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Parade Riddles



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

Easy riddles ★

1. I'm a decorated platform that rolls slowly down the street in a parade. My name makes it sound like I belong in a swimming pool. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. I'm as tall as a building and filled with gas that's lighter than air. Teams of people hold my ropes so I don't drift away. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

3. We play trumpets, drums and flutes while walking down the street in neat rows, all in matching uniforms. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

4. Beat me with two sticks, and the whole band keeps in step. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

5. I'm tiny bits of colorful paper thrown into the air to celebrate. I'm fun to toss and hard to sweep up. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

6. I'm rows of benches that step up, one behind the other, so everyone in the back can see over the people in front. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

7. I'm a shiny metal stick with rubber tips. Twirlers spin me, toss me high and catch me again. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

8. I'm the path a parade follows through town. Barriers line me, and people save spots along me early in the morning. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

9. Many big cities hold a famous parade on the morning of this November holiday, hours before a big turkey dinner. Which holiday is it?

   ANSWER _____

10. We're the hundreds of people lining the street, clapping, waving and cheering as the parade goes by. What are we called?

    ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11. I march at the very front of the band, wear a tall hat and signal the music with big arm movements or a whistle. Who am I?

ANSWER _____

12. I'm the biggest brass instrument in a marching band. I wrap around the player's body, and my huge bell points up over their head. What am I?

ANSWER _____

13. I'm the gas inside giant parade balloons. I'm lighter than air, and I make your voice squeaky if you breathe me in. What am I?

ANSWER _____

14. I'm the special guest chosen to lead the parade, often riding in an open car and waving to the crowd. What am I called?

ANSWER _____

15. In New York, people once threw long, thin strips of paper from office windows during celebration parades. The paper came from old machines that printed stock prices. What kind of parade was it?

ANSWER _____

16. A marching band has 8 rows with 6 players in each row. How many players are in the band?

ANSWER _____

17. A parade starts at 9:00 in the morning and lasts 3 hours and 15 minutes. What time does it end?

ANSWER _____

18. Why did the drummer bring a turkey to the Thanksgiving parade?

ANSWER _____

19. I'm a set of metal bars on a frame shaped like an old harp. A player holds me upright and taps me with a mallet while marching, making bright, chiming notes. What am I?

ANSWER _____

20. We march with the band and spin big, colorful flags in time with the music. What are we called?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

21. A parade has 12 floats in a line, with one marching band between each pair of floats that are next to each other. How many bands are there?

ANSWER _____

22. The floats pass by 2 minutes apart. The first one passes your spot at 10:00. When does the 10th float pass?

ANSWER _____

23. The parade route is 2 miles long, and a float rolls along at 3 miles per hour. How many minutes does it take to finish the route?

ANSWER _____

24. The band forms a hollow square with 7 players along each side. The corner players count for both sides they're on. How many players are in the square?

ANSWER _____

25. I'm a brass instrument in the marching band, but I have no valves to press. Instead, I play different notes by pushing a long slide in and out. What am I?

ANSWER _____

26. I'm not a twirler's baton. I'm a tall staff with a heavy, decorated top that some drum majors carry and use to signal the band. What am I?

ANSWER _____

27. I'm a slow parade of cars, usually carrying an important person, like a president or a queen. What am I called?

ANSWER _____

28. I'm a long word for a formal line of people walking together, like at a graduation or a wedding. I can also mean a parade. What am I?

ANSWER _____

29. Giant balloon handlers love sunny, still mornings. What kind of weather can keep giant balloons from flying at all?

ANSWER _____

30. I'm a float, but I never get wet. I'm a band, but I'm not a rubber band. I'm a balloon, but no one blows me up by mouth. Put us all together on a holiday morning, and what are we?

ANSWER _____

Answers

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

1. **A float**
2. **A giant parade balloon**
3. **A marching band**
4. **A drum**
5. **Confetti**
6. **Bleachers**
7. **A baton**
8. **The parade route**
9. **Thanksgiving**
10. **Spectators**
11. **The drum major**
12. **A sousaphone**
13. **Helium**
14. **The grand marshal**
15. **A ticker-tape parade**
16. **48 players. 8 × 6 = 48.**
17. **12:15 in the afternoon**
18. **For the drumsticks!**
19. **A bell lyre, a marching glockenspiel**
20. **The color guard**
21. **11 bands.** There are 11 gaps between 12 floats.
22. **10:18. 9 gaps × 2 minutes = 18 minutes.**
23. **40 minutes. 1 mile takes 20 minutes, so 2 miles take 40.**
24. **24 players. 4 × 7 = 28, minus the 4 corners counted twice.**
25. **A trombone**
26. **A mace**
27. **A motorcade**
28. **A procession**
29. **Strong wind.** On very windy days, the giant balloons may fly low or not fly at all.
30. **A parade**

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