



## Don't Mess with Mercury Game: Questions and Answers

[www.dontmesswithmercury.org](http://www.dontmesswithmercury.org)

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Oh No! You've spilled mercury. Now what? Show what you know about the dangers of messing with mercury.

Select your answers below. Use the answer key at the end to see how many questions you answered correctly.

1. The chemical symbol for mercury is Mr.
  - A. True
  - B. False
2. Mercury is a man-made chemical.
  - A. True
  - B. False
3. People mine mercury to make useful things.
  - A. True
  - B. False
4. What is a common name for mercury?
  - A. Liquid gold
  - B. Quicksilver
  - C. Goop
5. What part of the Earth does mercury come from?
  - A. The Core
  - B. The Crust
  - C. The Trees
6. Which of these could have mercury in them?
  - A. Plastic
  - B. Jewelry
  - C. Flip-flops



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7. Which of these things have mercury in them?
    - A. Eco-friendly light bulbs
    - B. Aluminum cans
    - C. Toy cars
  
  8. Which of these things have mercury in them?
    - A. Aluminum pots
    - B. Glass thermometers
    - C. Plastic
  
  9. Mercury sticks to skin.
    - A. True
    - B. False
  
  10. Mercury is the only liquid metal (at room temperature).
    - A. True
    - B. False
  
  11. Mercury drops are shiny.
    - A. True
    - B. False
  
  12. Heating mercury is dangerous.
    - A. True
    - B. False
  
  13. Mercury breaks into tiny droplets when spilled or touched.
    - A. True
    - B. False
  
  14. Mercury vapors tend to move toward the
    - A. ceiling
    - B. floor
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15. Mercury vapors
  - A. smell like rotten eggs
  - B. have a greenish glow
  - C. cannot be seen or smelled
  
16. At room temperature, mercury is a liquid and will evaporate.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
17. Mercury is heavy. Just a tablespoon of mercury weighs about the same as
  - A. a car
  - B. a key
  - C. a baseball
  
18. Only grown-ups should clean up spilled mercury.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
19. Vacuuming a mercury spill makes it worse.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
20. If mercury spills on a shirt, the shirt should be
  - A. thrown out
  - B. washed
  
21. If mercury spills, you should
  - A. tell an adult
  - B. clean it up
  - C. cry



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22. Mercury on someone's shoes can
- A. dissolve the shoes
  - B. get mercury all over the house
  - C. go away on its own
23. Harm from mercury can last forever.
- A. True
  - B. False
24. Mercury is dangerous for people of any age.
- A. True
  - B. False
25. Any amount of mercury can make you sick, even tiny amounts.
- A. True
  - B. False
26. Pets should stay away from mercury.
- A. True
  - B. False
27. Too much mercury in your body can make you moody.
- A. True
  - B. False
28. Mercury can cause harm in many parts of the body.
- A. True
  - B. False
29. Breathing mercury vapors is most likely to harm the
- A. brain
  - B. feet
  - C. ears
30. People most commonly get mercury in their bodies when they
- A. see it
  - B. swallow it
  - C. breathe it
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### ANSWER KEY

1	<b>B. False</b> The chemical symbol for mercury is Hg.
2	<b>B. False</b> Mercury is a natural element.
3	<b>A. True</b> People mine mercury to make useful things but they have to be very careful with it.
4	<b>B. Quicksilver</b> Mercury is sometimes called quicksilver.
5	<b>B. The Crust</b> Mercury comes from the earth's crust.
6	<b>B. Jewelry</b> Some jewelry from other countries may contain mercury.
7	<b>A. Eco-friendly light bulbs</b> Eco-friendly compact fluorescent light bulbs have mercury in them, so be careful not to break them.
8	<b>B. Glass thermometers</b> Some thermometers have mercury in them, but most don't.
9	<b>A. True</b> Mercury sticks to skin and gives off vapors that get in your body.
10	<b>A. True</b> Mercury is the only liquid metal at room temperature. A metal...and liquid. Weird, huh?
11	<b>A. True</b> Mercury drops are shiny.
12	<b>A. True</b> Heating mercury is very dangerous. Don't mess with mercury!
13	<b>A. True</b> Mercury can break into hundreds or thousands of tiny pieces when spilled or touched.
14	<b>A. Ceiling</b> Mercury vapors are heavy and usually move downward.
15	<b>C. Cannot be seen or smelled</b> Mercury vapors are invisible and odorless.
16	<b>A. True</b> At room temperature mercury is a liquid and will evaporate.
17	<b>C. A baseball</b> A tablespoon of mercury weighs about as much as a baseball.



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18	<b>A. True</b> Only grown-ups should clean up spilled mercury. If you find mercury, tell an adult to stay safe!
19	<b>A. True</b> Vacuuming a mercury spill makes it worse. Don't ever vacuum mercury.
20	<b>A. Thrown out</b> If mercury spills on a shirt, the shirt should be thrown away. Never wash clothes with mercury on them.
21	<b>A. Tell an adult</b> If mercury spills, don't touch it. Tell an adult.
22	<b>B. Get mercury all over the house</b> Mercury on your shoes can track it all over the house.
23	<b>A. True</b> Mercury can cause permanent harm. So don't mess with it.
24	<b>A. True</b> Mercury isn't safe for anyone.
25	<b>A. True</b> Even tiny amounts of mercury can make you sick.
26	<b>A. True</b> Mercury and mercury vapors can hurt pets, too.
27	<b>A. True</b> Too much mercury in your body can make you moody (and weak, and sick!).
28	<b>A. True</b> Mercury is bad for many parts of your body.
29	<b>A. Brain</b> The brain usually suffers the most harm from mercury.
30	<b>C. Breathe it</b> People most commonly get mercury in their bodies from breathing it.