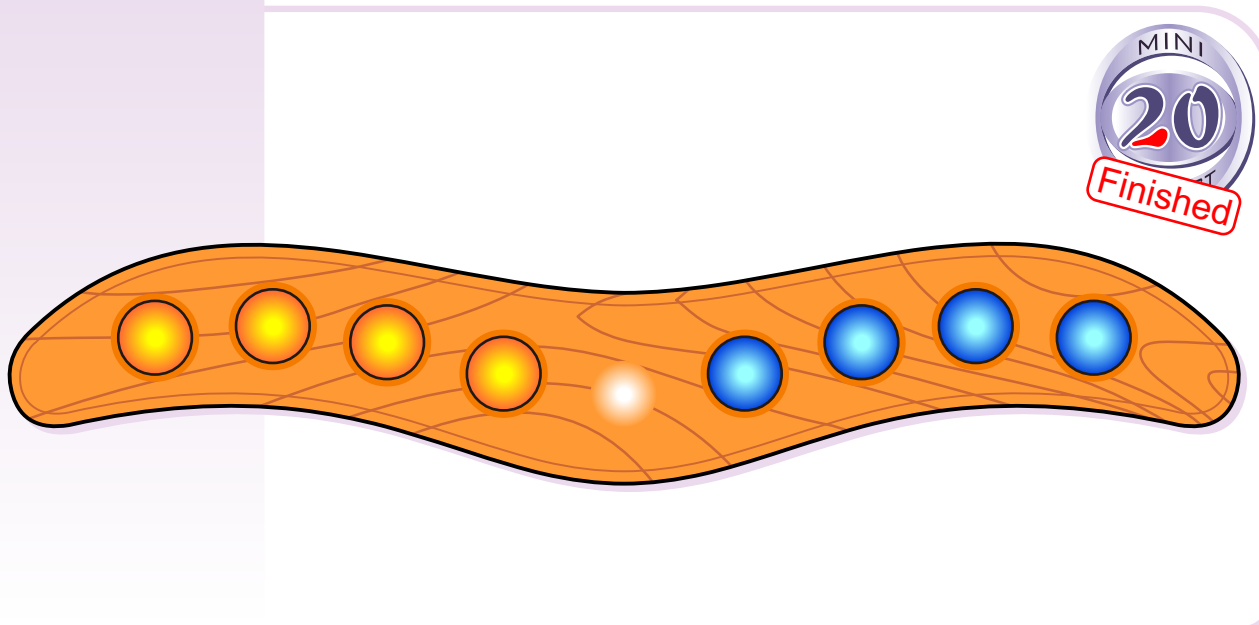


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Oxbow Puzzle*

You start with four Orange marbles on the left, four Blue ones on the right, and one empty hole in the middle.

Move the Blue marbles to the left and the Orange - to the right, again leaving an empty hole in the middle. There are the next rules to solve the puzzle:

1. The marbles move (or jump) one at a time.
2. The marbles move forward only (Blue - to the left, Orange - to the right), and never backward.
3. Any marble can move one step into an empty hole next to it.
4. Any marble can jump over one marble next to it, landing then on an empty hole right behind it.
5. You can't jump over two or more marbles.
6. The puzzle has to be solved with a minimum number of moves.

*This puzzle was inspired to the publication on Puzzles.COM by a message from our visitor Edna about a very old puzzle named "Oxbow Puzzle."

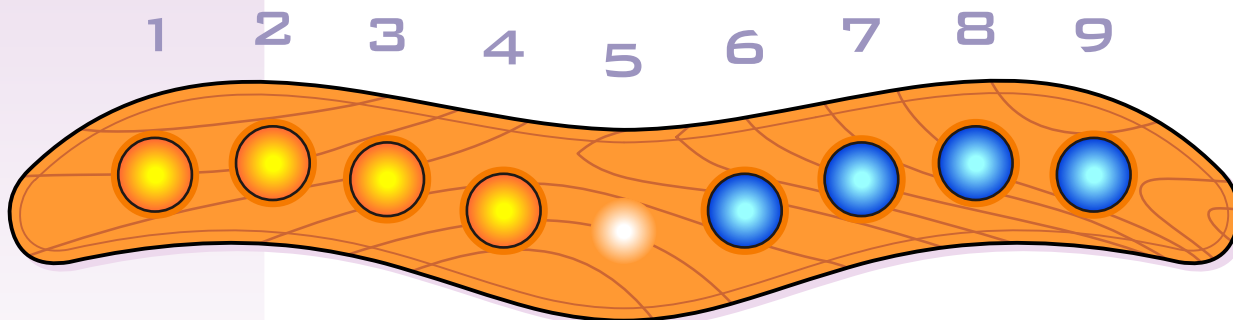
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6-5, 4-6, 3-4, 5-3, 7-5, 8-7, 6-8, 4-6, 2-4, 1-2, 3-1, 5-3,
7-5, 9-7, 8-9, 6-8, 4-6, 2-4, 3-2, 5-3, 7-5, 6-7, 4-6, 5-4.
24 moves

Oxbow Puzzle (solution*)

One of the solutions is shown in the illustration.

There are just two symmetrical solutions to this puzzle; both count 24 moves.

*This solution was sent in by David Atkinson.