

2/11/24

How Much Do You Know About...

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Tokens (for scorekeeping); Prizes (small) for winner(s)

Suitable for visually impaired players.

Overview:

In this game, we look at one subject in depth – it could be a person, place, event, or thing. This week, let's see how much you know about ... **PAPER**.

Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or teams.
2. Read the first question. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give one answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may 'buzz' in and answer.
4. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

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How Much Do You Know About...

INSTRUCTIONS: Just answer the questions to find out how much you know about today's subject ... **PAPER.**

1. Paper itself was invented by the Chinese around 105 AD; but the word for "paper" in English and several other languages is derived from the name of this plant-based paper-like material long used in ancient Egypt and other Mediterranean cultures.
2. Before the invention of paper, the Chinese wrote on bamboo strips (which made for very heavy documents) or on this much lighter weight, but very expensive, fabric.
3. The first known non-writing use of paper was for the purpose of wrapping/padding delicate Chinese bronze mirrors. It wasn't until the 6th century AD, however, that paper was first used for this hygienic purpose.
4. During the Song Dynasty (960-1279 AD), the Chinese government was the first to print this critical economic tool on paper (using wood block printing and red and black ink).
5. The secret of papermaking slowly moved west from China – first to the Middle East, where the process was refined in this Persian (now Iraqi) capital city.
6. As the use of paper became more widespread, vellum (a fine quality parchment) was still preferred for important or sacred documents such as the Quran. What material was vellum made from?
7. In Europe, papermaking likely began in the Islamic regions of Spain. By the 1200s, Italy was producing paper. The Italians also introduced this particular feature to paper as a security measure to identify the paper and protect it against fraud or counterfeiting.
8. Mainz, Germany was a major paper producing center. Mainz was also home to this innovative printer, who created the first major book printed with a moveable type printing press.
9. By the end of the 19th century, almost all paper was made from wood pulp. Prior to that, this was the main ingredient used in making paper ... and it is still the main ingredient used to make US "paper" money.

10. What is the term for the quantity of 500 sheets of paper?
11. What is the standard size of a sheet of letter paper in the United States?
12. What is the name of the Japanese art of paper folding?
13. Three of the top five largest paper companies in the world are found in the United States. The largest, created in 1898 from a merger of nearly two dozen smaller pulp and paper mills located in the northeast, is now headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee. The second-largest in the US is headquartered in Wisconsin and produces mainly paper-based consumer products such as facial tissue and toilet paper. The third, also located in Wisconsin, is the largest private owner of timberland in the world. Can you name any one (or all three) of these companies?
14. This paper-based home decoration gained popularity in Renaissance Europe among the emerging gentry. With the development of cheaper production techniques, it became the rage in America in the 1920s and could be found in the majority of homes in the United States.
15. Nearly four million tons of this absorbent paper product is disposed of every year, overwhelming the nation's landfills and creating other environmental problems.
16. Scott Paper Company invented this fashionable, but short lived, paper product in 1966.
17. Since the beginning of the 21st century, demand for this kind of paper has plummeted, due primarily to the rise of the use of the internet.

2/11/24

How Much Do You Know About...

ANSWERS

1. Papyrus
2. Silk
3. Toilet paper. *(Note: Even today, only 30% of the world's population uses toilet paper.)*
4. Money
5. Baghdad. The Persians developed a method to make paper thicker and more durable, which turned this art form into a major industry.
6. Calfskin. The US Constitution was written on sheets of vellum.
7. The watermark, which is a stamp that usually can only be seen when the paper is held up to a light.
8. Johannes Gutenberg. With his invention of the printing press, Gutenberg had a profoundly important impact on the availability of books and the increase in literacy around the world.
9. Textiles. In the old days, paper mills had to be located near a city to enable the collection of the massive amounts of used clothing and cloth items that were needed to make paper.
10. Ream
11. 8.5" x 11"
12. Origami
13. International Paper; Kimberly-Clark; Weyerhaeuser
14. Wallpaper
15. Paper (disposable) diapers, which became popular in the 1960s. A baby will go through an average of 8,000 disposable diapers before it is toilet trained.
16. The paper dress, which sold for one dollar. Even a wedding gown, made of paper, went for less than \$20. *(But what did they do if it rained?)*
17. Newsprint, which is the paper used for newspapers, flyers, and inexpensive advertising