

HOST SETUP & FINISH

Spoilers follow. Keep this pack separate from the players. Print the four-page player PDF once per team, single-sided at actual size. It fits A4 and US Letter paper. No cutting or colour printing is required. Supply pens and read the welcome together. Follow its sheet allocation for 2, 3 or 4 players; several teams may use identical sets. Keep this answer pack for the host. Larger-group facilitation has not been human-tested.

There is no tested duration or time limit. Record actual time, let teams stop at any point, and offer the first hint if requested before revealing more. Accept the final transmission EARTH 10 (or an equivalent clear statement). Say: "Transmission received. Your relay is back online." Do not claim playtested entertainment quality or commercial demand.

ANSWERS & HINTS

Puzzle 1: sort strips 1 LASER, 2 RADIO, 3 DRIFT. Use next-strip positions 2, 3, 1. Those letters are A, D, D: ADD. Hint 1: the strip number controls ordering and another strip's letter position. Hint 2: take the second letter of LASER, third of RADIO and first of DRIFT.

Puzzle 2: $A=2$, $B=5$, $C=3$. From $B=A+3$ with digits 1-6, A can only be 1, 2 or 3. $A=1$ gives $C=4$ and $B=4$, violating distinct digits. $A=2$ gives $B=5$ and $C=3$ and satisfies $C>A$. $A=3$ gives $C=2$, violating $C>A$. Hint 1: try possible values of A. Hint 2: use $B=A+3$ and $C=5-A$, then reject equal readings or $C\leq A$.

Puzzle 3: A1 START > A2 E > B2 A > B3 R > C3 T > C2 H STOP. The destination is EARTH. Hint 1: write a grid with named rows and columns. Hint 2: move one cell at a time; A2 points down to B2. Add $2+5+3=10$. Final answer: EARTH 10.

PLAYTEST NOTES & PERMISSION

Record group size, print size, start/end or abandonment time, hints used, unclear wording, participation by each player, and their final answer. Ask what confused them, whether every clue felt necessary, and whether they would choose this for a real group event over available alternatives. A model-based logic check cannot answer those questions. Any commercial interest, quoted price or payment must be recorded separately.

Free permission to download, print and run this prototype for personal, classroom or internal staff playtests. Do not resell or redistribute the files or use it for paid admission. A broader commercial kit is only a research idea; none is being sold here. AI assistance was used to draft, revise and check this original sample. No competitor puzzle assets were used. Send optional feedback using the link on the download page.