

## How Cognitive Skills Relate to **Wisconsin** Knowledge and Concepts Examination Questions



### Reading:

Cognitive Skill	Application to WKCE Questions	BrainWare Safari Exercises Developing the Skill
<p><b><i>Sustained Attention</i></b> – the ability to stay on task for a sustained period of time.</p>	<p>Reading a passage for comprehension requires sustained attention. If attention is not sustained, parts of the passage may not be processed or understood.</p>	<p>Most BrainWare Safari exercises work on sustained attention, including <b><i>Iguana Lookout, Jungle Labyrinth, Rhythm Ribbet, and Slithering Symbols.</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Visual Sequential Memory</i></b> – the ability to recall a sequence of bits of information in the same order as originally received.</p>	<p>“The boxes above show what happened in the story. One box is empty. Now look at the pictures below. Find the picture below that shows what belongs in the empty box.”</p>	<p><b><i>Arrow Point Bridge, Bear Shuffle, Rhythm Ribbet and Slithering Symbols</i></b> are exercises that work on visual sequential memory.</p>
<p><b><i>Conceptual Thinking</i></b> – the ability to recognize a collection of features that go together to create an idea or category of ideas.</p>	<p>After reading a passage, a question which asks, “Which of these is the best name (title) for the story?”</p>	<p><b><i>Ancient Logic and Reasoning</i></b> and <b><i>Llama Logic</i></b> help develop conceptual thinking skills.</p>

There are many cognitive skills involved in learning as well as being tested on what one has learned. This document provides examples of how the WKCE places demands on cognitive skills. This is not meant to provide a complete perspective on cognitive skills or a thorough analysis of the WKCE. These are simply examples for illustration. BrainWare Safari is a product of Learning Enhancement Corporation. It is a comprehensive program that develops 41 cognitive skills in a fun and entertaining video game format. For more information, contact Learning Enhancement Corporation at [www.BrainWareforYou.com](http://www.BrainWareforYou.com) or 877-BRAIN-10 (877-272-4610). Examples taken from sample test questions, grades 3-6 and science standards materials for grade 4.

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### Mathematics:

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<p><b>Visualization</b> – the ability to recall an image of what has been seen and to mentally manipulate and change aspects of that image in the mind.</p>	<p>“Marie folded this paper in half and cut along the dotted lines. Which letter did she cut out?”</p>	<p>Most BrainWare Safari exercises develop visualization skills. Such exercises include <b>Cave Comparisons, Piranha Pass, Web Weaving,</b> and <b>Whispering Waterfall.</b></p>
<p><b>Oculomotor</b> – the ability to use the eyes efficiently to read and gather information from the environment.</p>	<p>A question in which students “use simple two-dimensional coordinate systems to find locations on maps.”</p>	<p><b>Iguana Lookout, Jungle Labyrinth, Piranha Pass, Sky Scanning</b> and <b>Turtle Recall</b> address oculomotor skills.</p>
<p><b>Working Memory</b> – the ability to hold information in the mind while performing a mental operation on it.</p>	<p>Given the number of students in a class and the number of seats on a bus, a question which asks how many buses would be needed for a field trip would test working memory skills.</p>	<p><b>Bear Shuffle, Cave Comparisons, Memory Mountain</b> and <b>Tree Tic-Tac-Toe</b> are among the exercises that improve working memory skills.</p>

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### Science:

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<p><b>Visual Discrimination</b> – the ability to distinguish differences.</p>	<p>“Look at the pictures of the sun and the Earth. Find the picture that shows an X on Earth where it is daytime.”</p>	<p>BrainWare Safari exercises that develop visual discrimination include <b>Cave Comparisons</b>, <b>Jumping Jaguar Flash</b>, <b>Sky Scanning</b> and <b>Volcanic Patterns</b>.</p>
<p><b>Reasoning</b> – the ability to form concepts and solve problems using unfamiliar information.</p>	<p>A question which asks students to “decide what data can be collected to determine the most useful explanations” after reading an experimental procedure.</p>	<p><b>Ancient Logic and Reasoning</b> and <b>Piranha Pass</b> are two of the exercises that develop reasoning skills.</p>
<p><b>Logic</b> – the ability to reason and think rationally and analytically.</p>	<p>A question which asks students to “explain how science and technology could also cause a problem” in a given situation.</p>	<p><b>Llama Logic</b> and <b>Tree Tic-Tac-Toe</b> are two of the exercises that develop logic skills.</p>

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