

WHAT IS THIS?



Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Check each suspect's work. Decide if each comparison symbol is correct. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: Detective Report
I have $10-7$ pencils in my desk. I walked over to my friend's desk, and she had $9-1$ pencils in her desk. She told me that she had $6-5$ more pencils at home. I only have $4-3$ pencils at home. When she told him $8-3$ that she had $6-2$ pencils in her desk.

Clue #4: The School Bus
Write the answer to each question in each box.

14	3+7	44	0+0	6+3	2+2
X 2	G 10	X 5	X 0	R 9	X 4
04	2+4	4+4	5+2	1+5	1+2

Clue #5: Picture Reveal
Fill in all of the missing numbers below. Then, find the number that you see the most.

96,95, <u>96</u>	67,66, <u>69</u>	34,33, <u>32</u>	19,18, <u>17</u>	81,80, <u>81</u>	51,50, <u>49</u>
88,89, <u>89</u>	29,30, <u>31</u>	45,46, <u>47</u>	62,63, <u>64</u>	24,25, <u>24</u>	77,78, <u>79</u>

What number do you see the most?
• 65: The culprit is not wearing blue.
• 79: The culprit is not wearing a hat.
• 32: The culprit is wearing a hat.
• 90: The culprit is a girl.

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Pencil

The Suspect List
As you solve each clue, cross out the kids who did not commit the crime. The kid left at the end is the culprit.

I'm wearing yellow pants. Zara	I'm wearing a red shirt. Lexi	I'm wearing a green shirt. Asher	I have red shoes. Destiny
I'm wearing blue shoes. Eli	I'm wearing a green hair tie. Camila	I have yellow pants. Darius	I have a blue bow. Nora

Name: _____

Students complete a series of clues to figure out who took the missing pencil!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

Oh no! You brought your new pencil to school today but it went missing while you were at recess. It's your job to find out who took the missing pencil.

1. Take a suspect list and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering who the culprit (thief) is!
3. Cross out wrong suspects each time you find out new information. Good luck!

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1: Picture Decoder

Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19

Answers: 12 19 16 18 14 15 13 17 11

Letters: N O B O O K B A G

The thief has...

A =	G =	M =	S =	Y =
B =	H =	N =	T =	Z =
C =	I =	O =	U =	
D =	J =	P =	V =	
E =	K =	Q =	W =	
F =	L =	R =	X =	

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

The Suspect List

As you solve each clue, cross out the kids who did not commit the crime. The kid left at the end is the culprit.

<p>I'm wearing yellow pants.</p> <p>Zara</p>	<p>I'm wearing a red shirt.</p> <p>Lexi</p>	<p>I'm wearing a green shirt.</p> <p>Asher</p>	<p>I have red shoes.</p> <p>Destiny</p>
<p>I'm wearing blue shoes.</p> <p>Eli</p>	<p>I'm wearing a green hair.</p> <p>Camila</p>	<p>I have yellow pants.</p> <p>Darius</p>	<p>I have a blue bow.</p> <p>Nora</p>

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal which suspects to cross off.

When all clues are completed, the mystery of the missing pencil will be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE

- Beginning of Year Review
- Expanded Form to 20
- Compare Numbers 1 to 10
- Counting to 100
- Add to 10
- Subtract to 10
- School-Themed
- Error Analysis Practice

Clue #1: Picture Decoder

Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Answers: $\frac{12}{2+0}$ $\frac{19}{9+0}$

Letters: N O

The thief has...

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

Clue #2: Error Analysis

Check each suspect's work. Decide if each comparison symbol is correct. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Darius	Destiny	Nora
2 < 4 ✓	9 < 5 ✗	9 = 9 ✓
9 < 6 ✗	8 = 8 ✓	3 < 9 ✓
7 > 4 ✓	7 > 6 ✓	1 < 2 ✓
5 > 3 ✓	4 = 2 ✗	10 < 1 ✗
2 = 2 ✓	8 < 3 ✗	5 < 4 ✗

The suspect with the most correct answers is not the culprit.

Clue #3: Detective Report

pencils in my desk. I walked over to my friend's desk, and she had $9-1$ pencils in
hat she had $6-5$ more pencils at
e. I only have $7-3$ pencils at
desk, he only had $8-1$ I gave
ow many pencils she had. She told me
Then she found $10-0$ more

1=N	10=E	19=Z
2=S	11=J	20=Y
3=O	12=N	21=L
4=D	13=U	22=F
5=0	14=X	23=P
6=S	15=0	24=I
7=E	16=B	25=M
8=R	17=R	26=Q
9=H	18=V	

All clues focus on reviewing Kindergarten math skills!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Check each suspect's work. Decide if each comparison symbol is correct. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: Detective Report
I have $10-7$ pencils in my desk. I walked over to my friend's desk, and she had $9-1$ pencils in her desk. She gave me $4-2$ pencils at home. When I got home, I gave him $8-5$ pencils. She told me that she had 0 more pencils in her desk than I do. How many pencils in her desk?

3 Clue Version

15	874	693	102
N	R	S	H
O	E	D	F

Solve each question. Write the answer above each equation. Then, use the decoder to figure out the message.

4=D	13=U	22=F
5=O	14=X	23=P
6=S	15=I	24=M
7=E	16=B	25=N
8=R	17=R	26=Q
9=H	18=V	

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Clue #4: The School Bus
Write the answer to each question in each box.

Clue #5: Picture Reveal
Fill in all of the missing numbers below. Then, find the number that you see the most.

5 Clue Version

What number do you see the most?

- 65: The culprit is not wearing blue.
- 74: The culprit is not wearing a hat.
- 32: The culprit is wearing a hat.
- 90: The culprit is a girl.

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Answers: 12 19 16 18 14 15 13 17 11

Letters: N O B O O K I

The thief has...

A =	G =	M =	S =	Y =
B =	H =	N =	T =	Z =
C =	I =	O =	U =	
D =	J =	P =	V =	
E =	K =	Q =	W =	
F =	L =	R =	X =	

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Answers: 12 19 16 18 14 15 13 17 11

Letters: N O B O O K I

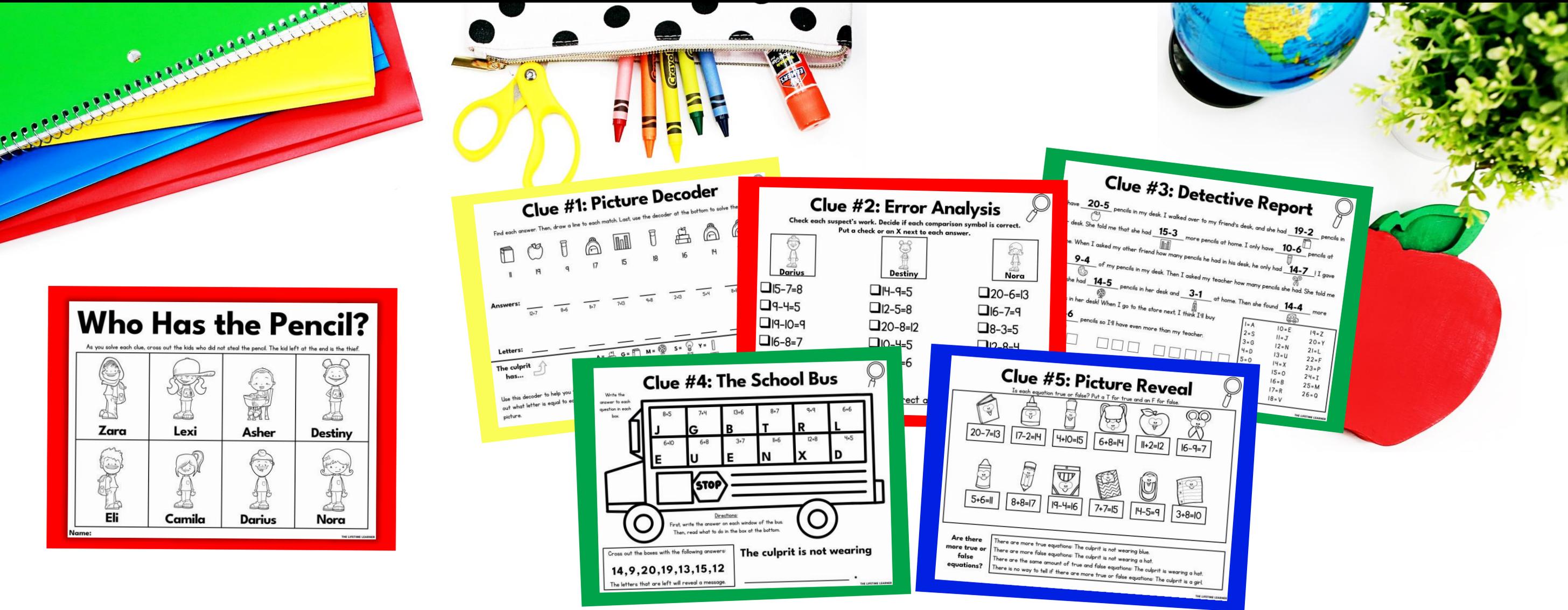
The thief has...

A =	G =	M =	S =	Y =
B =	H =	N =	T =	Z =
C =	I =	O =	U =	
D =	J =	P =	V =	
E =	K =	Q =	W =	
F =	L =	R =	X =	

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

Short & Long Options

MATH FACT VERSION!



Same clues. Same mystery. Different math!

There is an extra version included that focuses on addition and subtraction facts to 20.

FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



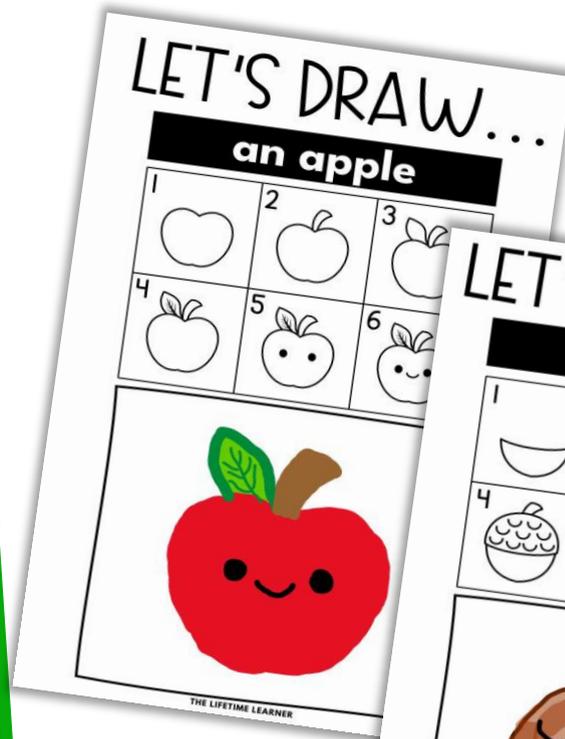
The Detective Agency sends
congratulations to:



Lindsay
You solved the mystery!

11/2
Date

AW
Presented by:



If students finish early,
give them a
certificate of completion
and a directed drawing
to complete while others
continue working.

MATH MYSTERY BENEFITS



- No Prep
- Print and Digital Versions
- 3 & 5 Clue Options
- Extra Math Facts Mystery
- Fun and Engaging
- Easy to Differentiate
- Encourages Critical Thinking
- Aligns with Math Standards
- Perfect for Review Days

Clue #4: The School Bus

Write the answer to each question in each box.

$1+1$ X 2	$3+7$ G 10	$4+1$ X 5	$0+0$ X 0	$6+3$ R 9	$2+2$ X 4
$0+1$ E 1	$2+4$ X 6	$4+4$ E 8	$5+2$ N 7	$1+5$ X 6	$1+2$ X 3

Directions:
First, write the answer on each window of the bus.
Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

Cross out the boxes with the following answers:
3, 4, 0, 5, 2, 6
The letters that are left will reveal a message.

The culprit is not wearing
Green

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

In 1st grade, this works well as a whole group lesson or in small groups at the teacher table.

First graders will need teacher support to read & understand the clues/directions

WHY TEACHERS LOVE THESE!

Ordinary math worksheets can be boring and unoriginal.

You want activities that are fun and engaging, but also rigorous and meaningful to student learning.

MATH MYSTERIES ARE EXACTLY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!

Clue #1: Picture Decoder

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Check each suspect's work. Decide if each comparison symbol is correct. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: Detective Report
I have $10-7$ pencils in my desk. I walked over to my friend's desk, and she had $9-1$ pencils in her desk.

Clue #4: The School Bus
Write the answer to each question in each box.

1+1	3+7	4+1	0+0	6+3	2-2
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Clue #5: Picture Reveal
Fill in all of the missing numbers below. Then, find the number that you see the most.

96,95, <u>16</u>	67,66, <u>65</u>	34,33, <u>32</u>	19,18, <u>17</u>	81,80, <u>79</u>	51,50, <u>49</u>
88,89, <u>90</u>	29,30, <u>31</u>	45,46, <u>47</u>	62,63, <u>64</u>	24,25, <u>24</u>	77,78, <u>79</u>

What number do you see the most?

- 65: The culprit is not wearing blue.
- 79: The culprit is not wearing a hat.
- 32: The culprit is wearing a hat.
- 90: The culprit is a girl.

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:



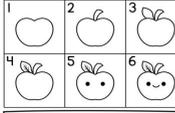
Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

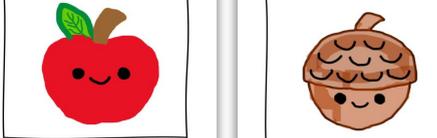
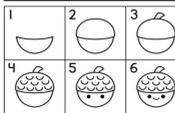
11/2 *AW*

Date Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...
an apple

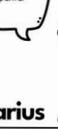


LET'S DRAW...
an acorn



The Suspect List

As you solve each clue, cross out the kids who did not commit the crime. The kid left at the end is the culprit.

<p>I'm wearing yellow pants.</p>  Zara	<p>I'm wearing a red shirt.</p>  Lexi	<p>I'm wearing a green shirt.</p>  Asher	<p>I have red shoes.</p>  Destiny
<p>I'm wearing blue shoes.</p>  Eli	<p>I'm wearing a green hair tie.</p>  Camila	<p>I have yellow pants.</p>  Darius	<p>I have a blue bow.</p>  Nora

Name: _____

solve the mystery



The Case of the Missing Pencil

WHAT MAKES MATH MYSTERIES UNIQUE?



Math Mysteries aren't just a copy of Reading Mysteries!

They have brand-new clues, focus on math skills, and even feature a different conclusion to the mystery.

The only thing that stays the same is the list of suspects students start with!

So, if you have both, students can play during math and then again during reading for double the fun.

Reading

Clue #1: Descrambler
Put the correct letter on top of each matching answer at the bottom. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

Place the correct letter on top of each matching answer.

The thief is not wearing...
Y E L L O W

cub mop box leg map cup

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Example of Clue 1

Math

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Find each answer: Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

12 19 16 18 14 15 13 17 11

2+10 9+10 6+10 10+8 10+4 5+10 3+10 10+7 1+10

N O B O O K B A G

The thief has...
A = [apple] G = [glue] M = [map] S = [scissors] Y = [yellow] Z = [zipper]
B = [book] H = [hammer] N = [notebook] T = [tape] W = [wheel]
C = [candy] I = [ice cream] O = [orange] U = [umbrella] V = [van]
D = [dollar] J = [juice] P = [pencil] Q = [queen] X = [x-ray]
E = [egg] K = [key] L = [leg] R = [robot]

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

KEEP THE FUN GOING!

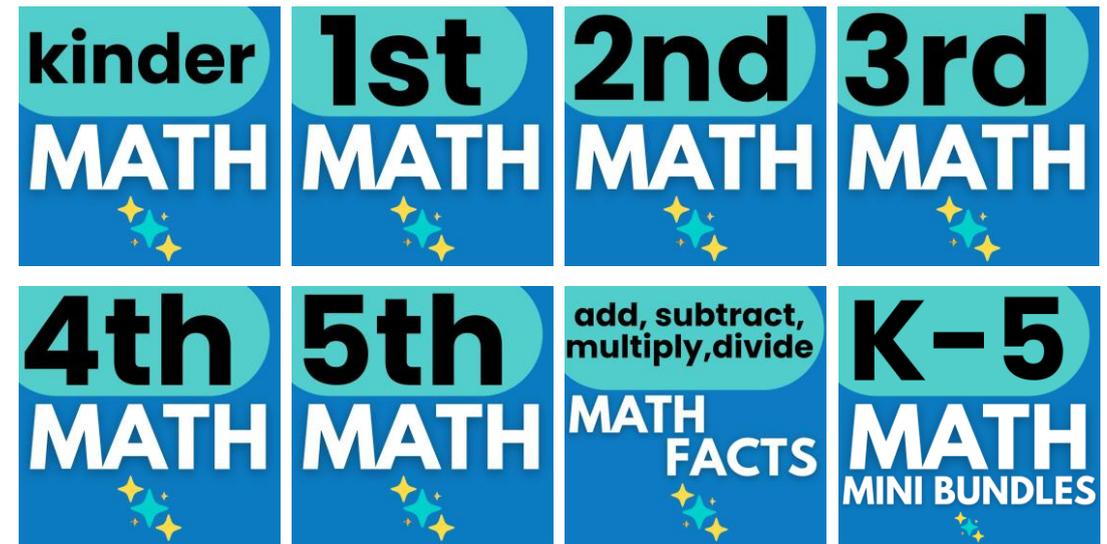
GRAB A **READING MYSTERY**:

Reading mysteries aren't just a copy of math. They come with fresh clues, unique reading challenges, and a new culprit, so students are solving an entirely different case!



MORE **MATH MYSTERIES**:

Explore other grade levels to differentiate and keep every student engaged.



**BUY A BUNDLE
TO SAVE BIG!**

