

\* Remember to use  
TAPS

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Milton Bradley and The Checkered Game of Life

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The board game now called *Life* celebrated its 150th birthday in 2010. It was the first board game created by Milton Bradley in 1860. Bradley was a lithographer (a type of printing that uses a stone or metal plate and oil to create a print). He set up the first color lithography shop in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Milton Bradley was born in Vienna, Maine, in 1836. He attended high school in Lowell, Massachusetts. He attempted to earn a degree in drafting but ran out of money. He began working for Wason Car-Manufacturing Company where he worked on drafting plans for railroad cars. He remained there until 1860. During this time, he taught himself lithography.

During the 1860 presidential campaign, he printed and sold a lithograph of a clean-shaven Abraham Lincoln. The print sold well until Lincoln decided to grow a beard. Bradley's lithograph quickly became obsolete. Looking for a quick substitute, he ran across an imported board game given to him by a friend. He made a few changes and then released *The Checkered Game of Life* in the winter of 1860. The game was an instant success. It sold 45,000 copies during the first year.

The game was unlike many board games of the time. It focused on the relationship between good character and "success" in the form of wealth. Players began in "Infancy" and the goal was to reach "Happy Old Age" at the end. If a player landed on the "good" spaces, he would collect 100 points. Players advanced using a *teetotum*, a type of top similar to a dreidel.

Once his *Game of Life* provided him with a secure future, Bradley focused his attention on the kindergarten movement based on the ideas of the German philosopher Friedrich Frobel. He published two magazines called *Kindergarten News* and *Work and Play* promoting the idea of child-centered lessons for young children. Bradley published these magazines until his death on May 30, 1911.

Bradley also invented the guillotine paper cutter or stack cutter. Present day games such as *Yahtzee*, *Connect 4*, *Chutes and Ladders*, *Mouse Trap*, *Operation*, *Candyland*, *Battleship*, and *Big Ben* jigsaw puzzles are all part of the Milton Bradley catalog of games. In the 1980s, the Milton Bradley Company was sold to Hasbro, which is located in Rhode Island.

Milton Bradley was inducted into the National Toy Industry Hall of Fame in 2004. *Life* is still a popular board game today.



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Milton Bradley and The Checkered Game of Life

## Questions

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1. In what state was Milton Bradley born?

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2. Who was the subject of his first successful lithograph print?

- A. Thomas Jefferson
- B. John Adams
- C. Abraham Lincoln
- D. George Washington

3. Why did his 1860 lithograph print go out of fashion?

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4. What was the first title used for his Life game?

- A. *The Checkered Game of Life*
- B. *The Life of Riley*
- C. *Bradley's Game of Life*
- D. *The Checkerboard Game*

5. The goal of the *Game of Life* was to reach what goal?

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6. What other tool did Milton Bradley invent?

- A. scissors
- B. paperback books
- C. stapler
- D. paper cutter

Round 79,234 to the nearest hundred.

Pick the family fact that is missing.

$$120 \div 15 = 8$$

$$15 \times 8 = 120$$

$$8 \times 15 = 120$$

The diameter of a circle is 1,242 cm. What is the radius of this circle?

word root **avi** can mean **bird**

**aviary, aviator**

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$84,427 - 62,179 =$ _____	April rolls a die. What is the chance of her rolling a 5? _____
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What time is 14 hours after 2:00 a.m. _____	Amy is older than Amanda. Amanda is older than Wendy. Who's the youngest?
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1 kg = 1,000 g 25 kg = _____ g	Rewrite these in increasing order of length: 385 dm, 622 cm, 7 km	$\begin{array}{r} 492 \\ - 168 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$54 \div 6 =$		

$\begin{array}{r} 40 \\ - 22 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$30 \div 5 =$	$7 \times 4 =$ _____	17 km = _____ m
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$42 \div 6 =$ _____	You have four digits to use in an addition problem: 1, 4, 2, and 5. Make up a problem where you have two 2-digit numbers. What is the largest sum you can make?	$7 \times 12 =$	$\begin{array}{r} 25 \\ + 25 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$10 \times 8 =$ _____			
$\begin{array}{r} 481 \\ + 431 \\ \hline \end{array}$			

$40 \div 8 =$ _____	$56 \div 8 =$ _____	$(3 + 7) + 3 =$
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$$4 \cdot + \cdot 3 \cdot = \cdot 7 \cdot 8 \cdot 0 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 6 \cdot 3 \cdot 0 \cdot = \cdot - \cdot 1 \cdot 3$$

$$= \cdot 4 \cdot 9 \cdot 2$$

Use the pieces above to help you fill in the runaway math puzzle.

			1											
			x											
	8	+		=	1	6			x					
	+		=			÷								
	5		8	8			+	8	=	9	-	0		
	=		÷		=				0				+	
	1			4	÷		=	4		0			+	1
			=							+			+	
8			2				0	0	÷	1	2	=		
x							+						=	
8			6				3	=	5	-	2			
=			÷		=									
6			3				x	3						
	5	÷		=	5									

Rosa will win if a random number pulled out of a box is an odd number. 39 pieces of paper, numbered 1 to 39, are put inside a box. What is the chance that Rosa will win?

In the number 3,753,065,379, the digit 0 is in what place?

How far do you think it is from your desk to your teacher's desk? Write an estimate of the distance you think it could be.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you could invent a board game, what would you name it? Describe the features and rules for your game. How would you determine the winner? How do players advance on your board game? Create your gameboard idea and try it out.

*\* Answer using 12 or more sentences.*

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