



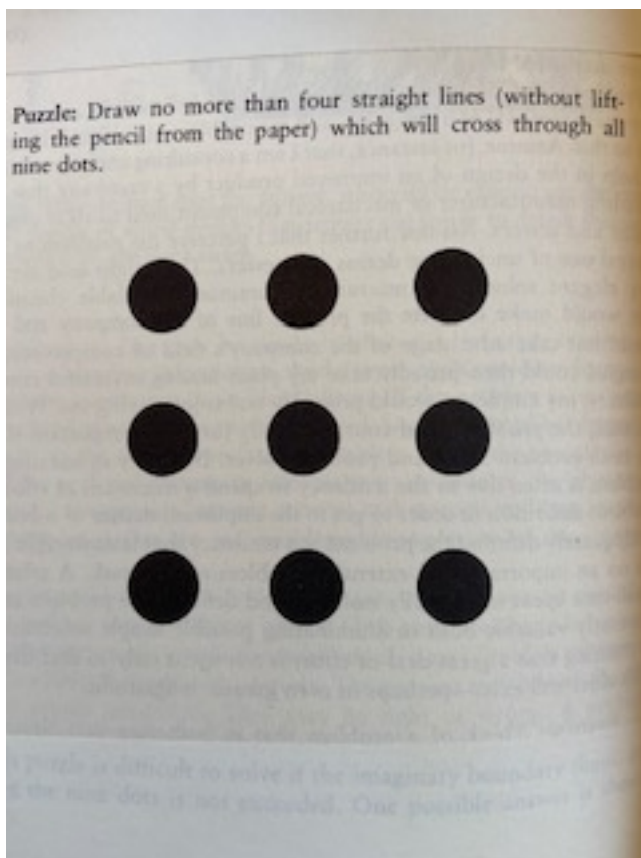
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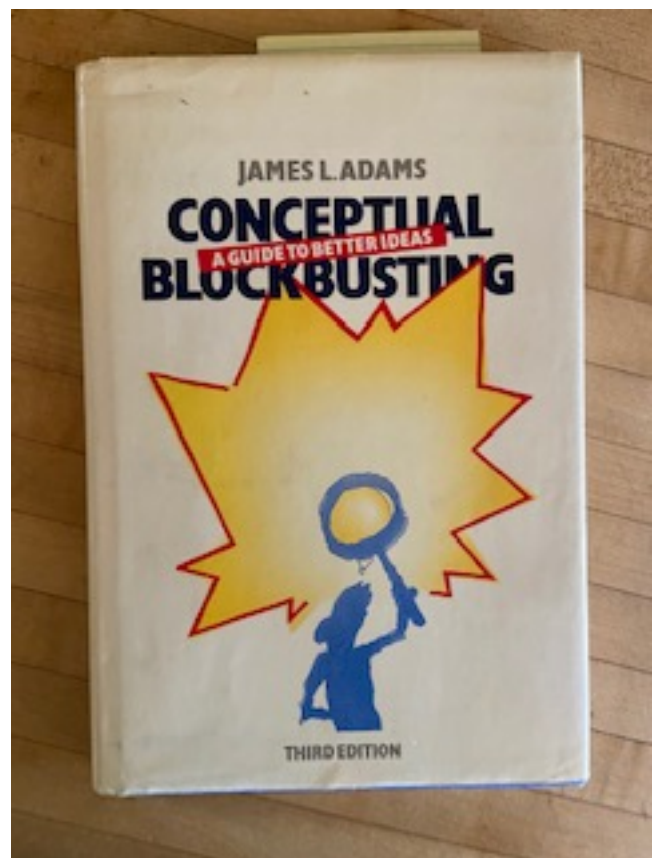
Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

Nine dots puzzle

A common, yet classic puzzle, is often referred to as the “Nine Dots” puzzle. James Adams includes it in his **Conceptual Blockbusting** book, an all-time favorite book of mine. On a piece of paper draw nine dots arranged in three rows. Here’s the puzzle. Without lifting the pencil from the paper, draw no more than four straight lines, which will cross through all 9 dots. When you have solved that problem, try drawing no more than three straight lines, which will cross through all nine dots and do it without lifting the pencil from the paper. Another time try for two lines and then one line, all while keeping the pencil on the paper! Often we are blocked by unnecessary constraints—limitations or restrictions—that we put on ourselves. Keep that in mind, as you solve this puzzle. The only rules are that the pencil must stay on the paper and the 4, 3, 2 or 1 line/s must be relatively straight—no meandering curvy lines. Feel free to send me your solutions! There have been some very creative answers to these problems, including some by 10-year-olds!



Original “Nine Dot” puzzle



CONCEPTUAL BLOCKBUSTING book