

World Wide Treasures 3 - Crossroads - Solution

“Crossroads” includes 4 different puzzles with a common theme among their answers. The theme is hinted at by words like “elements” and “elemental”, and by the mandala picture showing the “four elements”.

Puzzle 1 is a collection of pictures and numbers. The pictures give the names of towns in British Columbia, Canada. From top left to bottom right they are: Prince Rupert, Smithers, Prince George, Williams Lake, Vernon, Oliver, Salmon Arm, Abbotsford, Victoria. The (+S) indicates that you need to add the letter S somewhere to get the name of the town, and the numbers next to the pictures are the latitudes of each town. The numbers and letters on the left are road numbers and directions, e.g. 1W is the Transcanada Highway aka Highway No.1, and if you travel from Salmon Arm westwards you get to Abbotsford (this is where Ron Shore, author of The World’s Greatest Treasure Hunt, lives) and then eventually to Victoria. So the equation at the bottom of the puzzle gives you two road numbers and a latitude, so you need to figure out where this crossing is. The answer is a town called **Radium Hot Springs**.

Puzzle 2 shows four airport codes. The airports are Fresno (FAT), Las Vegas (LAS), Apple Valley (APV) and Santa Paula (SZP). If you connect these airports as shown in the puzzle (by using the paths tool on Google Earth), the lines cross at a town called **Boron**.

Puzzle 3 shows the logos of six US baseball teams, and the “home” symbol tells you to find their hometowns. These hometowns are Lexington, Pittsburgh, Charlotte, Detroit, Knoxville and Washington. If you pair up these towns correctly and connect each pair with a path on Google Earth, the three paths cross very close to a town called **Nitro**.

Puzzle 4 is a Google Earth image of an area at the border between Ontario and Quebec, and the yellow pin is placed in a town called **Cobalt**. The Webdings clue says “Vitamin B12”, also known as Cobalamin.

The common theme is “chemical elements” and the four you need are Radium, Boron, Nitrogen and Cobalt.

The cipher is an Atbash/ROT13 code, with every second word reversed. The message reads:

“Four puzzles give four solutions give six letters. Make new word with these letters. Find place with that name on same continent, north of the direct path between the first and the last puzzle solution. Then go east for several miles until you reach a town that sounds like musical currency. Go to park by bridge and look for the shadow of a large creature on a parking lot. The treasure is buried under a shrub next to its right leg.”

The four chemical elements you get from the puzzles have the chemical symbols Ra, B, N and Co. So you get the six letters RABNCO. If you rearrange them you can make **CARBON**, another element. According to the message you stay in Canada to find the town named Carbon. It's in Alberta, and a few miles east of Carbon you can find the "musical currency" **Drumheller**. There you can visit the world's largest model of a dinosaur, a Tyrannosaurus Rex made of fibreglass. The treasure is hidden by its right leg.

