



Skeleton Riddles

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

Easy riddles ★

- 1 I'm inside you right now, holding you up like the frame of a house. Without me you would flop around like a jelly. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 2 I'm a hard, round helmet you were born with. I keep your brain safe, and I have two big holes where your eyes look out. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 3 I curve around your chest like a cage and keep your heart and lungs safe. There are 24 of me, 12 on each side. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 4 I'm a special picture a doctor takes when you hurt your arm. I show your bones but not your skin. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 5 I'm white, I come from cows, and I'm full of calcium that helps your bones grow strong. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 6 I'm a small, round bone on the front of your leg, and I protect the joint that lets your leg bend. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 7 Why didn't the skeleton go to the Halloween party?

ANSWER _____

- 8 What musical instrument does a skeleton play?

ANSWER _____

- 9 I'm a giant skeleton in a museum hall. I'm made of stone-hard bones, and I walked the Earth millions of years before the first people. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 10 What does a polite skeleton say before dinner?

ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

- 11 I'm a tall stack of small bones running down your back. I bend so you can touch your toes, and I protect a bundle of nerves inside me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 12 I'm a little bone at the very bottom of your spine. I'm what's left of a tail that our distant animal ancestors had. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 13 I'm the longest and strongest bone in your body. I run from your hip down to your knee. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 14 The smallest bone in your body is smaller than a grain of rice and shaped like the stirrup on a horse's saddle. Where in your body is it?

ANSWER _____

- 15 When you bump me on a table, your arm tingles and you say "Ouch!" But I'm not really a bone, and I'm not funny at all. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 16 I'm soft and hidden in the middle of some of your bones, and every second I make millions of new red blood cells. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 17 Of all the bones in your head, I'm the only one you can move on purpose. You use me to chew, talk and yawn. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 18 More than half of all the bones in your body are found in just four places. Where?

ANSWER _____

- 19 I'm a skull you can eat. In Mexico, people decorate me with bright icing for the Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos). What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 20 I'm a big fish with rows of sharp teeth, but there isn't a single bone in my body. My skeleton is made of the same bendy stuff as your ears. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 21 A crab, a beetle and a lobster all wear their skeleton on the outside, like a suit of armor. What is that kind of skeleton called?

ANSWER _____

- 22 I'm a skeleton that fits in your pocket. I can't dance and I can't rattle, but I can open lots of different locks. What am I?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★ ★

- 23 A newborn baby has about 300 bones, but an adult has only 206. Where do the missing bones go, if none of them are lost or broken?

ANSWER _____

- 24 A giraffe's neck is about 6 feet long. Yours is only a few inches. Which of you has more bones in your neck?

ANSWER _____

- 25 If someone says you have a skeleton in your closet, they don't mean bones. What do they mean?

ANSWER _____

- 26 A ship, a shop or an office running with only the smallest number of people needed to keep it going has a bony name. What is it called?

ANSWER _____

- 27 A museum hangs up three complete adult human skeletons. One of them is missing both kneecaps. How many bones are on display?

ANSWER _____

- 28 What does a hungry skeleton order at a barbecue restaurant?

ANSWER _____

- 29 I have a spine but no bones, a jacket but no arms, and lots of leaves but no branches. What am I?

ANSWER _____

- 30 Fish, frogs, snakes, birds and people all belong to my group, because they all have a backbone. Insects, worms and jellyfish don't. What is my group called?

ANSWER _____

- 31 Why didn't the skeleton cross the busy road?

ANSWER _____

- 32 Why are skeletons always so calm, even on Halloween?

ANSWER _____

Answers

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

1. Your skeleton
2. Your skull
3. Your ribs
4. An X-ray
5. Milk
6. Your kneecap
7. He had no body to go with.
8. The trom-bone
9. A dinosaur skeleton (a fossil)
10. "Bone appétit!"
11. Your spine (backbone)
12. The tailbone (coccyx)
13. The femur (thigh bone)
14. In your ear (it's called the stapes, and it sits in the middle ear)
15. The funny bone (really the ulnar nerve)
16. Bone marrow
17. Your lower jaw (mandible)
18. Your hands and feet. Each hand has 27 bones and each foot has 26, which makes 106 of your 206 bones.
19. A sugar skull (calavera)
20. A shark (its skeleton is made of cartilage)
21. An exoskeleton
22. A skeleton key
23. Many small bones grow together (fuse) into bigger ones as a child grows, like the plates of the skull.
24. Neither. Giraffes and people both have seven neck bones; a giraffe's are just much longer.
25. An embarrassing secret from your past
26. A skeleton crew
27. 616. Three skeletons of 206 bones make 618, minus the 2 missing kneecaps.
28. Spare ribs
29. A book
30. Vertebrates
31. He didn't have the guts.
32. Because nothing gets under their skin.

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