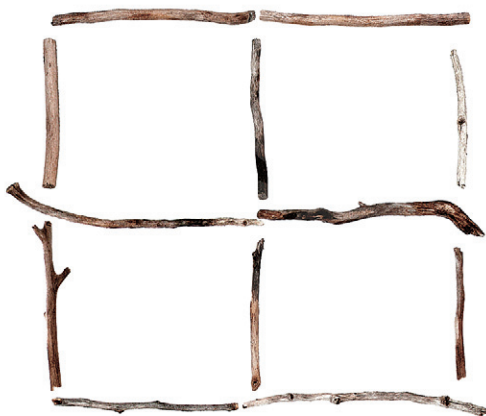


Outdoor Learning at Mono Mills School

The first day of school in September, 1887 was marked by sunny weather, so at S.S. #16 in Mono Mills, Mr. Potter took his students outside to solve this problem.

“See these four squares?” he said, pointing to sticks he had laid out on the grass. “The squares are all the same size, but I’m sure you noticed that right away. And I’m also sure you noticed that I used twelve sticks to make them.”



“Now, here’s your challenge. Use all of these twelve sticks to make just three squares, all the same size. But,” he smiled, “you can only move four sticks, and one of your three squares must touch the other two.”



Indoor Learning at the Sandhill School

At the Sandhill Union School (S.S. #4 Albion and S.S. #20 Chingua-cousy), it was raining on the first day of school in 1890 so the teacher, Mr. Sherman, decided to pose an entertaining problem to make his students forget the weather. Shortly before lunchtime he lifted a large map from the blackboard to reveal these pictures.



Mr. Sherman allowed the students to look at the pictures for two minutes and then hung the map over them again. He then gave them the questions that follow below.

If you had just two minutes to look at these pictures, how many of these questions would you answer correctly?

- What is the only living thing pictured?
- Which way is the living thing facing, left or right?
- Name the thing that flies.
- Can you use any of the things to write a note?
- Can you wear any of the things?
- In which row is the thing that you can eat for lunch?
- Is there a thing that starts with the letter **N**? the letter **D**? the letter **T**?
- What number is missing on the pocket watch?
- In which column is the thing that holds water?
- Do any of the things have windows?

What Day Is It?

On a rainy morning in mid-July, many years ago, Alfie woke up in the Shelburne town jail with a very queasy stomach, feeling entirely confused. “What day is it today?” he asked the guard.

The guard, who was in no mood to be helpful replied this way: “When the day after tomorrow is yesterday, today will be as far from Sunday as today was from Sunday when the day before yesterday was tomorrow!”

*Help out Alfie.
What day is it today?*

Measuring from A to M

At the Town of Erin Public Library on Trafalgar Street in Hillsburgh, a four volume set of dictionaries sits upright on a shelf near the front door.

The spines of the four books are identified A–E, F–L, M–Q and R–Z respectively. Naturally, they are shelved in proper alphabetical order.

Each volume is 30 millimetres thick in total. The front and back covers of the books are each 3 millimetres thick.

What is the distance in millimetres between the first word in Volume A–E and the last word in Volume M–Q?



AN IN THE HILLS MINI MYSTERY

Brooke’s Scary Ride

Brooke wasn’t sure what bothered her most: Armando’s non-stop talking or his bad driving. He had begun prattling away as soon as she got into his car on Bolton’s main street and frightened her immediately by making a sudden U-turn, barely missing several parked cars.

They headed north then on Peel Road 50, travelling well over the speed limit. Things didn’t improve in the next few minutes as Armando cruised through two orange lights and turned right on Old Church Road against a red light without signaling or stopping.

At the next intersection, Armando surprised her by remembering to signal his left turn north onto Mount Hope Road, but then he made up for that by revving

up to a dangerous 100-plus km/h. All the while, the chatter was constant.

“Took me forever to get through Orangeville. Great looking main street that Broadway, but people gawk, you know. And all kinds of pokeys this morning on Highway 9. Decent weather at least. I wasn’t sure I’d find you in Bolton.”

Brooke held her breath as Armando slowed suddenly and veered completely into the southbound lane as they bumped over a railway crossing. And she held it held it again seconds later as he revisited the southbound lane to go around a tractor and wagon.

By now, all Brooke cared about was getting safely to the site on Mount Hope where Armando and his

wife had totalled their car a few days before. His wife was still in hospital and not likely to recover. Armando was planning to sue the Town of Caledon.

“The spot’s up here somewhere,” he said, mostly to himself. “Close to Highway 9... let’s see, look for a white house... I’ve never been this far south on Mount Hope... that sun’s so bright. Ah! There’s the spot!”

Brooke Barry said “Ah,” too as Armando slowed to a stop. At least they’d arrived safely. More important, she’d learned something. Brooke was an insurance investigator and when Armando lied to her, she realized his side of the accident story might be phony too.

Why does Brooke realize that Armando has lied to her?