


# WHAT IS THIS?



The central puzzle card is titled "solve the mystery" in large, bold, black letters. Below the title is a blue electric guitar. At the bottom of the card, it says "The Case of the Missing Instrument" and "THE LIFETIME LEARNER".

Surrounding the central card are five clue cards, each with a different colored border (red, pink, purple, blue, and dark blue). The clues are:

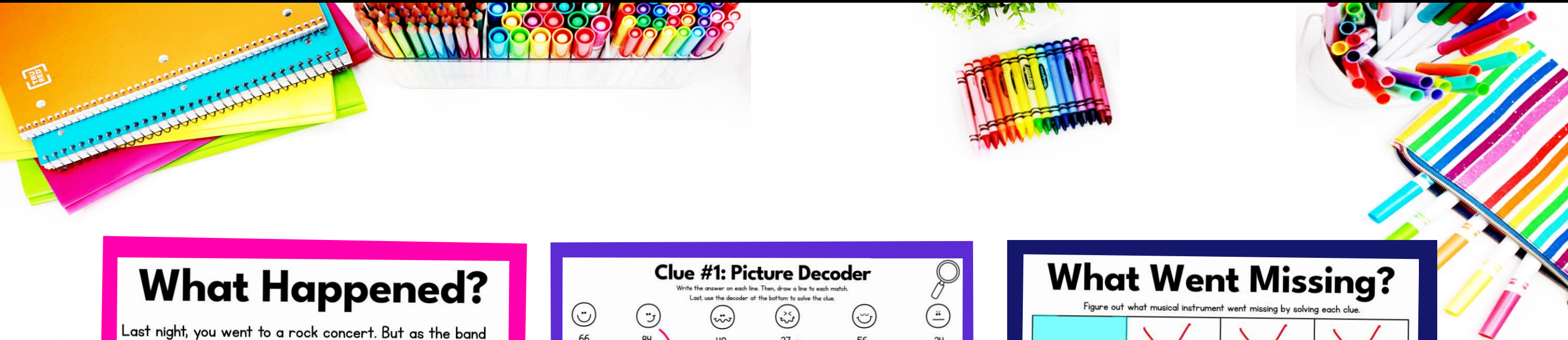
- Clue #1: Picture Decoder**  
Write the answer on each line. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.
- Clue #2: Multiple Choice**  
Choose the letter that is true for each. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.
- Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Was the shape split correctly? Color the star green if the answer is correct. Color the star red if it's wrong.
- Clue #4: The Piano Keys**  
Put the correct answer in each box. Then, read what to do at the bottom.
- Clue #5: Error Analysis**  
Check each instrument's work. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

The Error Analysis clue card shows two columns of math problems, one for a Keyboard and one for Drums. The Keyboard column has problems:  $10+9=19$  (checked),  $8-2=5$  (X),  $11+3=13$  (X),  $17-3=14$  (checked), and  $5+7=12$  (checked). The Drums column has problems:  $15-8=7$  (checked),  $9+4=13$  (checked),  $11-6=5$  (checked),  $7+2=9$  (checked), and  $19-10=8$  (X). At the bottom, it says: "The instrument with the most correct answers is not the missing instrument."

On the right side of the collage is a card titled "What Went Missing?". It says "Figure out what musical instrument went missing by solving each clue." and features a 2x4 grid of musical instruments. Each instrument has a red X over it, indicating it is not the missing instrument. The instruments are: Keyboard, Trumpet, Amp, Drum Set, Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, Speakers, and Microphone. At the bottom, it says "Name:".

Students complete a series of clues to figure out what the missing instrument is!

# HOW TO PLAY



## What Happened?

Last night, you went to a rock concert. But as the band was playing, one of their instruments suddenly went missing! Now you have to figure out which instrument disappeared based on the clues.

1. Take a list of instruments and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering which instrument went missing.
3. Cross out wrong instruments each time you find out new information. Good luck!



## Clue #1: Picture Decoder

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

66 84 40 27 56 24

Answers: 40 84 24 27 66 56

5x8 12x7 6x4 9x3 11x6 7x8

Letters: G U I T A R

The missing instrument is not a...

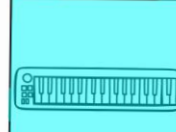




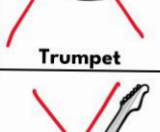
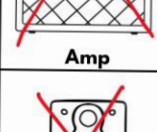



Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

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 = 😊	

## What Went Missing?

Figure out what musical instrument went missing by solving each clue.

 Keyboard	 Trumpet	 Amp	 Drum Set
 Acoustic Guitar	 Electric Guitar	 Speakers	 Microphone

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what instrument to cross out.  
When all clues are completed, the mystery of the missing instrument will be solved!



# SKILL PRACTICE

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

Answers:  $\frac{20}{17+3}$   $\frac{13}{4+9}$

Letters: G U

The missing instrument is not a...  
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

**Clue #2: Multiple Choice**  
Solve each question. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

12-7  
A. 5  
B. 6  
C. 7  
D. 8

13-10  
A. 4  
B. 3  
C. 8  
D. 7

8-5  
A. 6  
B. 5  
C. 4  
D. 3

11-9  
A. 5  
B. 4  
C. 3  
D. 2

20-6  
A. 13  
B. 14  
C. 15  
D. 16

9-3  
A. 4  
B. 5  
C. 6  
D. 7

14-6  
A. 6  
B. 7  
C. 8  
D. 9

7-3  
A. 5  
B. 4  
C. 3  
D. 2

Circle how many you chose in each box below. Then, read the phrase to know what to cross out.

How many As did you circle? 1 A = You play this 2 As = You use this 3 As = You can 4 As = You don't use	How many Bs did you circle? 1 B = this 2 Bs = your 3 Bs = instrument 4 Bs = guitar	How many Cs did you circle? 1 C = to 2 Cs = with 3 Cs = piano 4 Cs = instrument	How many Ds did you circle? 1 D = your mouth 2 Ds = your hands 3 Ds = makes sound 4 Ds = the strings
---	--	---	--

**Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Star green if the answer is correct. Color the star red if it's wrong.

$4+3=8$

$11+5=16$

$5+8=13$

$3+9=14$

12

out the drum set.  
out the trumpet.

- Version 1:  
Addition & Subtraction Facts
- Version 2:  
Multiplication & Division Facts

**All clues focus on reviewing math facts!**

# MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

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

**Clue #2: Multiple Choice**  
Choose the letter that is true for each. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

**Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Color the star green if the answer is correct. Color the star red if it's wrong.

$9 \times 4 = 36$	$7 \times 7 = 48$	$10 \times 5 = 50$

Which is true?

3 answers correct = Cross out the keyboard.  
4 answers correct = Cross out the microphone.  
5 answers correct = Cross out the drum set.  
6 answers correct = Cross out the trumpet.

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

**Clue #2: Multiple Choice**  
Choose the letter that is true for each. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

**Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Was the shape split correctly?  
Color the star green if the answer is correct. Color the star red if it's wrong.

**Clue #4: The Piano Keys**  
Put the correct answer in each box. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

**Clue #5: Error Analysis**  
Check each instrument's work. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

 3x4 4x4 6x4 5x4 7x4=27	 108 ÷ 11 = 9
--	------------------

The instrument with the most correct answers is not the missing instrument.

**Clue #2: Multiple Choice**  
Solve each question. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

$20 \div 4$ A. 5 B. 6 C. 7 D. 8	$30 \div 10$ A. 4 B. 3 C. 8 D. 7	$63 \div 9$ A. 4 B. 5 C. 6 D. 7	$84 \div 7$ A. 9 B. 10 C. 11 D. 12
$132 \div 12$ A. 12 B. 11 C. 10 D. 9	$54 \div 6$ A. 7 B. 8 C. 9 D. 10	$72 \div 8$ A. 11 B. 10 C. 9 D. 8	$48 \div 6$ A. 9 B. 8 C. 7 D. 6

Circle how many you chose in each box below. Then, read the phrase to know what to cross out.

How many As did you circle? 1 A = You play this 2 As = You use this 3 As = You can 4 As = You don't use	How many Bs did you circle? 1 B = this 2 Bs = your 3 Bs = instrument 4 Bs = guitar	How many Cs did you circle? 1 C = to 2 Cs = with 3 Cs = piano 4 Cs = instrument
---	--	---

**Clue #2: Multiple Choice**  
Solve each question. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

$20 \div 4$ A. 5 B. 6 C. 7 D. 8	$30 \div 10$ A. 4 B. 3 C. 8 D. 7	$63 \div 9$ A. 4 B. 5 C. 6 D. 7	$84 \div 7$ A. 9 B. 10 C. 11 D. 12
$132 \div 12$ A. 12 B. 11 C. 10 D. 9	$54 \div 6$ A. 7 B. 8 C. 9 D. 10	$72 \div 8$ A. 11 B. 10 C. 9 D. 8	$48 \div 6$ A. 9 B. 8 C. 7 D. 6

Circle how many you chose in each box below. Then, read the phrase to know what to cross out.

How many As did you circle? 1 A = You play this 2 As = You use this 3 As = You can 4 As = You don't use	How many Bs did you circle? 1 B = this 2 Bs = your 3 Bs = instrument 4 Bs = guitar	How many Cs did you circle? 1 C = to 2 Cs = with 3 Cs = piano 4 Cs = instrument	How many Ds did you circle? 1 D = your mouth 2 Ds = your hands 3 Ds = makes sound 4 Ds = the strings
---	--	---	--

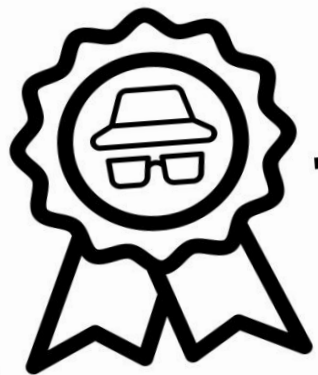
Short & Long Options



# FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



The Detective Agency sends  
congratulations to:



Lindsay

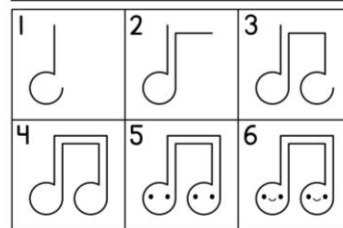
You solved the mystery!

11/2  
Date

Presented by: *AW*

LET'S DRAW...

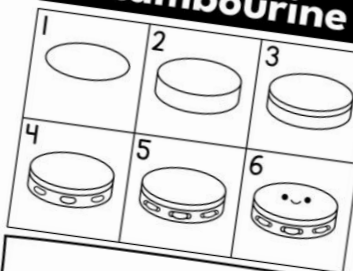
a note



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

a tambourine




THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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
- Fun and Engaging
- Easy to Differentiate
- Encourages Critical Thinking
- Aligns with Math Standards
- Perfect for Review Days

**Clue #4: The Piano Keys** 

Put the correct answer in each box. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

20-4 <del>X</del> 16 P		12-3 9 S		9-7 <del>X</del> 2 L		13-6 <del>X</del> 7 A
10-5 5 I		18-7 <del>X</del> 11 Y		17-8 9 N		5-2 3 G

Cross out the letters with the following answers:  
**2, 7, 11, 16**  
What letters haven't been crossed out? Write them on the line.

You do not sing with the missing instrument.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

This can be used in partners, small groups with the teacher, table groups, centers, and more!



# 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**  
Write the answer on each line. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

**Clue #2: Multiple Choice**  
Choose the letter that is true for each. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

**Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Was the shape split correctly?  
Color the star green if the answer is correct. Color the star red if it's wrong.

halves      fourths      halves

**Clue #4: The Piano Keys**  
Put the correct answer in each box. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

**Clue #5: Error Analysis**  
Check each instrument's work. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Keyboard	Drums
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $3 \times 4 = 12$	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $72 \div 6 = 12$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $40 \div 8 = 5$	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $10 \times 5 = 50$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $6 \times 11 = 66$	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $63 \div 7 = 9$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $56 \div 9 = 8$	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $12 \times 3 = 36$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $7 \times 4 = 27$	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> $108 \div 11 = 9$

The instrument with the most correct answers is not the missing instrument.

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

**Lindsay**

You solved the mystery!

**11/2**      **AW**

Date      Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...  
a note

1 2 3  
4 5 6

LET'S DRAW...  
a tambourine

1 2 3  
4 5 6

**What Went Missing?**  
Figure out what musical instrument went missing by solving each clue.

Keyboard	Trumpet	Amp	Drum Set

Acoustic Guitar      Electric Guitar      Speakers      Microphone

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**solve the mystery**

**The Case of the Missing Instrument**

# 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: Find It!**

Circle the boxes that have an adjective. Cross out the boxes that do not.  
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

<b>no</b>	<b>yes</b> stage	<b>amp</b> brightly	<b>stars</b> famous
<b>on</b> electric	<b>drum</b> poster	<b>this</b> dance	<b>slam</b> microphone
<b>hit</b> spotlight	<b>instrument</b> cool	<b>hands</b> bow	<b>slam</b> microphone

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong instruments off your list.

*no stars on this instrument*

Example  
of Clue 1

Math

**Clue #1: Picture Decoder**

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

66	84	40	27	56	24
Answers: <u>40</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>56</u>
5x8	12x7	6x4	9x3	11x6	7x8

The missing instrument is not a...

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

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 =	



# KEEP THE FUN GOING!

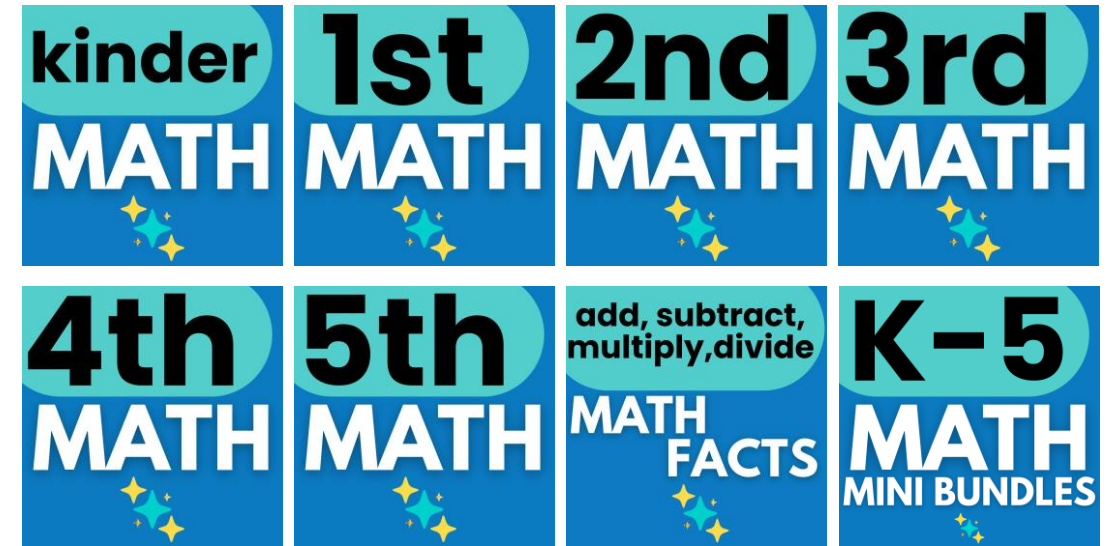
## GRAB A **READING MYSTERY**:

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!**

