Search and Learn Puzzle Making Kit Instructions



[YouTube video instructions are available at https://youtu.be/AsmAcyDiARs]
Search and Learn Puzzles are designed to be especially useful in educational and training settings. They are also entertaining! That means there are a number of features you are not likely to find with any other word search puzzles. The numbered instructions below are associated with the corresponding numbers in the image above that shows a partially solved puzzle.

1. [topic line]: The top line tells you the topic for the puzzle, if the puzzle is a special type (anagrams), the level of difficulty of the puzzle, and whether there is a hidden picture that is revealed when you complete the puzzle. "**Easier**" puzzles show the words to be found below the grid, and the location of the word in the grid if you click on the word. Clicking on an "anagram" puzzle (the letters in the list are scrambled) will also show the word unscrambled and its location. "**Harder**" puzzles will not initially show the words to be found (except for "anagram" puzzles") but will show the sword to be found if you click on the blank (but will not show the word in the grid). "**Hardest**" puzzles will show the words to be found only after you have found the word in the grid. There are no "hardest" anagram puzzles.

2. [buttons]: These puzzles provide the fullest educational capabilities when solved using a computer or smart phone or tablet. They can be printed out by pressing the "**Print**" button. Press it once and the button label will become "**Print-1**". This will print the puzzle as shown with no partial solutions. Press it again and the label becomes "**Print-2**", allowing you to print out the grid with the accompanying word source. Pressing the "**Show Words Source Below**" button will replace the words to be found (or blanks, section 7) with either the list of words from which the words to be found were randomly selected, or the text from which the words were selected. Press it again to return to the previous display. Press the "**Clea**n" button (or press the letter "c") if the grid becomes cluttered. Press the "**Show Instructions Below**" button to display these instructions in the space where the words to be found (section 7) are displayed. Press again to display the words to be found.

3 and 4 [left and right image columns]: Up to three images may be shown in the left and/or right columns. Clicking on any of these will take you to a site containing further information related to the image.

5. [grid]: There are three ways to select a word in the grid. You may click on the first (or last letter) of the word, hold down the mouse button, then drag the mouse in the direction of the other end of the word. You could click on the first (or last) letter of the word, release the mouse button, then move the cursor over the letters leading to the opposite end of the word. The letters will change to cyan while the word is being selected. You may also double click on the first (or last) letter of the word, then double click the opposite end of the word. The initial letter will have been properly selected if it turns orange. If you are using a touch screen device (phone, tablet), touch the first (or last) letter of the word, and if the letter turns orange (properly selected), touch the letter at the opposite end of the word.

6. [hidden picture]: If the title line of the puzzle has the word "picture" in it, there is a hidden picture that will be displayed when the puzzle is completed, along with a link to further information.

7. [words to be found]: Words to be found are listed here according to the description provided in the section of these instructions labeled 1 above. This is also the area where the word source, or instructions, will appear.

PERMITTED USES OF THE PUZZLES

These puzzles were created using software developed by David A. Porter, Ph.D. As such, he owns the copyright for the software, but makes no claim on the use of the puzzles (make screen prints, share them, copy them, use them as you wish).

If you are interested in using such puzzles as part of your educational/ training programs, please contact Dave at dapperdavid59@gmail.com. Dave can create puzzles for you. A kit for making the puzzles yourself is available, at present by contacting Dave at dapperdavid59@gmail.com. The kit will soon be available at Teachers Pay Teachers.