

CUE CARD																				
1	M	A	S	H		5	M	A	I	8	C	O	I	N	S		J	Joins/Jarful		
13	A	R	E	A		14	A	T	M		15	A	U	S	S	I	E			
17	G	E	T	S	18	I	N	T	O		19	R	I	S	E	R	S	O	getsOnto/Ore	
20	A	S	S	U	R	I	N	G	O	F		22	U	C	S	C				
		23	A	P	E			24	E	D	U	C	E							
26	A	L	I			28	B	I	N	D	L	E		30	C	I	R	K	Kindle/Kit	
33	D	E	L	H	I	I	T	E	S		36	S	O	A	N	E				
38	A	F	F	E	C	T	S		39	A	N	A	P	P	L	E		E	adEpt/Effects	
41	P	A	O	L	A		42	R	A	R	E	R	I	P	E	S				
44	T	Y	R		45	R	O	E	P	E	R			47	U	T	E			
			48	D	E	B	A	R			49	B	U	C				R	Rebar/River	
51	K	I	W	I		54	S	L	O	55	W	D	A	N	C	E	58	D	S	slowdanceS/Seep
59	S	T	E	V	I	E		61	P	I	E	S	L	I	C	E				
62	U	S	N	E	W	S		63	O	L	E		64	A	N	C	E			
	65	O	T	R	O	S		66	S	D	S		67	P	O	O	P		Crazy Eights - 8s are wild	
© 2021	a six-letter word																			

The best starting place in last week's meta was the clue for 55-Down: "Like some cards that force a change in a "crazy" game (and some similar squares in this grid)". The answer was WILD. Anytime you see a clue that references the entire grid like that, that's an excellent place to start for the meta! The "crazy" game referenced was Crazy Eights, and famously the 8s are wild (they force someone to play a new suit, I believe). Since the clue mentioned the squares from the grid were similar to the wild cards in Crazy Eights, that was your clue to look at the squares that had the number 8 in them, and then change the letter that was originally used there (i.e. make them wild). Hopefully you all realized that in each of the squares with 8, there was only one other possibility that resulted in valid words for both the across and down entries, and those new letters in grid order spelled **JOKERS**, which is indeed a 6-letter word, and a quite fitting answer for a puzzle about wild cards. Thanks again to Tamara for an awesome visual explanation: