Name: Date: Score: / 8

Secret Codes and Signals: Learn and Practice

Sending messages with patterns

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 Codes and Signals

- Information can be sent as patterns, like flashes, beeps or numbers.
- Morse code uses short and long signals to stand for letters.
- Computers send messages as patterns of ones and zeros.
- short, short, short: the letter S in Morse code

1 🔦 Which could send a message across a dark lake at night?

A. A whisper B. A drawing C. A smell

D. Flashes of a flashlight

2 Morse code uses what to stand for letters?

A. Colors only B. Smells C. Pictures of animals

D. Short and long signals

3 What is a code?

A. A kind of weather B. A type of rock

C. A pattern that stands for information

D. A planet

4 💻 Computers store information as patterns of what?

A. Bird songs B. Raindrops C. Ones and zeros

D. Leaves

5 Why must the sender and receiver agree on a code?

A. So it is louder B. So it is longer

C. So nobody can read it

D. So the message is understood

6 🚦 A traffic light uses what to send its message?

A. Smells B. Colors C. Tastes D. Heat

7 🚢 Why do ships use flashing lights to signal at night?

A. Lights are cheap

B. Light is seen far away in the dark

C. Water carries smells D. Light is very loud

8 🥁 A drum beat pattern means danger is near. What is this an example of?

A. Sending information with sound

B. Weathering C. Making music only

D. A circuit

✏️ Explain it! Write two facts you learned about secret codes and signals.

ANSWER KEY

Secret Codes and Signals: Learn and Practice (answers)

Sending messages with patterns

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1 🔦 Which could send a message across a dark lake at night?

A. A whisper B. A drawing C. A smell

D. Flashes of a flashlight

Light travels far and is easy to see in the dark, so flashes can carry a message across the water.

2 Morse code uses what to stand for letters?

A. Colors only B. Smells C. Pictures of animals

D. Short and long signals

Morse code turns each letter into a pattern of short and long beeps or flashes.

3 What is a code?

A. A kind of weather B. A type of rock

C. A pattern that stands for information

D. A planet

A code is an agreed pattern, like dots and dashes or numbers, that stands for a message.

4 💻 Computers store information as patterns of what?

A. Bird songs B. Raindrops **C. Ones and zeros**

D. Leaves

Inside a computer, everything is stored as long patterns of ones and zeros.

5 Why must the sender and receiver agree on a code?

A. So it is louder B. So it is longer

C. So nobody can read it

D. So the message is understood

A code only works if both people know what each pattern means.

6 🚦 A traffic light uses what to send its message?

A. Smells **B. Colors** C. Tastes D. Heat

Red means stop and green means go. The colors are a simple code everyone agrees on.

7 🚢 Why do ships use flashing lights to signal at night?

A. Lights are cheap

B. Light is seen far away in the dark

C. Water carries smells D. Light is very loud

In the dark, a flashing light can be seen from far across the water.

8 🥁 A drum beat pattern means danger is near. What is this an example of?

A. Sending information with sound

B. Weathering C. Making music only

D. A circuit

The pattern of beats carries a meaning, so the drum is sending information.