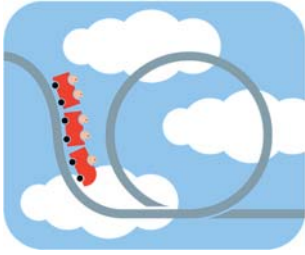


Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Thrill Ride Search

**Directions:** Read the passage *only once* to get a quick idea of what it's about. Focus on scanning for key words, numbers, or names. Your goal is to **find specific details as quickly as possible** using your eyes to jump between bolded words, dates, or capital letters. Record your answers in the blanks beside each search prompt below.

### The Rise of Roller Coasters

The first known roller coaster was built in **Russia** during the **1600s**. It was made of ice and wood, and riders slid down frozen ramps for fun. The idea spread across **Europe**, and by the **1800s**, inventors began building wooden coasters on wheels. In **1884**, a man named **LaMarcus Thompson** opened the *Switchback Railway* at **Coney Island, New York**. This ride reached about **6 miles per hour**, which thrilled crowds of people who had never experienced such motion before.

As the **1900s** arrived, roller coasters became taller and faster. Steel tracks replaced wooden ones, allowing for twists, loops, and sharp turns. In **1959**, *Disneyland* introduced the *Matterhorn Bobsleds*, the first tubular steel coaster in the world. Today, modern roller coasters like *Kingda Ka* in **New Jersey** reach speeds over **120 miles per hour** and heights taller than **450 feet**. From humble ice slides to gravity-defying rides, roller coasters continue to push the limits of thrill and design.

1. In what **century** was the first roller coaster built? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What **country** did the first coaster appear in? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What **year** did LaMarcus Thompson open his famous ride? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the **name** of the ride at Coney Island? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How fast did the *Switchback Railway* travel? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What **material** replaced wood in roller coaster design? \_\_\_\_\_
7. In what **year** did Disneyland debut the *Matterhorn Bobsleds*? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the **name** of the roller coaster located in New Jersey? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How **tall** can *Kingda Ka* reach? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What word describes the type of steel used in the *Matterhorn Bobsleds*? \_\_\_\_\_