



B R A I N F I T N E S S

C R O S S T R A I N Y O U R B R A I N

# WORDSEARCH PUZZLE



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Instructions  
and Solutions

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# WORDSEARCH PUZZLE

ThinkFun's Brain Fitness games are designed as a fun way to help you exercise your brain. The 80 challenges will stretch your mental muscles and strengthen speed, focus, and memory. We recommend that you start with the beginner level and work through the challenges progressively. Just 15 minutes of play a day will reduce stress and provide a good brain workout. You're on your way to a healthier brain!

For word search lovers who want a little extra brain workout, this is the game for you! In this amalgamation of polyominoes and word search, players select a challenge and then place the pieces onto the challenge so that the letters under each piece spell a word either forward or backward. Not only will this game give your vocabulary a run for its money, it will strengthen your visual perception and reasoning skills.



## Includes:

- 80 Challenges
- 8 Puzzle Pieces
- Instructions & Solutions

## Object:

Use the colored Puzzle Pieces to cover all the letters printed on your challenge card. Each puzzle piece must cover a single word that can be read forward or backward (not scrambled) and no blank spaces can appear under a Puzzle Piece.

## Setup:

1. Select a challenge from the challenge booklet.
2. Select the required Puzzle Pieces as shown on the right side of each challenge card:

 – Select only the Puzzle Pieces shown.

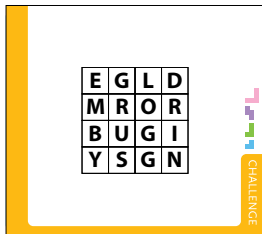
 – All Puzzle Pieces are used.

**???** – The number of question marks equals the number of pieces you need to use but you will have to decide which pieces they are!

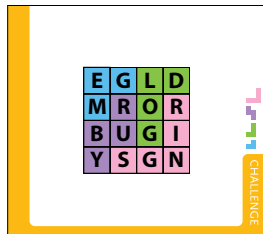
## Steps To Play:

1. Place the colored Puzzle Pieces on the challenge so the letters under each Puzzle Piece spell a single, complete word when read forward or backward. For a correct solution:
  - a. Words covered correctly by a Puzzle Piece will not be scrambled.
  - b. Puzzle Pieces must be entirely within the challenge boundary.
  - c. All letters on the challenge must be covered by Puzzle Pieces.
  - d. No portion of a Puzzle Piece can cover an empty spot.
  - e. When an icon is shown on the grid, use the word that represents the icon to make up a word. For example, “B”, “R” and “&” can be combined to make the word “BRAND.” Be careful with challenge 80, we’ve made it especially tricky!

Example:



Blank challenge



Correctly solved challenge

2. When every letter is covered and all colored pieces spell a word, YOU WIN!

## ACCEPTABLE WORDS:

Word Search Puzzle challenges use only words that can be found in a standard English dictionary. Abbreviations, prefixes or suffixes are not used, nor are words requiring a hyphen or an apostrophe, nor are proper nouns that require a capital letter.

## About the Inventor:

Derrick Niederman has been creating word and number puzzles for more than thirty years. His first crossword puzzle was published by the New York Times in 1981, the same year he earned his Ph.D. in mathematics from MIT. Dozens of Niederman's crossword puzzles have been published in the Times and other leading publications. Niederman has published several volumes of math puzzles and is the author of the recreational mathematics book *Number Freak* as well as the co-author of the quantitative reasoning classic, *What the Numbers Say*. Niederman is also the creator of the geometric puzzle 36 Cube, introduced by ThinkFun in 2008.

## Challenge Development By:

Derrick Niederman and Tyler Somer

# Solutions – Beginner

1  
COP  
EACH  
LIMB  
PLANT

	A	L	P	E	
T	N			A	C
P	O			B	H
	C	L	I	M	

2  
BLOOM  
BONGO  
LOGO  
MOON

O	G	O	B	L	
L	N		B	O	
O	O		O	O	
M	O	G	N	M	

3  
DEAN  
HUM  
LACE  
LICIT

			D	E	U	H
		C	E	A	M	
	L	A	T	N		
L	I	C	I			

4  
BOX  
FLAME  
JAZZY  
ORDER

			E	M	A
B	Y	Z	Z	A	L
O	X	R	O	J	F
R	E	D			

5  
APRON  
RARE  
THICK  
SIGHT  
WRECK

H	I	C	A	R
T	W	K	R	S
E	R		E	I
C	A	T	H	G
K	P	R	O	N

6  
CHICK  
CHUCK  
CLICK  
CLUCK

	U	H	C	
K	C	C	H	C
C	K	L	I	
U	L	I	C	K
	C	C	K	

7  
CIVIC  
CIVIL  
INK  
MIMIC  
SILK

C	I	V	I	C
C	I	V	C	
	M	I		
	I	L		
	M	I		
N	I	C	K	
K	S	I	L	

8  
ADULT  
FAULT  
GOLD  
HAUL  
LAUGH

	A	D	L		
U	D		O	G	
L	A	U	L	L	U
T	F		T	A	U
					H

9  
AGE  
DEBUT  
STIR  
SWAN

S	T	U	B
W	A	N	E
A	R	I	D
G	E	T	S

10  
FALL  
FILM  
ILL  
LLAMA

L	M		
I	A		
F	M		
L	A		
L	A	F	L
L	L	I	L

11  
ALPHA  
MET  
PLAY  
TORE

			E	R	E	M
	A	Y	O	T		
	P	L	A	T		
A	H	P	L			

15  
FIFE  
FIFTH  
FIFTY  
FILTH  
FLUFF

Y	T	F	I
F	T	H	F
L	L		
F	U	I	F
F	F	T	H
I	F		
F	I		
E	F		

19  
CHIC  
WHICH  
WITCH  
WITH

H	T		W	H
C	I	W	H	C
I	H	C	I	T
H	C		W	I

12  
LATEX  
PLATE  
SPLAT

L	A	T	E	X
P	L	A	T	E
S	P	L	A	T

16  
COWBELL  
COWBOY  
COWHIDE  
COWLICK  
SCOWL

	L			B	
	I	C	K	E	
	L	O	B	L	
	S	E	Y	L	
	D	I	H		

20  
CUMIN  
HUMID  
TULIP  
TUNIC  
UNIT

I	D			U	N	I
M	N			T	T	
U	I	P	I	L	N	I
H	M	U	C	U	T	C

13  
CONIC  
GOING  
ICON  
IGLOO  
LOGIC

C	I				
C	G	O	G	O	
I	N	I			
N	O	I			N
O	C	G			G
C	I	L	O	O	

17  
LIPS  
NOW (WON)  
TEAL  
TERSE

	O	N			
E	W	T	P	I	L
S	R	E	S	A	L
			T	E	

14  
BONY  
BOY  
HOBBY  
HOLLY  
ONLY

	O	L	L	Y		H	
Y	H			Y	O	B	O
N	O			L	Y	B	B
	B	O	N				Y

18  
ERR  
HURRY  
MARRY  
MYRRH  
ROAR  
RUMOR

R	R		Y	R	
E	M	Y	R	R	A
R	U	H	R	H	M
R	U	R			
Y	M				
R	O				
A	R				
O	R				

## Solutions – Intermediate

21

C	L	E	M
N	I	P	U
U	M	A	R
R	S	E	G

CLIP  
EMU  
GRAM  
NURSE

24

L	Y	I	L
	R	L	
	I	Y	Y
	C	Y	I
	P	L	I
I	M	Y	T

CITY  
ICY  
IMPLY  
LILY  
LYRIC

22

O	N	S	A	W	D
R	E	T	P	E	I
E	H	T	Y	R	A

HERON  
RAID  
TYPE  
WASTE

25

	V	Y	M	R	
N	A			A	L
E	V			I	A
	O	L	G	R	

ARMY  
LAIR (RIAL)  
GLOVE  
VAN

23

S	P	T	S
O	O	O	O
O	O	O	O
H	S	Z	B

BOOST  
OOPS  
SHOO  
ZOO

26

R	Y		Y	D	U		T
U	J	Y	U	B	T	Y	R
J	U	M	M	U	R	L	U
	M	P	Y				Y

BUY  
DUTY  
JUMPY  
JURY  
RUMMY  
TRULY



27

		C		L	A	L	
ACORN		R	O	O	A		A
CORK		K		K			O
KOALA	K	R	O	A	N		A
LOCAL	A	O		N	R	O	C
OAK							
ROAN							

29

	S	Y	E	L		
DAIS	A	I	O	X	P	A
MAPLE	D	A	G	A	M	M
MAX						
YOGA						

28

	R	B			
ABBEY	A	Y			
BARB	B	B			
BULB	O	B			
EBB	L	B	Y	B	
LOBBY	B	U			B
TABBY	B	E			A
	B	Y	E	B	B

30

		S	T			
BUCKEY	C	O	U	R	N	C
HOCKEY						
HOKEY	E	R		O		
SOCKEY	E	C	T	U	H	H
TURKEY						
TURNKEY			U	B		

## Solutions – Intermediate

31

			B	
			E	
T	E	R	T	
A	Y	O	H	
B	S	U	I	
A	E	G	N	

BAYOU  
BERET  
SEA  
THING

34

			O	
P	E	X	E	N
I	N	B	O	E
A	N	O	W	G

BOW  
GENE  
OXEN  
PIANO

32

		U	O	C			
G	C	H	T	U			T
O	H		H	O	Y	O	U
U	T	U	G	Y	L	L	G
	C	O	U	O	U	O	H

COUCH  
COUGH  
GHOUL  
GOUT  
LOUT  
YOU  
YOUTH

35

I	T	E	M
U	H	S	A
Q	U	D	I
T	E	K	L

DUET  
ILK  
MASH  
QUITE

33

A	P	U	P	
P	P	P	U	P
E	E			A
R	R			E
P	I	L	P	L
U	P	A	P	
P	I			
E	P			

APPLE  
PAPER  
PIPE  
PUPA  
PUPIL  
UPPER

36

				R			
			P	O	T		
		P	O	O			
		P	O	S	R	T	
O	T	O	O	R			
R	T	R	S	P	O		
O	R	O	O	P	T	T	
P	O	S	T	S	P	O	R

POOR  
POT (TOP)  
ROTOR  
SORT  
SPORT  
STOOP  
TORSO  
TROOP

37

	H	A	P	A	Y		
ALLAY	A		P	P	L		
APPLY	R	W	K	Y	L	A	Y
AWRY	Y	Y	A	A	L	N	
HAPPY	K	A		Y	A	W	
KAYAK							
YAWN							

39

			E		P	L	E	
ACHE		P	M	C	A	E	A	
ACME	A	L		H	C	A	H	E
ALE	C	E	M	A	E	A	C	
CACHE	E	L		C	H	C	A	C
CAMEL								
PEACH								
PLACE								

38

		R	E	W
EKE	R	E	L	E
EWER	E	V		
LEVEL	V	E	L	
LEVER (REVEL)	E	L		
WEEK	W	E	E	K
		E	K	E

40

	N	O	U		N	I
INN	O	N	N		N	N
KNOWN	I	I	N	O	O	O
NOON	N	O		K	N	N
NOUN	U	N		N	O	W
ONION						
UNION						

## Solutions – Advanced

41

M	U	I	S	Φ	A
	E	D	τ	D	
	R	ρ	N	C	
	π	D	E	H	
	M	E	S	μ	
	M	η	D	A	
	O	I	α	B	
A	ξ	L	S	E	T

ALPHABET  
AMUSED  
APHID  
AXIOM  
DETAILS  
EMPIRE  
RHODIUM  
STAUNCH

42

D	D	U	D		
E	O	D	A	O	
R	D			D	
D	E		S	D	
I	D	A	O	I	
S	D	E	D		

ADD  
DADO  
DIODE  
ODDS  
SIDED  
UDDER

43

M	A	R	L	O	W	
O	D	B	E	Z	E	
R	E	L		E	R	O
A	L	O	M	V	I	L

LOWER  
MODEL  
MOLAR  
OLIVE  
ZEBRA

44

	E	M			M	R	
E	R	O	B	M	A	E	M
M	A	B	M	A	M	B	O
O	M		A	M			E

AMBER  
MAMBA  
MAMBO  
MERE  
MOM  
MORE

45

		E	X		
	A	W	I	T	
	N	O	L	O	
E	C	H	E	L	P

AWE  
HELIX  
ONCE  
PLOT

46

	R	Y		Y	D
	R	E		C	D
	H	Y		Y	E
	M	E	C		
	M	Y	L	E	
	E	D	E		
	N	E	N	Y	

CYCLE  
DENY  
EDDY  
ENEMY  
RHYME  
RYE

47

	G					E
BULLDOG	O	L				H
CATALOG	E	A		A	S	T
CATHODE		A	U	B		C
DOGMA		L	L	O	H	
PLACATE		P	L	D	M	A
SCATHE				E		
TOCCATA						

49

			N	A		
GAMMA		A	N	A	S	
MAGMA		M	A	G	A	
MAMA	L	A				M
MANNA	A	M				A
PAPAL	P	M	A	G	M	M
SAGA	A	P				A

48

		L	P	A	
APEX	D	I	A	E	P
ERASE	E	L	I	X	A
PLAID		T	E	S	
TILE					

50

		S	S	I	
ISSUE	S	S	I	M	
MESS	E	S			
MISS	N	U	E	S	
SENSE	S	E	E	S	
SINUS				M	S
SUM	U	S	N	U	
	M	S	I		

## Solutions – Advanced

51

N	O	Z	O	D	E
E	O	O	E	O	
E	Z		G	G	E
L	E	P	E	O	
O	P	E	K	O	E

EGO  
ELOPE  
GEODE  
OOZE  
OZONE  
PEKOE

54

U	G		Y	R
L	U		U	U
U	R	U	S	S
G	P	R	L	U
	U	A	U	

GURU  
LUAU  
LUG  
USURP  
USURY

52

C	L		U	G	U	E
E	U		F	U	D	
C	E		L	E	G	E
U	D	E	U	B	L	
	E	L	G		U	B

BUGLE  
BULGE  
CLUE  
DUEL  
EDUCE  
FUGUE

55

	R	E	S	K	
H	I	Y	I	C	A
S	E	N	H	D	L
U	B	O	W	E	F
	E	R	U	M	

CALF  
DEMUR  
EBONY  
HIRE  
USE  
WHISK

53

				E
	J	U	D	G
	U	B	O	U
	N	K	R	S
O	C	C	U	T

BUD (DUB)  
JUNCO  
ROUGE  
STUCK

56

Y	L	L	U	M	A
D	B	E	S	E	G
I	L	O	T	N	N
T	O	C	H	A	I
N	V	K	E	T	T
I	E	N	U	S	A

AGENT  
BLOCK  
HAT  
IDYLL  
INTO  
MUSE  
SATIN  
VENUE

57  
 AVID (DIVA)  
 LIVE (EVIL)  
 LIVID  
 VALID  
 VALVE  
 VIE

I	E			D	I
V	D			D	V
E	I	V	A	I	I
V	L	V	A	L	L
	A	V	I	L	
		E	V		

59  
 BISHOPRIC  
 CROOKED  
 KNIGHTHOOD  
 QUEENLY  
 SPAWNING  
 STRIKING

I	♔	D	O	C			
T	R	I	C	♚	E	D	
S	♔	R	♚	H	S	L	♔
		G	N	I	♚	Y	

58  
 AUK  
 KICK  
 KINK  
 KIOSK  
 KNACK  
 SKINK  
 SKUNK

	N	K				
	I	K				
	K	S				
	S	O	I	K	K	
	K	I	N	I	C	
	N	K	K	K		
	A	K	N	U	K	U
	C	K		K	S	A

60  
 ADVANCE  
 CARAVAN  
 CAREFUL  
 DISCARD  
 SCARCE  
 VANITY

						D	E	
						E	I	C
A	D	♚	U	F	S	♚	S	
♚	A	C	L	D	♚	I	♚	
		♚	E			Y	T	

# Solutions – Expert

61

	K									
ANGER	A	E								
ARTS	Z	R	C							
CREAK	O	O	A	S						
FOLIO	N	D	D	E	S					
OASES	E	D	O	O	N	A				
ODD	R	T	S	I	G	N	I			
THIN	A	F	O	L	E	R	H	T		
ZONED										

64

T	U	A	N	C	E
O	D	D	U	P	D
B	I	O	N	A	A
O	R	L	E	T	R

AUDIO  
DART  
DUNCE  
PANEL  
ROBOT

62

T	R	O	T	O	O	T
O	T	T	U	O	T	H
		T	T	R		
		O	U	T		
		T	T	H		
		R	U	T		

TOOTH  
TOT  
TOUT  
TROT (TORT)  
TRUTH  
TUTOR

65

U	P	S	T	H	T	A	E	
M	O	U			T	A	H	
A	J					O	C	
S	O					M	O	
P	W	L				E	R	V
A	T	E	T	O	W	E	I	

COAT  
HEATH  
JOUST  
MOVIE  
OWL  
PUMA  
SPATE  
TOWER

63

A	L	A		O	G	R
O	R	V	A	N	O	A
K	T	A	T	O	I	C
N	U	B		L	L	A

ALLOT  
AORTA  
BUNK  
CARGO  
ION  
LAVA

66

S	Q	U	I	Q	U
E	U	C	R	E	E
D	A			T	S
I	P			R	U
U	A	C	E	L	E
Q	S	A	Q	L	O
		U	A	R	T

APACE  
AQUA  
CUES  
QUEST  
QUIRE  
RUE  
SQUID  
TROLL



67

			A	P				
AGONY	R	B	E	L	T	D	A	L
BAIL	A	I	A	B	P	E	Y	B
BLADE	V	L	S	L	E	O	N	G
BRAVE	E	N	E	X	A	G	R	U
PALE								
RUG			A	W				
SLEPT								
WAXEN								

69

AROMA	M	A	R	O	R	R
BURRO	O	C	O	M	A	U
LEIS	T	H	A	S	I	B
MOCHA	O	R	T	E	E	L
TORTE						

68

	C	E	R	E	A	L
ACE	A	D	O	R	E	S
ERODE	D	E	F	E	A	T
EXILE	E	L	I	X	I	R
FILED	F	E	L	I	N	E
FRANK	R	A	N	K	L	E
REAL						
REEL (LEER)						
STAIN						

70

		C	A	S	M	L	I	A
AGAIN		S	L	I			A	M
AGING		A		L			C	I
AIM								
ALIAS	L	I		A	G	A	G	
ALMS	A	L	S	I	A	M	A	
LILAC	M	I		N	G	I	N	G
MAGIC								
SLIM								

# Solutions – Expert

71

		L			
ACRE	I	D	O	W	S
BALSA	E	G	N	A	A
BAY	G	I	E	B	S
BEIGE	R	B	B	A	L
BROOM	O	E	R	Y	A
GNAWS	O	M	C	A	B
IDOL					

74

	L	E	U	E	N	O
AIL	A	G	R	R	Y	L
BREED	N	E	C	R	L	Y
CRUSH	L	D	B	U	S	P
ELAN	I	A	R	U	H	P
LYRE						
PYLON	D	E	E	N	Z	I
UNZIP						
URGED						

72

	A	D	I	I	N	D
ASKEW	R	U	O	R	I	E
CRY	D	T	R	Y	E	X
EXERT	O	W	C	A	R	T
OUTDO	L	E	K	S	T	R
RADII	L	A	W	E	D	A
RIND						
TRADE						
WALL						

75

	A	G	O	N		
ADAGE	A	C	E	T	Y	L
HEX	R	A	D	A	G	O
LORE	T	X	E	R	E	N
NYLON						
TOGA	E	H	O	L		
TRACE						

73

	L	E	I	H	C	V	E
CHIEF		P	E	C	H	I	
CHIVE		M	F	Y	I	T	I
IMPEL		I	E	F	E	L	E
ISLE		S	I	I	P	D	
KNIFE	E	L	K	N	I	E	R
PIER							
TIE							
YIELD							

76

	E	B	I	R	E	L
ANDANTE	X	P	&	T	H	&
BANDSTAND	E	&	A	S	&	H
HANDBAG	T	N	B	&	B	A
HANDLER	H	A	&	I	R	G
HANDOUT	&	O	U	T	O	N
IBEX						
IRON						
PANDA						

77

			Q				
ABACI	A	T	O	U	A	I	L
ATONE	Y	T	N	I	R	T	I
IRKS	H	S	E		K	S	A
ITCH	C	E	T	I	C	K	R
KRAIT	C	E	T	I	C	K	R
QUAIL	T	I	O	U	A	B	A
QUOTE							
STY					Q		

79

	★	L	E	M	P	O
LET	E	D	T	U	★	D
LODESTAR	R	O	S	C	D	I
MUSTARD	I	L	★	O	R	A
PODIA	N	K	T	D	E	★
RINK	G	N	I	E	L	T
SCORE						
STARTING						
STARTLED						

78

	R	E	C	U	R	L
AWAY	A	S	O	L	I	Y
CURIO	W	A	Y	V	O	N
INFER	E	R	R	E	V	I
LOSER	F	E	V	U	O	X
OUCH	N	I	H	C	T	A
TAX						
VERVE						
VINYL						

80

	P							
CHARTER	O	🐕						
FRANC	O	E	T					
GENIE	H	W	E	S				
POSTAGE	U	P	E	F				
RESET	E	R	E	R	R	A		
UNBUCKLE	🐕	G	D	E	U	N	C	
UPSTAGED	C	E	N	I	N	🐕	L	E
WHO								

# ThinkFun's Mission is to Ignite Your Mind!®

ThinkFun® is the world's leader in addictively fun games that stretch and sharpen your mind. From lighting up young minds to creating fun for the whole family, ThinkFun's innovative games make you think while they make you smile.



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