

National Backwards day (31 January)

This fun celebration was the idea of Sarah Nicole and Megan Emily Scott in 1961. The history of having unusual (or backwards) days is very old. The ancient Romans celebrated Saturnalia. This day was very unusual as gambling was permitted and, in some cases, masters would serve their slaves. This was a day of merriment and liberty for all.

Solve each question below. Then use the key to find the answer to the joke. Letters can be used more than once.

1. 3 shapes have areas of 17 squares, 15 squares and 8 squares. Which area is the smallest?

2. Sally counts 5 rows of 8 squares in a rectangle. What is the area of the rectangle?

3. Shape A has an area of ___ squares.

4. A square is 5 x 5 squares. What is the area?

5. Shape B has an area of ___ squares.

Did you know?
Kangaroos can jump forwards and side to side but not backwards.

6. Shapes A and B together have an area of ___ squares.

7. Two rectangles have areas of 8 squares and 10 squares. Which is the smallest area?

8. Shape C has an area of ___ squares.

9. Shapes A, B, C, D together have an area of ___ squares.

10. A square is 3 by 3 squares. What is the area?

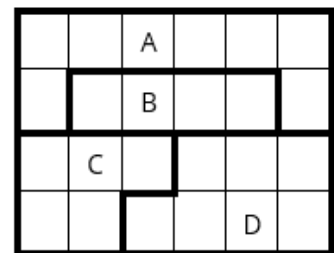
11. Shape D has an area of ___ squares.

12. Tony has two rectangles. One has an area of 2 squares, the other has an area of 5 squares. Which is smaller?

13. A rectangle is 1 square wide and 5 squares long. What is the area?

14. Shapes B and C together have an area of ___ squares.

15. Ben counts 3 rows of 12 squares. What is the area?



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
8	40	25	24	36	13	11	7	16	32	4	23	37
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
19	2	10	6	5	9	15	1	35	12	20	63	17

What has four legs and says 'hgien'?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15

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|-----|--|----|---|
| 1. | 3 shapes have areas of 17 squares, 15 squares and 8 squares. Which area is the smallest? | 8 | A |
| 2. | Sally counts 5 rows of 8 squares in a rectangle. What is the area of the rectangle? | 40 | B |
| 3. | Shape A has an area of ___ squares. | 8 | A |
| 4. | A square is 5 x 5 squares. What is the area? | 25 | C |
| 5. | Shape B has an area of ___ squares. | 4 | K |
| 6. | Shapes A and B together have an area of ___ squares. | 12 | W |
| 7. | Two rectangles have areas of 8 squares and 10 squares. Which is the smallest area? | 8 | A |
| 8. | Shape C has an area of ___ squares. | 5 | R |
| 9. | Shapes A, B, C, D together have an area of ___ squares. | 24 | D |
| 10. | A square is 3 by 3 squares. What is the area? | 9 | S |
| 11. | Shape D has an area of ___ squares. | 7 | H |
| 12. | Tony has two rectangles. One has an area of 2 squares, the other has an area of 5 squares. Which is smaller? | 2 | O |
| 13. | A rectangle is 1 square wide and 5 squares long. What is the area? | 5 | R |
| 14. | Shapes B and C together have an area of ___ squares. | 9 | S |
| 15. | Ben counts 3 rows of 12 squares. What is the area? | 36 | E |

What has four legs and says 'hgien'?

A backwards horse.