

Animal jokes



Cut along the dashed lines. Read the joke, guess, then turn the card round for the answer.

Joke 1

Why does a cow chew her lunch twice?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: A cow has one big stomach with four parts, and she brings her grass back up to chew it again.

She liked it so much the first time!

Joke 2

Why do cows wear bells?

Ages 6+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Cows and bulls can both grow horns, but some kinds of cattle are born without any.

Because their horns don't work!

Joke 3

Where do cows go on a Friday night?

Ages 6+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Young cows often have a best friend. When they are taken away from the herd, they stay calmer with their favorite buddy than with another cow they know.

To the MOO-vies!

Joke 4

Why did the chick knock on the inside of its egg?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: A chick starts peeping inside its egg about a day before it hatches, then chips its way out with a tiny "egg tooth".

It wanted to know if breakfast was ready!

Joke 5

Why did the chicken cross the playground?

Ages 6+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Chickens are living dinosaurs. Birds are the only dinosaurs still alive today, and T. rex was one of their cousins.

To get to the other slide!

Joke 6

Why doesn't a chicken need a toothbrush?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Chickens have no teeth. They swallow tiny stones, called grit, that help a strong tummy muscle grind up their food.

It doesn't have any teeth!

Joke 7

Why did the pig roll in the mud?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Pigs can barely sweat, so a mud bath is how they keep cool, and it works as sunscreen too.

It forgot its sunscreen!

Joke 8

What does a pig put on a scraped knee?

Ages 6+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: A pig's tough snout is made for digging. Pigs push it into the dirt to find roots and bugs to eat.

OINK-ment!

Joke 9 Why did the horse stop in the middle of the road?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Horses can sleep standing up. They lock their legs so they don't fall over, and lie down only for deep sleep. Somebody shouted "HAY!"	Joke 10 What do you call a pony with a sore throat?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Horses talk with whinnies, nickers, snorts and squeals, and each sound means something different. A little hoarse!
Joke 11 What do sheep count when they can't fall asleep?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Sheep are great at faces. They can remember the faces of about 50 other sheep, and they can even learn to recognize people. People!	Joke 12 Where do sheep go for a haircut?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Most farm sheep have wool that keeps growing, so they need a haircut, called shearing, at least once a year. To the BAA-BAA shop!
Joke 13 Why don't goats eat tin cans?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Goats are curious and taste-test all sorts of things, but they only eat plants, not tin cans. Their favorites are leaves and bushes. They can never find the can opener!	Joke 14 Why did the goat get sent out of class?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Baby goats are called kids. Goats love to play, jump and head-butt. It kept butting in!
Joke 15 Why did the duck bring an umbrella?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Ducks spread oil from a gland near their tail over their feathers, which makes them waterproof. Fancy! It didn't need it. It just wanted to look	Joke 16 What time do ducks wake up?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: A duck can sleep with one eye open while half its brain rests. Ducks on the edge of a sleeping group keep watch. At the QUACK of dawn!

Joke 17 Why doesn't a rooster need an alarm clock?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Roosters have a body clock inside them, so they crow just before dawn even when they can't see the sky. It is the alarm clock!	Joke 18 Why do donkeys hate rainy days?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: A donkey's coat isn't waterproof, so donkeys need a shelter when it rains. Horses mind the rain much less. They don't have a raincoat!
Joke 19 Why did the turkey's face go red?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: A male turkey's bare head can change color, from red to white to blue, when he gets excited. Somebody told it a joke!	Joke 20 Why did the farmer ask the goose to guard the farm?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Geese are so loud and bossy that people have used them as guards for thousands of years. The dog wanted a day off!
Joke 21 What did the llama say when it was invited on a trip?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Llamas hum softly to each other. "Alpaca my bag!"	Joke 22 Why did the cat sleep all day?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Cats sleep for much of the day and are busiest at dawn and dusk. It was saving up for zooming around at midnight!
Joke 23 Why did the cat sit on the computer?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: A cat's whiskers are so sensitive that they help it feel its way in the dark. To keep an eye on the mouse!	Joke 24 What's a cat's favorite color?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: A slow blink is a cat's smile. Slow-blink at a cat, and it will often blink back. PURR-ple!

Joke 25

Why did the cat squeeze into the tiny box?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: A box to hide in helps cats feel safe. In one study, shelter cats with a hiding box calmed down faster than cats without one.

The big box was way too roomy!

Joke 26

Why did the dog lie down in the shade?

Ages 6+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Dogs sweat only a little, through their paw pads. They cool down mostly by panting.

It didn't want to be a hot dog!

Joke 27

Why did the dog press its nose on the window?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Every dog's nose print is different, just like your fingerprint.

To sign its name!

Joke 28

What do you call a dog that does magic tricks?

Ages 6+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: A dog's nose can pick up smells far too faint for people to notice.

A Labracadabrador!

Joke 29

Why are goldfish so bad at hide-and-seek?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Most fish have no eyelids. The water keeps their eyes wet.

They can't close their eyes to count!

Joke 30

How does a bunny stay cool in summer?

Ages 6+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Their large ears work like air conditioning; on hot days, they help them stay cool!

With EAR conditioning!

Joke 31

Why does a bunny munch hay all day long?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: A rabbit's teeth never stop growing, so it needs hay to wear them down.

So its teeth don't grow all the way down to its toes!

Joke 32

Why doesn't a hamster need a backpack?

Ages 3+



Turn me round for the answer!

The true bit: Hamsters have stretchy cheek pouches that reach back to their shoulders.

It carries everything in its cheeks!

Joke 33 Why did the fox get sent off the golf course?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Foxes enjoy playing with other animals, especially dogs and cats. And their favorite game? Stealing golf balls from humans! It kept taking the balls home!	Joke 34 Why did the fox dive head first into the snow?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Foxes hear mice moving under the snow and pounce on them nose first. It heard a mouse ordering lunch!
Joke 35 What do you call an owl that does karate?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Owls are incredible hunters that excel at catching prey in the dark. They are so quiet that you'll never see them coming, like silent ninjas of the night! A silent ninja of the night!	Joke 36 Why did the owl invite a friend over?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: In tawny owls, "twit-twoo" is really two owls: the female calls "ke-wick" and the male answers "hoo-hoo". It didn't want to be OWL by itself!
Joke 37 What does a mama bear find when she wakes up in spring?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: When spring arrives and mama wakes up, she'll finally meet her little ones for the first time! A surprise: brand new babies!	Joke 38 What do you call a bear with no teeth?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Black bears eat mostly plants, like berries and nuts, plus some bugs. A gummy bear!
Joke 39 Why don't wolves howl AT the moon?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Even though wolves don't actually howl at the moon, they're more likely to howl when it's full and bright. It never howls back!	Joke 40 Why did the deer jump over the school bus?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Female deer, called does or hinds, are calm creatures known for their kindness. However, when they feel threatened, they can leap as high as the top of a school bus, and even farther! It was in too much of a hurry to wait for the doors!

Joke 41 Why was the stag late for school?  Turn me round for the answer! its antlers got stuck in a tree! The true bit: Male deer, also known as stags or bucks, grow impressive new antlers each year. However, these grand accessories can sometimes be a hassle. They may get tangled in tree branches and become stuck.	Joke 42 Why did the wild boar take its lunch to the river?  Turn me round for the answer! To give it a bath first! The true bit: When they come across dirty food, they don't just eat it; they wash it carefully until it's sparkling clean!
Joke 43 What do you call a squirrel that forgets where it hid its nuts?  Turn me round for the answer! A tree planter! The true bit: Squirrels forget many of the nuts they bury, and those nuts grow into new trees.	Joke 44 What did the hedgehog say to the cactus?  Turn me round for the answer! "Is that you, Mom?" The true bit: A hedgehog has thousands of spines. When it smells or tastes something new, it licks foam onto them, and scientists still don't know why!
Joke 45 Why does a raccoon wear a mask?  Turn me round for the answer! So nobody knows who ate the snacks! The true bit: A raccoon's paws are super sensitive. It can tell what something is just by touching it, almost like seeing with its hands.	Joke 46 Why did the skunk do a handstand?  Turn me round for the answer! To warn you: one more step and you'll be sorry! The true bit: Spotted skunks do handstands as a warning, and they can even run forward upside down on their front paws.
Joke 47 Why doesn't the tooth fairy visit sharks?  Turn me round for the answer! She'd run out of money! The true bit: Some sharks go through thousands of teeth in a lifetime.	Joke 48 What do sharks eat with peanut butter?  Turn me round for the answer! Jellyfish! The true bit: Shark skin is covered in tiny tooth-like scales, so it feels like sandpaper.

Joke 49 Why don't penguins and polar bears ever have playdates?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Almost all penguins live in the southern half of the world. None live at the North Pole, where the polar bears are. One lives at the bottom of the world and one at the top. That's a long walk!	Joke 50 What do penguins have for lunch?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Penguins "fly" underwater, using their wings like flippers. ICE-burgers!
Joke 51 Who gives the best hugs in the sea?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Octopuses really have three hearts and blue blood. The octopus: eight arms and three hearts!	Joke 52 How does an octopus go into battle?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: An octopus has eight arms and no tentacles. A squid has eight arms plus two long tentacles. Well armed!
Joke 53 Why was the blue whale still hungry after lunch?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: The blue whale is the biggest animal that has ever lived, and it eats tiny shrimp-like animals called krill. It only had shrimp!	Joke 54 Why do blue whales make such good friends?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: A blue whale's heart weighs about as much as a piano. They have the biggest hearts in the world!
Joke 55 Why did the dolphin cross the ocean?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Each dolphin has its own whistle that works like a name. To get to the other TIDE!	Joke 56 Why do crabs walk sideways?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Most crabs' legs bend best sideways, so crabs can dash left or right in a flash. They're too shy to walk straight at you!

Joke 57 What did the doctor tell the sea star that lost an arm?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! "Don't worry, it'll grow back!" The true bit: Sea stars can grow back lost arms, and they are not fish at all.	Joke 58 Why can't you ride a seahorse?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! It's a fish, silly! The true bit: A seahorse really is a fish, and in seahorse families, the dad carries the eggs until the babies hatch.
Joke 59 Why does a sea turtle always go back to the same beach?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! She left her favorite sandcastle there! The true bit: Mother sea turtles swim back to the beach where they hatched to lay their own eggs.	Joke 60 Why are jellyfish so relaxed?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! No brain, no worries! The true bit: A jellyfish has no brain, no heart, no bones and no blood, and it's about 95% water.
Joke 61 Why does a baby elephant suck its trunk?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! It can't find its thumb! The true bit: Baby elephants suck their trunks for comfort, the way children suck their thumbs.	Joke 62 What do you call an elephant that doesn't matter?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! Irrelevant! The true bit: An elephant's trunk can work like a snorkel when it swims.
Joke 63 Why do giraffes hum at night instead of singing?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! They don't want to wake the zebra! The true bit: Scientists have recorded giraffes humming at night.	Joke 64 Why do giraffes take so long to say sorry?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! It takes ages to swallow their pride! The true bit: A giraffe has seven bones in its neck, the same number as you.

Joke 65 Why did the zebra wear its stripes to the picnic?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: Scientists' best guess for why zebras have stripes: biting flies don't like landing on them. To keep the flies away!	Joke 66 The lion is called the king of the jungle. So why doesn't it live there?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: Most lions live on the grassy plains of Africa, not in jungles. They're the only cats that live in big family groups, called prides. Somebody gave it the wrong map!
Joke 67 Why did the tiger jump into the river?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: Many tigers love to swim, and their skin is striped too, not just their fur. To wash its stripes!	Joke 68 Why did the monkey pick up the peanut with its tail?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: Some South American monkeys have grabbing tails that can pick up something as small as a peanut. Its hands were busy waving hello!
Joke 69 Why was the sloth last in the race?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: Sloths aren't lazy: leaves give them very little energy, so they move slowly to save it. It wasn't lazy. It just had leaves for breakfast!	Joke 70 Why did the parrot hold its crayon with its left foot?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: Parrots have a favorite foot, just like you have a favorite hand. That's its favorite foot!
Joke 71 What does a baby crocodile say inside its egg?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: Baby crocodiles grunt and bark from inside their eggs. Then mom carries them to the water, gently, in her mouth. "Is it time yet? Is it time yet?"	Joke 72 Why doesn't the hippo bring sunscreen to the river?  ----- Turn me round for the answer! ----- The true bit: A hippo's red "sweat" works as a sunscreen. And hippos can't swim: they walk and bounce along the river bottom. It makes its own. In red!

Joke 73 Why did the gardener throw a party for the ladybug?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: One ladybug can eat thousands of bugs, like aphids, the little bugs that hurt plants. It ate all the bugs that were eating her plants!	Joke 74 Why did the butterfly stand on the birthday cake?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Butterflies have taste sensors on their feet. To taste it!
Joke 75 What do you call a really, really big ant?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Ants can carry things much heavier than themselves, and the ants you see marching are almost all sisters. An eleph-ANTI!	Joke 76 Why did the spider buy four pairs of sneakers?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Spiders have eight legs, not six. They are arachnids, not insects. It has eight feet!
Joke 77 Why did the snail stay in bed all week?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: When it's hot and dry, snails seal themselves inside their shells and take a long rest. It was waiting for a rainy day!	Joke 78 Why do bees hum?  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Honeybees don't need words: they do a "waggle dance" to tell the hive where the flowers are. They don't know the words!
Joke 79 Why did the firefly get top marks at school?  Ages 6+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: Fireflies are beetles, and they flash their lights to find each other. It was very bright!	Joke 80 Knock knock. Who's there? Interrupting cow. Interrupting c...  Ages 3+ Turn me round for the answer! The true bit: A cow has one big stomach with four parts, and she brings her grass back up to chew it again. MOO!

Joke 81 Knock knock. Who's there? Who. Who who? Is there an owl in here? The true bit: Owls can't move their eyes, so they turn their heads instead, up to three quarters of the way around. Turn me round for the answer!	Joke 82 Knock knock. Who's there? Wood. Wood who? Wood you let me in? I'm a woodpecker, I could knock all day! The true bit: When it's tucked away, a woodpecker's tongue wraps all the way around the back of its skull. Turn me round for the answer!
Joke 83 Knock knock. Who's there? Goat. Goat who? Goat to the door and find out! The true bit: A goat's pupils are rectangular. When it bends down to eat, its eyes roll so the pupils stay level and it can keep watching for danger. Turn me round for the answer!	Joke 84 Knock knock. Who's there? Lettuce. Lettuce who? Lettuce in, the bunnies are hungry! The true bit: Rabbits should eat mostly hay and grass, with leafy greens. Carrots are only a treat. Turn me round for the answer!