Printable Hidden Pictures review: free puzzles to print for quiet time

Peabody blog · Teaching · updated 2026-11-14

More than a thousand free hidden-picture puzzles with colour, line-art and answer-key versions. What's free, what's paid, and how to use them with children.

Printable Hidden Pictures is a collection of free hidden-picture puzzles for children, families and classrooms, with more than a thousand to choose from. Every puzzle comes in three versions: colour, line art that a child can colour in afterwards, and an answer key. Individual puzzles are free to print with no sign-up. We've added it at number five on our list of 19 best free printables and worksheet sites, after the team wrote to suggest it. Peabody (peabody.kids) is free for everyone through the end of 2026.

We wrote this from the site's own pages on 14 November 2026, so treat it as a guide to what the site says it does.

What's there

Puzzles are sorted by theme (Halloween, Thanksgiving, farm, ocean, space, school, dinosaurs and many more) and by five levels. Level 1 puzzles are for ages 4 to 6 with six objects to find; higher levels hide more objects and go up to puzzles for adults. Each puzzle lists its level, age range and object count before you open it, which makes it easy to pick one that suits a child.

Why it's a good quiet-time pick

- The three-page set is clever. Find the objects, check the answer key, then colour the line-art page. One puzzle fills a good stretch of calm.
- It helps with seasons. Thanksgiving and Christmas have their own collections of activity sheets grouped by age, which is useful for early finishers and the busy days before a break.
- Looking carefully is the skill. Hidden-object puzzles ask a child to scan, compare and be patient, and to explain what they've found to a grown-up.

Choosing a level

The five levels are the heart of the site. Level 1 is for ages 4 to 6 with about six objects to find, so a new reader can succeed in a couple of minutes. The middle levels add more objects and busier pictures, and the top levels are meant for grown-ups. Because each puzzle shows its level, age range and object count up front, you can start a child one step easier than you think and move up when they're bored. The site also has short guides on how to solve

hidden-picture puzzles with children and on choosing a level.

Ideas for home and school

- Early finishers. Keep a few printed puzzles in a folder for the child who is done first. The answer key means they can check it themselves.
- Quiet time and travel. One page and a pencil makes a very light, screen-free activity for a car, a waiting room or a rainy afternoon.
- Talk about what they saw. Ask a child to describe where an object was hiding and why it was hard to spot. It's good practice in using words for position and detail.
- Colour afterwards. The line-art page turns a finished puzzle into a colouring page, so the same picture gets a second life.

A hidden-picture puzzle pairs well with a story. Our library has free stories at every reading level to read aloud together before or after the puzzle, so a quiet hour has a little of each: looking closely, then listening closely. If a child finishes early or wants a second round, a harder level is always one click away, and the answer key keeps it fair.

Good to know

Single puzzles are free, but custom print packs are paid, and there is an all-access option at $9.90. The pages show Google ads, so print the puzzle yourself rather than letting a young child browse. The site calls itself an independent puzzle collection. Check the printing-and-use page if you plan to copy sheets for a whole class.

It's a generous free library for anyone who likes a pencil and a sheet of paper.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/printable-hidden-pictures-review