me, I turn white and fluffy. I sit on cocoa like a snowy hill. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

6. I go round and round in your mug, but I never get dizzy. I mix the cocoa powder so no lumps hide at the bottom. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

7. Cows make me, and cocoa made with me tastes rich and creamy instead of watery. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

8. I'm red and white striped, with a hook at one end. Stir your cocoa with me and I melt a little, adding a cool minty taste. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

9. I'm a tree that grows in hot, rainy places near the equator. My fruit grows right out of my trunk, and my seeds are used to make chocolate. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

10. I'm shaped a little like a football and can be yellow, orange, red or purple. Crack me open and you'll find dozens of beans tucked in sweet white pulp. What am I?

    ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11. I'm a bitter seed. First I'm fermented, then dried in the sun, roasted and ground. After all that, I become chocolate. What am I?

ANSWER _____

12. Long ago in what is now Mexico and Central America, my people drank chocolate frothy, bitter and sometimes spiced with chili, with no sugar at all. We also built stone pyramids in the rainforest and wrote with picture-like glyphs. Who am I?

ANSWER _____

13. In the Aztec Empire, cacao beans weren't only for drinking. People used them to pay for things at the market. What were the beans used as?

ANSWER _____

14. The cacao tree's scientific name is Theobroma. It comes from Greek words that mean something rather grand. What does it mean?

ANSWER _____

15. Grind roasted cacao beans, then squeeze out most of the fat. What's left is crushed into me, a fine brown dust you stir into warm milk. What am I?

ANSWER _____

16. I'm the pale yellow fat pressed out of cacao beans. White chocolate is made with me, and so are some lip balms and lotions. What am I?

ANSWER _____

17. I'm a kitchen tool made of wire loops. Whirl me through cream to make it fluffy, or through cocoa to give it a frothy top. What am I?

ANSWER _____

18. I'm the dried inner bark of a tree, curled up like a tiny scroll. Drop me into hot chocolate to stir it and add a warm, spicy flavor. What am I?

ANSWER _____

19. You make hot chocolate for 5 friends and yourself. Each mug gets 4 marshmallows. How many marshmallows do you need?

ANSWER _____

20. Long before they came in bags, the first marshmallow treats got their name from me: a pink-flowered plant that grows in wet, marshy ground and has a gooey sap in its roots. What am I?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

21. Cacao flowers are tiny, and most of them are pollinated by an even tinier insect: a fly smaller than a pinhead. What is it called?

ANSWER _____

22 More cacao beans grow in this West African country than anywhere else in the world. What country is it?

ANSWER _____

23 After cacao beans are scooped out of the pod, farmers often pile them up under banana leaves for several days. The beans warm up and their flavor starts to change. What is this step called?

ANSWER _____

24 Some cocoa powder is treated to make it darker and less sour. It's named after the country where the method was developed in the 1800s. What is it called?

ANSWER _____

25 A chocolate bar sits in your backpack all day without melting, but a piece melts on your tongue in seconds. Why?

ANSWER _____

26 One pot of hot chocolate fills 6 mugs. You're hosting 20 guests and everyone wants one mug. How many pots do you need to make?

ANSWER _____

27 Amy, Ben and Cara each pick a different topping: marshmallows, whipped cream or cinnamon. Amy won't eat anything white. Ben has never liked marshmallows. Who gets the marshmallows?

ANSWER _____

28 I have two walls with almost empty space between them, so heat can't escape easily. Fill me at home and your cocoa will still be hot at the top of the sledding hill. What am I?

ANSWER _____

29 Which four-letter word hides at the very end of "chocolate" and explains why chocolate is never on time?

ANSWER _____

30 Cacao trees are picky. They grow well only in a warm, wet belt that wraps around the middle of the Earth. About how far north or south of the equator can they grow?

ANSWER _____

Answers

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

1. **Hot chocolate**
2. **A marshmallow**
3. **A mug**
4. **Steam**
5. **Whipped cream**
6. **A spoon**
7. **Milk**
8. **A candy cane**
9. **The cacao tree**
10. **A cacao pod**
11. **A cacao bean**
12. **The ancient Maya**
13. **Money**
14. **Food of the gods**
15. **Cocoa powder**
16. **Cocoa butter**
17. **A whisk**
18. **A cinnamon stick**
19. **24 marshmallows. 6 mugs × 4 = 24.**
20. **The marsh mallow plant**
21. **A midge**
22. **Ivory Coast** (Côte d'Ivoire)
23. **Fermenting**
24. **Dutch-process cocoa**
25. **Your mouth is warmer.** Cocoa butter melts at just below body temperature.
26. **4 pots. 3 pots only fill 18 mugs, so you need a fourth, with 4 mugs to spare.**
27. **Cara.** Amy must take cinnamon, so Ben takes whipped cream.
28. **An insulated flask**
29. **Late**
30. **About 20 degrees north or south of the equator**

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