

# **Connecticut Science Center Puzzle Hunt**

*Eric Berlin*

Created as a contest for the Connecticut Science Center, and run on their Web site in January – February 2011.

# Treeline

Write the answers to the clues on the numbered dashes, then transfer each letter to its corresponding square in the grid. The completed grid will spell out a sequence of fifteen trees, separated by bold lines. When you're done, scan the grid for a six-letter word, placed somewhere along a diagonal. This word is the answer to this puzzle.

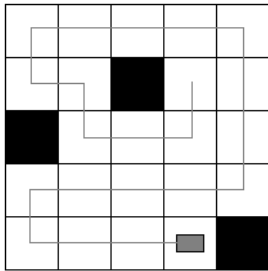
1	B	2	J	3	E	4	A	5	F	6	C	7	H	8	B	9	I	10	G
11	F	12	B	13	D	14	E	15	C	16	A	17	J	18	B	19	H	20	D
21	J	22	H	23	I	24	F	25	B	26	J	27	E	28	E	29	A	30	C
31	A	32	B	33	G	34	E	35	C	36	D	37	E	38	G	39	B	40	H
41	C	42	A	43	B	44	D	45	G	46	F	47	I	48	A	49	H	50	B
51	E	52	F	53	I	54	C	55	F	56	E	57	C	58	J	59	A	60	G
61	D	62	H	63	J	64	A	65	C	66	E	67	J	68	E	69	F	70	A

- A. Processing plant for many chopped-down trees (*2 words*)      16 59 31 42 70 4 48 64 29
- B. Many-legged creature often found in the woods      39 50 8 25 32 1 12 43 18
- C. Another name for a buttonwood tree      35 15 41 6 54 30 57 65
- D. Environment where you might find mangrove and willow trees      20 13 44 61 36
- E. Drink made from something that grows on trees (*2 words*)      66 51 27 3 34 14 56 68 28 37
- F. Like dogwood and cherry trees, in the springtime      55 52 46 5 69 24 11
- G. Part of a tree, or a large suitcase      10 45 38 33 60
- H. Parts of a tree, or goes away      7 40 62 49 22 19
- I. Picnic : woods :: \_\_\_\_\_ : island      47 9 23 53
- J. word meaning "hot" that becomes a tree when you remove the center letter      63 58 21 26 67 2 17

# Alternative Energy

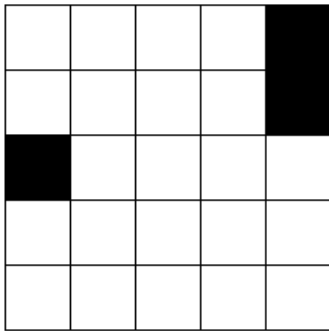
Each grid below represents a town that needs power. For each puzzle, first place a fuel cell into one of the empty squares. Then draw a path from that cell that crosses every empty space. The path you draw can only change direction when it hits a dark square, a wall, or a previously drawn part of the path.

In each grid, there is only one space to put the fuel cell that will allow you to draw a path that crosses every empty space. When you have determined that space, look up the letter in corresponding square in the alphabet grid shown here. (In the example, the fuel cell has been placed in the square lettered X.) The six letters, in order, will spell out the answer to this puzzle.

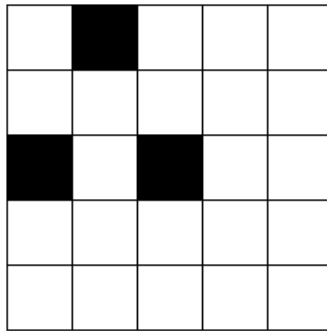


A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y

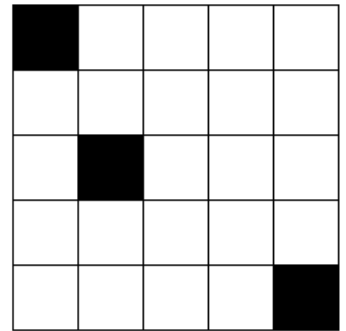
1



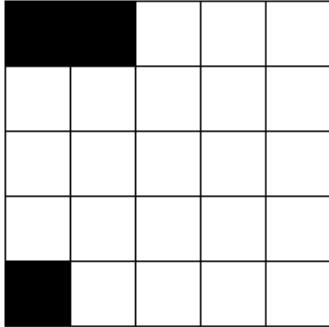
2



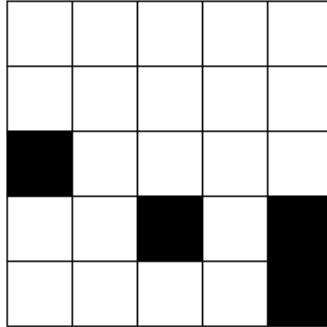
3



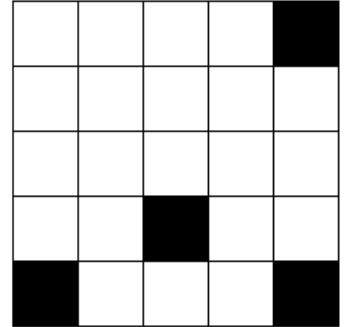
4



5



6

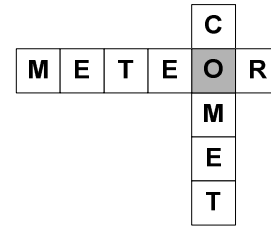


# Space Exploration

The grid seen here represents a section of outer space. There are two answers per row and column, placed consecutively in the same order as the clues. It is up to you to determine where one answer ends and the next begins. Six answers are too short—you will need to skip a space in order to enter these words properly. This skipped space, which could be at the beginning, middle, or end of the word, will be filled in by the word going in the other direction. These letters will transform the too-short words into a new, longer words (and in one case, a two-word phrase). These six letters, reading from top to bottom, will spell out the answer to this puzzle.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

**Example:** If the answer to a clue is METER, you might need to leave a space after the second E to make it fit into the grid. This space would then be filled by the down word, turning METER into METEOR. The O would then be the letter you need for your answer.



## Across

- Gather together  
Sponsorship
- Prison-related  
Like a famous TV “ranger”
- Lose one’s head  
Oscar-winning actress Swinton
- Diagram of one’s family  
Move quickly, in slang (2 words)
- Expensive fur  
Long part of a flower
- Small discussion  
“Cheers” waitress
- Prefix that means “streamlined”  
Sang unaccompanied
- Like developing insects  
Thomas Edison’s middle name
- Toweled off  
1/8 of a fluid ounce
- Acquired via a “five-fingered discount”  
Campsite dessert

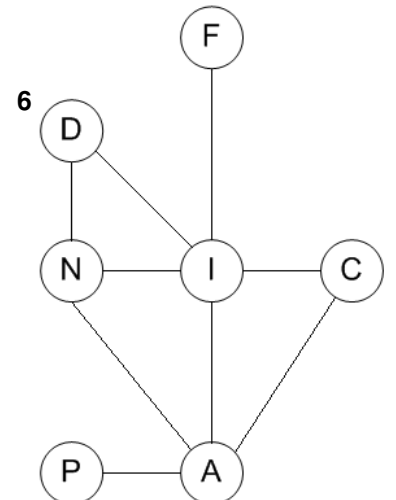
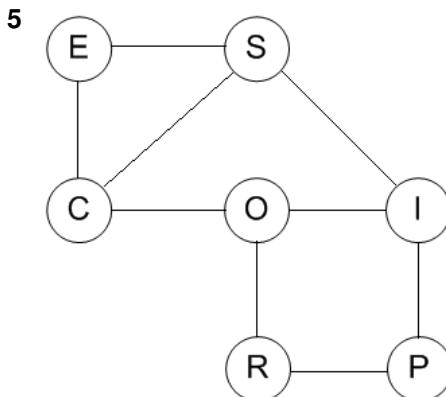
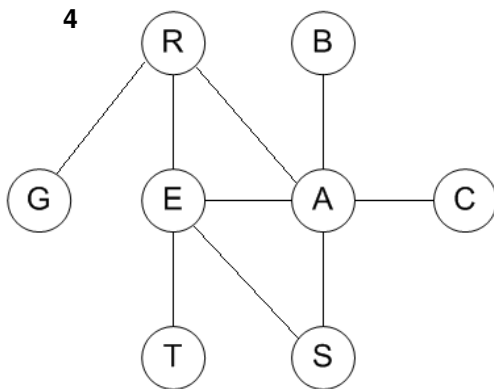
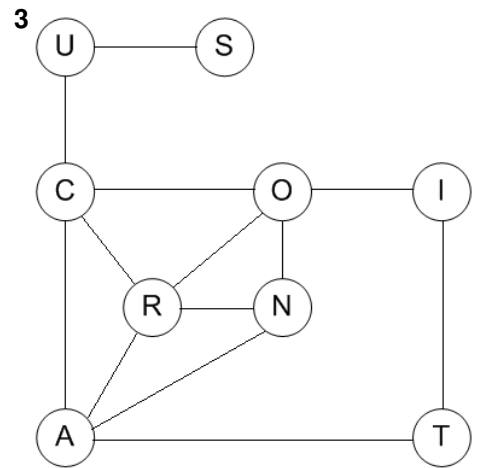
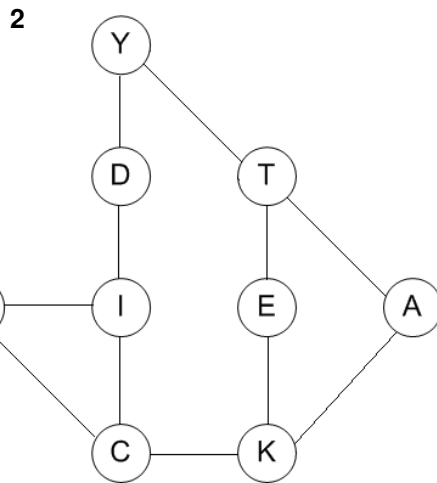
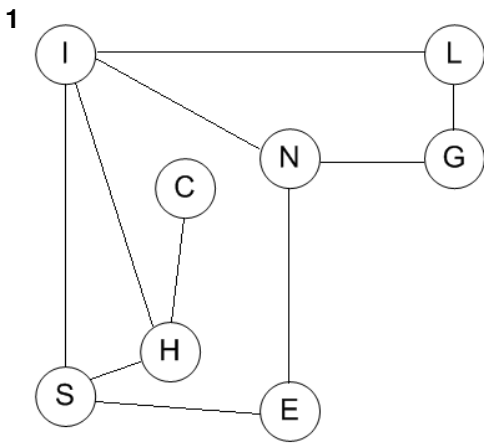
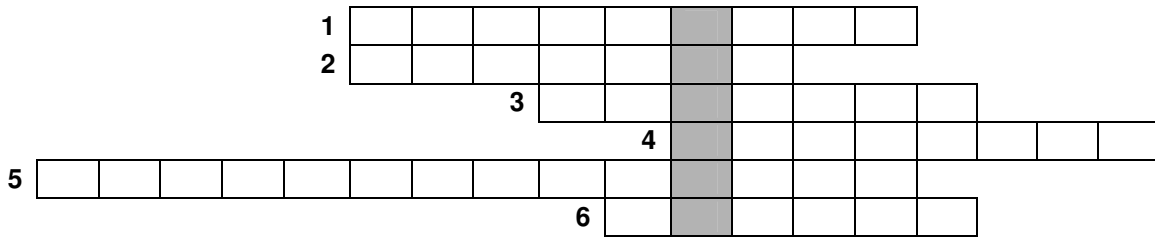
## Down

- Datebook entry: Abbr.  
Burns with hot water
- See the first clue of 3-Down  
Listen to
- With the first clue of 2-Down, Ben Stiller’s mother  
Spanish neighborhood
- Salesman’s pitch  
Work longer than a short story
- Little perfumed bag  
One-named singer with the hit “Smooth Operator”
- Certain chorus members  
Aggravating ailments
- Poet who inspired the musical “Cats”  
Warning sound
- Errand boy  
Butter substitute
- Country where you’d spend rupees  
Longtime “Reading Rainbow” host Burton
- Chair  
French woman, respectfully

# Common Bonds

Each of the “molecules” below consists of two words. For each word, first figure out where to start, then trace a path from letter to letter until you have spelled out the word. (You cannot jump over letters, or stand on a letter to double it.) In spelling out the two words, every letter and path will be used, and some will be used more than once. You may need to start on a completely new letter after spelling the first word.

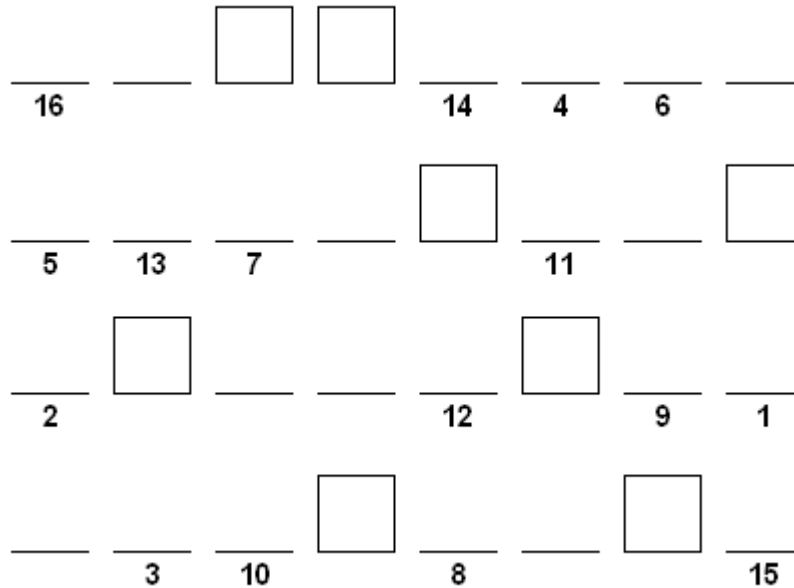
The two words in each molecule belong to the same category. Write that category in the appropriate row in the grid below, one letter per space. When you are done, the gray letters, reading down, will spell out the answer to this puzzle.



# Alchemy

You should now have four six-letter words, one for each puzzle presented here over the last few weeks. In this final puzzle, you'll transform each of those answers into new words, by adding the chemical elements seen below.

First, write each word into a set of blanks, without scrambling the letters. Then, take the eight element symbols and assign them to the boxes, two per word. If you do your job right, you'll wind up with four new, common words. You can then transfer the numbered letters to the blanks, from 1 to 16, to spell out a clue to one final word. This is the word you'll need to submit to have a shot at the grand prize!



<b>At</b> Astatine	<b>Ca</b> Calcium	<b>Er</b> Erbium	<b>I</b> Iodine
<b>Po</b> Polonium	<b>S</b> Sulfur	<b>Si</b> Silicon	<b>U</b> Uranium

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16