

Falls of the Ohio Riddles At the River Observation Deck



Are you observant and clever? Here is your chance to see how good you are and have some fun while learning something. Read the riddles below based on items around the Falls of the Ohio River Observation Deck where all answers can be determined from carefully observing this area.

Getting Warmed Up

1. Down you go, deeper with each step into geological time. But it would be difficult for you to explore the fossil beds below without my help to get you there. I can be hot, I can be cold, I can be wet and I can be icy, but I am not very old. I am not alive but I can lead you back into geological time.

What am I? _____

Part 2 (Riddles from the main central area of the River Observation Deck)

2. Rocks and steel am I
With geometric shapes all over.
I could carry you across the Falls
But my owners won't allow me.
I go north; I go south;
But I cannot fly.

What am I? _____

3. I like to play with water.
I can hold it back, let it go through me, pass under me or rush over me.
I can even push the water over to the Portland Canal for boats to use.

What am I? _____

4. Bands, bands, everywhere,
But not a note we play.
Because these bands are made of stone
constructed by skilled human hands.
We have different colors and heights,
and go in different directions.
But we still can't dance at the Rock the Rocks Festival. Sniff!

What am I? _____

5. I can soothe you, or warm you, or cool you.
I can even rock you or throw you or wet you.
Or I can take you to New Orleans!

What am I? _____

6. I have many moods. I can drift lazily in the water, or rest on the shore, soak up
thunderstorms or dry in the sun. Lifeless am I, laying all around you. But some gather me
up and take me away to use in another way.

What am I? _____

7. I never thought I'd see
Across the river
A "chicken bucket" so lovely
Oh but you cannot eat me.
You can see me on tv or come inside and watch activities.

What am I? _____

Part 3 (Riddles from the front of the building around the circle)

8. Look up and you will see stars, but these stars are visible night and day and do not
twinkle!

What am I? _____

9. I am very pretty, you will agree.
You can call me Mary or Hillary
But I prefer you call me by my real name.
And there are lots of me to see
I vary from yellow to orange and in between
From the months of May to November.

What am I? _____

10. I have protected you for over 60 years
and now you can ride or walk all over me, while I give you a view panoramically!

What am I? _____

11. We are two
Made of metal
Grasping hands firmly
and traveling boldly
where others have not gone.

Who or what are we? _____

ANSWERS to the Falls of the Ohio Riddles

1. Concrete steps (descending to fossil beds) Also acceptable...concrete ramp
2. The Conrail Railroad Bridge (originally the Falls Bridge), constructed in 1870 as the first bridge over the Ohio River at Louisville.
3. The McAlpine Dam (constructed in 1964).
4. The Falls of the Ohio Interpretive Center Building (with bands of stone).
5. The Ohio River (also acceptable: the Falls of the Ohio (rapids))
6. Driftwood on the shoreline of the Ohio River
7. The KFC Yum! Center across the Ohio River in Louisville, a multi-purpose arena and the home of the Louisville Cardinals basketball team, opened in 2010.
8. American flag (in the circle area).
9. Day Lilies garden (by the sidewalk).
10. Floodwall grass levee (constructed after the worst Ohio River flood of 1937). Today, it used as the Ohio River Greenway, a multi-use path stretching from Jeffersonville, through Clarksville and to New Albany.
11. The Merewether Lewis and William Clark metal statue at the entrance to the circle on the river side. Lewis and Clark met for the first time here at the Falls, recruited their Corps of Discovery locally from Kentucky and Indiana and set off on their western expedition from the Falls in 1803.