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# Introduction

“Gotta Think!” is a sequel to our popular thinking-skills book, “WakerUppers.” Many teachers have asked for another book of this kind, and we’re pleased that we have been able to respond. Those of you who have used “WakerUppers” will notice many similarities, such as:

- The friendly, hand-drawn, and hand-lettered activity sheets.
- The 50 different ways for students to write their names.
- The numerous visual devices – pictorial abstractions, cartoons, etc. – that start off the higher-level thinking challenges.

Of course, there are a number of ways in which “Gotta Think!” differs from “WakerUppers.” Most important of these is the fact that each “Gotta Think!” activity sheet revolves around a single subject, such as necks, movies, pumpkins, paper, and even ants. (This is the essential “Tin Man” approach – beginning with a topic children already know something about and then stretching out in all sorts of directions from that starting point.)

We have also included some new strategies. Here’s an example of one device that appears quite often in the book. From the “Pumpkins” page:

Take away letters from the word “pumpkin” until you find a little word that makes sense in the sentence:

The pumpkin called the runner out at second base. \_\_\_\_\_

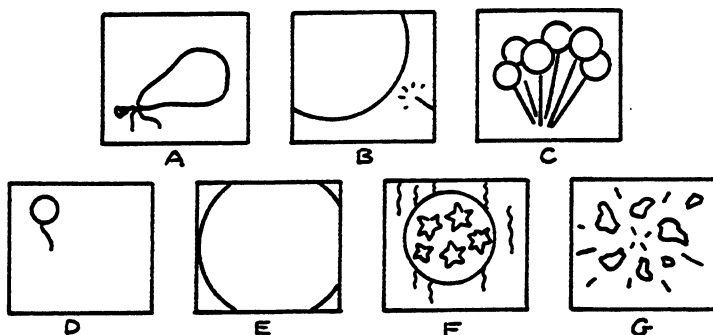
The car pulled up to the petrol pumpkin \_\_\_\_\_

I’m pumpkin school right now. \_\_\_\_\_

It was so quiet that you could hear a pumpkin drop. \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: ump, pump, in, pin.

We've also invented many new abstractions that call for analytical thinking. From the "Balloons" page, students must match the "balloon pictures" with the words. In order to be successful, they must think about the properties of the drawings as they relate to the descriptions.



1. Boom \_\_\_\_\_
2. Old \_\_\_\_\_
3. Got away \_\_\_\_\_
4. Party \_\_\_\_\_
5. May I have one? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Huge \_\_\_\_\_
7. Danger \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1-G; 2-A; 3-D; 4-F; 5-C; 6-E; 7-B.

"Gotta Think!" activity sheets can be used in a variety of ways. Use them as enrichment rewards when curricular work is finished. Or hand them to students first thing in the morning, letting them work on them in their spare time during the day. Or save them for Friday afternoons as a kind of culminating activity for the week. When all the sheets have been completed, bind them into a little booklet and send them home for parents and siblings to see.

However you choose to use this book, we're confident the motivational material in "Gotta Think!" will encourage students to "wanna think!" We hope you find this book to be both entertaining and valuable.

Greta and Ted Rasmussen

# PICKLE POWER

## ANSWERS

1. 1-D; 2-E; 3-B; 4-C; 5-A.
2. Possible responses: A pickle is made from a cucumber.  
Pickles are usually kept in the refrigerator.  
Pickles taste sour.
3. About 17 or 18 slices.
4. Ice, pick, pie, pile.
5. Green, jar, hamburgers and sandwiches.

## COMMENTS

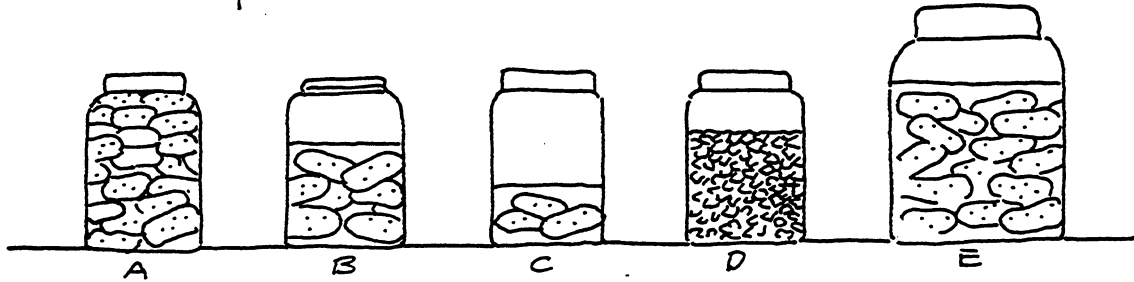
- About Number 3: The students who do the best job with this problem will probably make a mark on a piece of scrap paper and see how many times the mark will fit on the pickle drawing.
- It might be fun to furnish each child with a real pickle at the conclusion of this activity.

# PICKLE POWER

Squeeze the letters of your first name in between the letters of the word "pickle."

# PICKLE

(1) Match the pictures with the words.



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Likes pickle relish. _____                   | 4 Need to buy another jar of pickles. _____ |
| 2 Everybody in the family likes pickles. _____ | 5 Not opened yet. _____                     |
| 3 Lost the lid. _____                          |   |

(2) Write a sentence that describes something about a pickle.

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(4) playing with the word "pickle."

Take away letters from the word "pickle" until you find the little word that makes sense in the sentence.

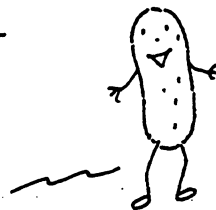
In the winter, the streets are sometimes covered with a layer of pickle. \_\_\_\_\_

I'm going to pickle out the biggest biscuit \_\_\_\_\_

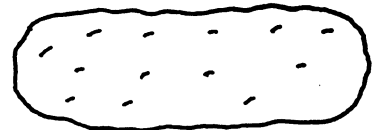
I love apple pickle. \_\_\_\_\_

I raked the leaves into a big pickle. \_\_\_\_\_

♥  
I'm a sweet pickle!



(3) If you sliced this pickle ↘



...into pieces this big,



... about how many slices would you get?

\_\_\_\_\_ slices

- (5) Pickles are usually g \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Pickles usually come in a j \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Pickles are good on h \_\_\_\_\_ and s \_\_\_\_\_ .