

  
Children's Riddles

## Riddles from Galway

1. What walks with its head down?
2. Why does a hen fly over a wall into a cornfield?
3. When is a wall like a fish?
4. What is no use until it is broken?.
5. What is always behind time?
6. Why is toffee like a racehorse?
7. Have you ever seen a goat with horns?
8. Why is a penny made round?
9. If a man gets a shilling for walking a mile what would he get for walking sixty?
10. At what time of the year are soldiers tired?
11. If a man had ten sons and each son had a sister, how many children had the man?
12. Why is a dog with a broken leg much like a boy doing sums?
13. It grows in the woods, it sounds in the town and earns its master many a half-crown?
14. It comes in dry and goes out wet
15. What has a foot but no toe or heel.
16. What is it you have to cut a piece off to make it longer.
17. Why is Ireland like a bottle.
18. What is on you, it isn't inside on you, it isn't outside on you But it is on you.

The above riddles were taken from NFC, Vol 004 pg. 322-4, Cloigeann School, Cleggan, Co. Galway

## Riddles from Kerry

19. Where are all the kings crowned?
20. What has eyes and cannot see?
21. It is as white as milk and as black as ink and milk or ink it isn't, it hops on the road like a marble stone and a marble stone it isn't?
22. Why is a coward like a vessel with a hole in it?
23. When is a soldier not a soldier.
24. What key is the hardest to turn?
25. What comb is the sweetest?
26. If I built a wall from here to Donegal what was the height of it?
27. What goes up when the rain comes down?
28. What is half the moon like?
29. Why is a jersey like a grasshopper?
30. Why is a rich man like a blackbird?
31. What is everybody doing at the same time?
32. What is the difference between a Christmas host and a hungry dog?

The above riddles were taken from NFC, Vol 414 pg 77. Tiobraid School, Tubrid More, Co. Kerry



## Riddles from Limerick

33. What walks with its head down?
34. When can water be eaten?
35. What goes up when the rain comes down?
36. What is the difference between an engine driver and a school master?
37. What turns without moving?
38. What is black and white and red all over ?
39. What goes around and around the wood and never get into the wood?
40. Why is an elephant always ready for his holidays?
41. How many sides to a bucket?
42. What kind of tables do we eat?.

The above riddles were taken from NFC, Vol\_528, pg 110-13 Mungraid Boys School, Luimneach, Mungret, Co. Limerick

43. How many feet have forty sheep, a shepherd, and his dog?
44. Three crows on a tree. A farmer shot two. How many remain?
45. When is a door not a door?
46. Why does a donkey eat thistles?.
47. How many sides to a pot?
48. What part of a cow goes over the ditch first?
49. Why does a hen pick the pot?
50. Why does the hen cross the road?

The above riddles were taken from NFC, Vol 522, pg.125-7, Kishikirk School, Caherconlish, Kishyquirk, Co. Limerick



## Riddles from Waterford

51. Why are tall people lazier than short people?  
Which travels faster heat or cold?
52. Who killed one quarter of the world?
53. If two men would dig a hole in two days: how long would it take one man to dig half a hole?

The above riddles were taken from NFC Vol 844, Page 131 -3. Ferrybank School, Ferrybank, Co. Waterford

54. What does everyone do at the end of his first day?
55. How many "i"s has an needle?
56. Why is a shoemaker's shop like hell?
57. Why did Cain kill Abel?
58. Why was Adam a good runner?
59. Why is a carpet to be pitied?
60. How far can a fox run into a wood?

The above riddles were taken from An Pasáiste Thoir (B.) School, PortLáirge. Co. Waterford. NFC Vol 652, Page 214-5

61. Why does a chicken cross the road?
62. What has five fingers and no bones?
63. What must you do before you come down a stairs?
64. Long legs, crooked thighs, small head and no eyes?
65. There were three men with an umbrella one day, an English-man, an Irish-man and a Scotchman.  
There was a hole in the umbrella. Which of them got wet?
66. Why is a drawn tooth like a thing no longer remembered?
67. When is a sword like beer?

## Riddles from Louth

68. What is the worst weather for rats and mice?
69. What paper is like a sneeze?
70. What ant is the biggest in the world?
71. Green I am but I am not grass. Black I am but I am not ink. Red I am but I am not blood. White I am but I am not snow. What am I ?
72. Why is a blanket like a train?
73. What is the difference between a jeweller and a jailer?

National Playday  
AND  
Recreation Week

74. What has no wings but can fly?
75. What has an eye but cannot see?
76. What is that which is full in the day and empty at night?
77. What has a head but not a face?
78. When is a bad pen like an angry cat?
79. What walks with it's head down?
80. What goes round the floor and round the floor and sleeps in a corner at night?
81. Headed like a thimble, tailed like a rat, you may guess forever but you couldn't guess that.
82. As round as an apple, as plump as a ball, can climb the church over the steeple and all?
83. On which side of the jug is the handle?
84. Why is hot bread like a caterpillar?
85. What town in Ireland spells the same way backwards as forwards?
86. Its brought to the table and cut, but never eaten?
87. How many feet have thirty sheep, the shepherd and his dog?
88. What goes round the wood and round the wood and never goes into the wood?
89. What is it that has too much for one, enough for two and nothing for three?
90. Why is a drawn tooth like something you have forgotten?
91. Why are a watch and a river the same?
92. Why is Sunday the strongest day in the week?
93. As I went into the wood of St.Ives I met a man with seven wives, and every wife had seven sacks, every sack had seven cats, every cat had seven kittens, cat, sacks and wives how many went into the wood of St. Ives?
94. How does a man's baldy head resemble Heaven?
95. The man that made it didn't need it, the man that bought it didn't want it, and the man that used it didn't see it?
96. As black as silk, and as white as milk and it hops on the road like hail-stones?
97. Why does a cow look over the ditch?
98. As steep as a house, as round as a cup and all the king's horses cannot draw it up?
99. Black I am and much admired, men and horses I have tired, gold and silver I have cost, and now I am in the ash pit lost.

The above riddles were taken from NFC, Vol 658, pg.83- 103 Ardagh School, Omeath, Ardagh, Co. Louth