Brain Benders: Think Outside the Box

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This book challenges you to solve many different kinds of puzzles with just the power of your mind. It includes many games, anything from mazes to solo versions of Tic-Tac-Toe and Battleship! Some puzzles are about perception: In one challenge you have to figure out how to make 3D objects with certain pieces, and another game teaches you to write so you can read through a mirror!

This is a fun way to help kids develop critical thinking skills. They won’t even realize they’re doing math! Parents and teachers should make sure the selected puzzle is challenging, but possible for the child to do alone. It would be good to try some of the puzzles yourself before giving it to your child. It’s recommended for kids third- to sixth-grade, but some of the puzzles may need more explanation for younger enthusiasts. The book has a good layout with colorful and clean graphics as well as a surprisingly witty narrative.