

WHAT IS THIS?

Clue #1: Missing Letters
Fill in the missing letter for each. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

Clue #2: Multiple Choice
Circle the right answer and color in the matching box. Then read the bottom.

Clue #3: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Clue #5: Descrambler
Solve each question. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

What's in the Box?
Figure out what's in the mystery box by solving each clue.

Fried Chicken	Flowers	Basketball	Video Game
Dog	Books	Robot Game	Taco

Name: _____

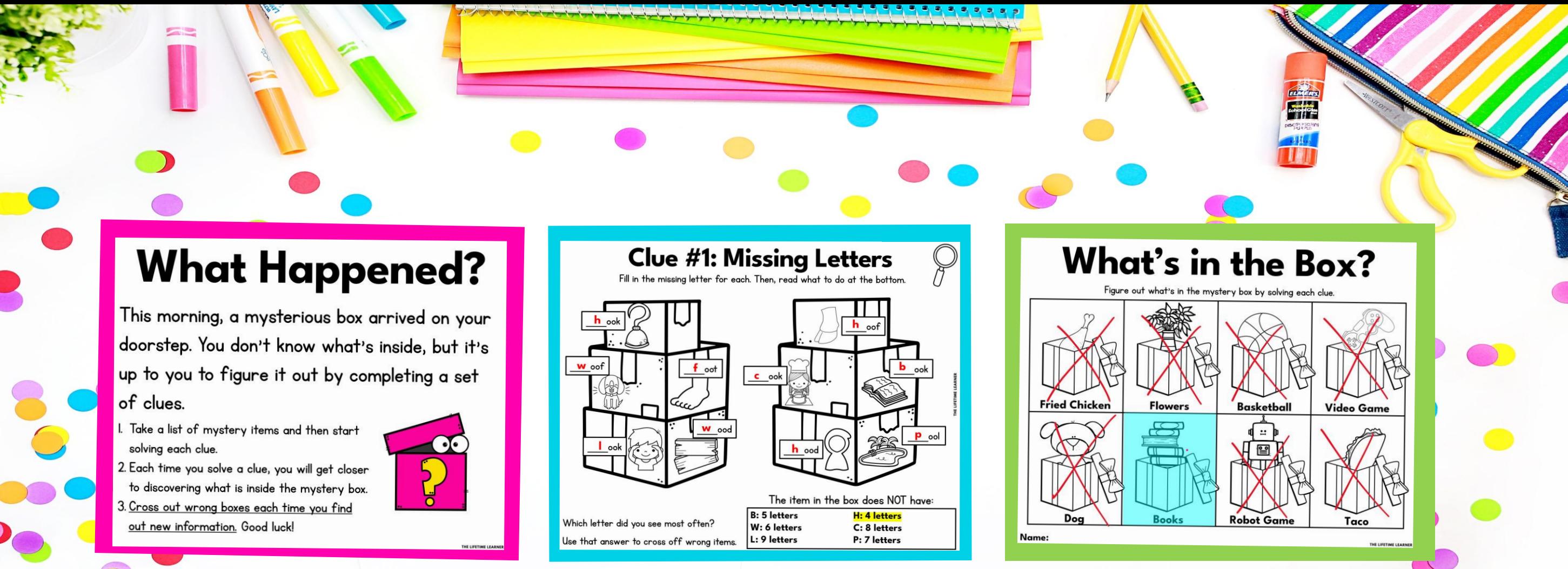
THE LIFETIME LEARNER

solve the mystery

The Case of the Mysterious Package

Students complete a series of clues to figure out what's in the mystery box!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

This morning, a mysterious box arrived on your doorstep. You don't know what's inside, but it's up to you to figure it out by completing a set of clues.

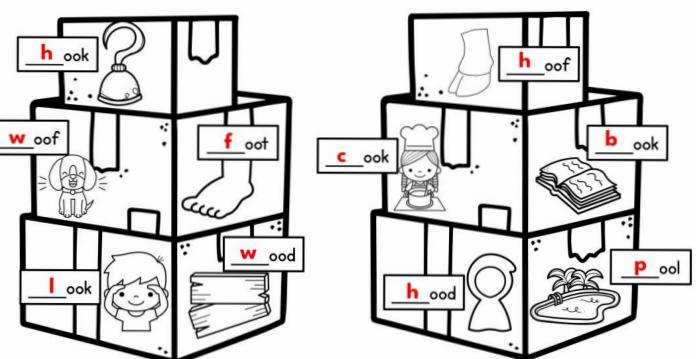
1. Take a list of mystery items and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering what is inside the mystery box.
3. Cross out wrong boxes each time you find out new information. Good luck!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1: Missing Letters

Fill in the missing letter for each. Then, read what to do at the bottom.



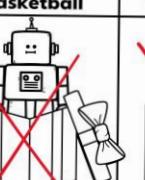
THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Which letter did you see most often?
Use that answer to cross off wrong items.

B: 5 letters	H: 4 letters
W: 6 letters	C: 8 letters
L: 9 letters	P: 7 letters

What's in the Box?

Figure out what's in the mystery box by solving each clue.

 Fried Chicken	 Flowers	 Basketball	 Video Game
 Dog	 Books	 Robot Game	 Taco

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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

SKILL PRACTICE

Clue #1: Missing Letters
Fill in the missing letter for each. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

Which letter did you see most? Use that answer to cross off.

Clue #2: Multiple Choice
Circle the right answer and color in the matching box. Then read the bottom.

Clue #3: Right or Wrong
picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

Answers:

Clue #1: Missing Letters

- hook
- woolf
- look

Clue #2: Multiple Choice

1.	2.	3.	4.
A. hoop - red B. moon - yellow C. goose - blue D. root - green	A. pool - red B. noon - yellow C. tooth - blue D. stool - green	A. root - red B. boot - yellow C. broom - blue D. tool - green	A. zoo - red B. goose - yellow C. roof - blue D. tool - green
5.	6.	7.	8.
A. moon - red B. spoon - yellow C. coop - blue D. zoom - green	A. food - red B. moose - yellow C. room - blue D. coop - green	A. drool - red B. pool - yellow C. goose - blue D. zoom - green	A. roof - red B. root - yellow C. boot - blue D. moon - green

Choose the key below that matches how you colored the picture of the boxes.

The item is not a ball:	The item is not a food:	The item is not in a vase:	The item can not be read:
if the picture has: • Box 1: red • Box 2: green • Box 3: yellow • Box 4: green	if the picture has: • Box 1: red • Box 2: blue • Box 3: yellow • Box 4: green	if the picture has: • Box 5: blue • Box 6: red • Box 7: blue • Box 8: green	if the picture has: • Box 5: yellow • Box 6: red • Box 7: blue • Box 8: green

Clue #3: Right or Wrong

picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

stool

hook

coop

good

How if the picture is correct?

animal is not in the box.
is not in the box.
is not in the box.
is not in the box.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

- Long oo
- Short oo

All clues focus on reviewing long & short oo.

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Missing Letters
Fill in the missing letter for each. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

Clue #2: Multiple Choice
Circle the right answer and color in the matching box. Then read the bottom.

Clue #3: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

3 Clue Version

How many pictures were correct?

1 Correct = A meat is not in the box.
2 Correct = A sport is not in the box.
3 Correct = A food is not in the box.
4 Correct = A pet that barks is not in the box.

5 Correct = An animal is not in the box.
6 Correct = A game is not in the box.
7 Correct = A toy is not in the box.
8 Correct = A book is not in the box.

Clue #1: Missing Letters

Fill in the missing letter for each. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

Clue #2: Multiple Choice

Circle the right answer and color in the matching box. Then read the bottom.

Clue #3: Right or Wrong

Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

food

stool

hook

Clue #4: Word Hunt

sook

broom

pool

ring

Clue #5: Descrambler

Solve each question. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

A

Y

D

E

C

5 Clue
Version

R

B

O

M

S

The item in the box is something:

Y

O

U

C

A

N

R

E

A

D

W

o

o

o

o

o

drool

moon

root

hoop

spoon

shock

foot

tooth

broom

wood

Clue #2: Multiple Choice

Circle the right answer and color in the matching box. Then read the bottom.

1. 

A. hoop - red
B. moon - yellow
C. goose - blue
D. root - green

2. 

A. pool - red
B. noon - yellow
C. tooth - blue
D. stool - green

3. 

A. root - red
B. boot - yellow
C. broom - blue
D. tool - green

4. 

A. zoo - red
B. goose - yellow
C. roof - blue
D. tool - green

5. 

A. moon - red
B. spoon - yellow
C. coop - blue
D. zoom - green

6. 

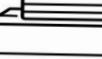
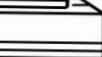
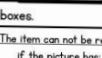
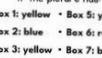
A. food - red
B. moose - yellow
C. room - blue
D. coop - green

7. 

A. drool - red
B. pool - yellow
C. goose - blue
D. zoo - green

8. 

A. roof - red
B. root - yellow
C. boat - blue
D. moon - green

1 
2 
3 
4 
5 
6 
7 
8 

Choose the key below that matches how you colored the picture of the boxes.

The item is not a ball: if the picture has: • Box 1: red • Box 5: yellow • Box 2: green • Box 6: red • Box 3: yellow • Box 7: blue • Box 4: green • Box 8: green	The item is not a food: if the picture has: • Box 1: red • Box 5: blue • Box 2: blue • Box 6: red • Box 3: yellow • Box 7: blue • Box 4: green • Box 8: green	The item is not in a vase: if the picture has: • Box 1: red • Box 5: yellow • Box 2: blue • Box 6: red • Box 3: yellow • Box 7: blue • Box 4: green • Box 8: green	The item can not be read: if the picture has: • Box 1: yellow • Box 5: yellow • Box 2: blue • Box 6: red • Box 3: yellow • Box 7: blue • Box 4: green • Box 8: blue
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THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Short & Long Options

CVC OPTION AVAILABLE



Differentiate within your small groups. Same clues. Same mystery. Different focus!
There is a version of the mystery included that reviews CVC Words (Short A, E, I, O, U).

FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



The Detective Agency sends congratulations to: **Lindsay**
You solved the mystery!

11/2 Date **SW** Presented by:

LET'S DRAW... a puppy

1	2	3
	cupcake	cupcake
4	5	6
puppy	puppy	puppy

LET'S DRAW... a robot

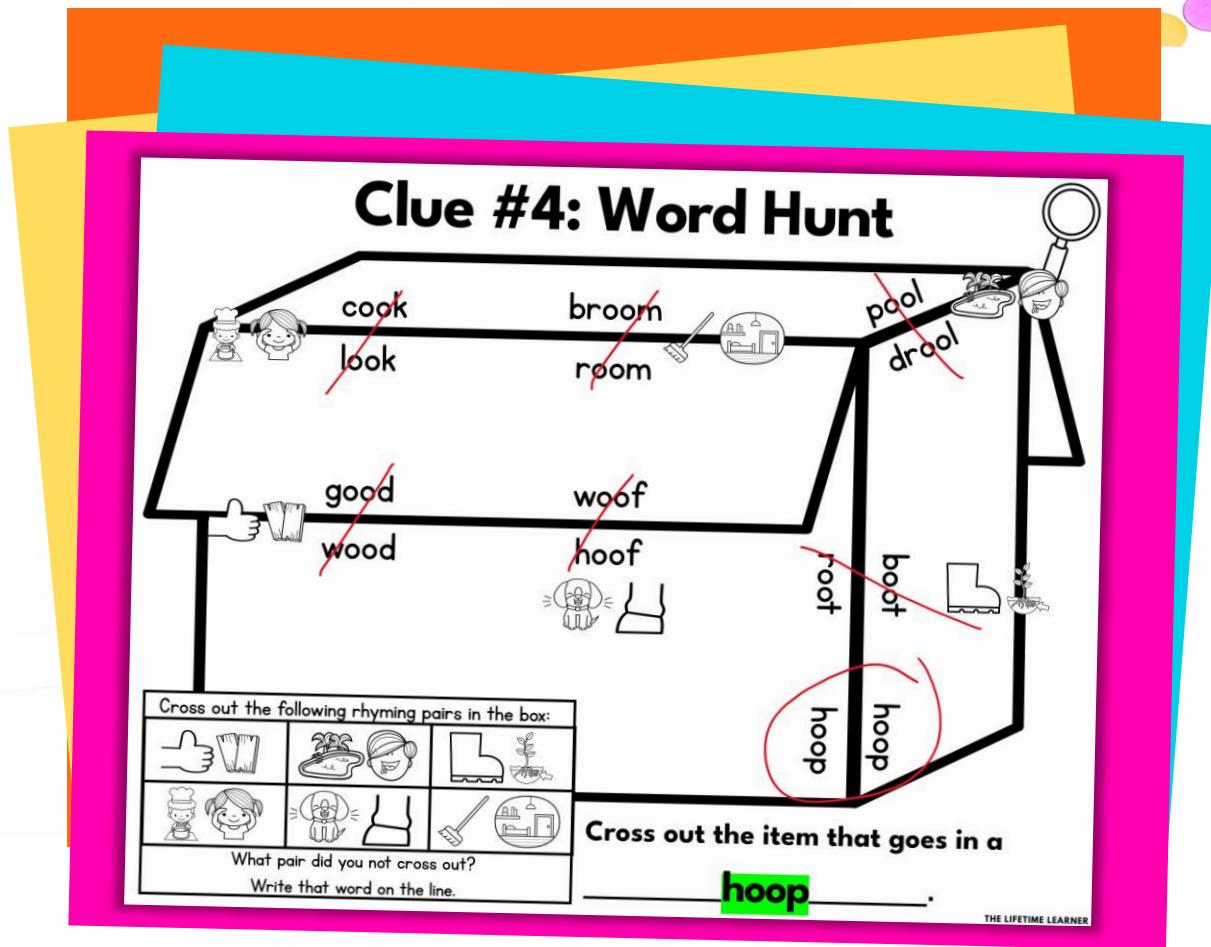
1	2	3
	cupcake	cupcake
4	5	6
robot	robot	robot

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

PHONICS MYSTERY BENEFITS



- No Prep
- Print and Digital Versions
- 3 & 5 Clue Options
- Fun and Engaging
- Easy to Differentiate
- Encourages Critical Thinking
- Aligns with Phonics Standards
- Perfect for Review Days
- Choice between 2 versions: Short & Long OO Mystery OR CVC Words Mystery. You can even mix/match clues to combine the 2 skills together (clues are interchangeable)!



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 phonics worksheets can be boring and unoriginal.

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

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

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Clue #4: Word Hunt

Clue #5: Descrambler
Solve each question. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

The item in the box is something:
Y O U C A N R E A D

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay
You solved the mystery!
11/2 *SW*
Date Presented by: THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a puppy

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a robot

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

What's in the Box?
Figure out what's in the mystery box by solving each clue.

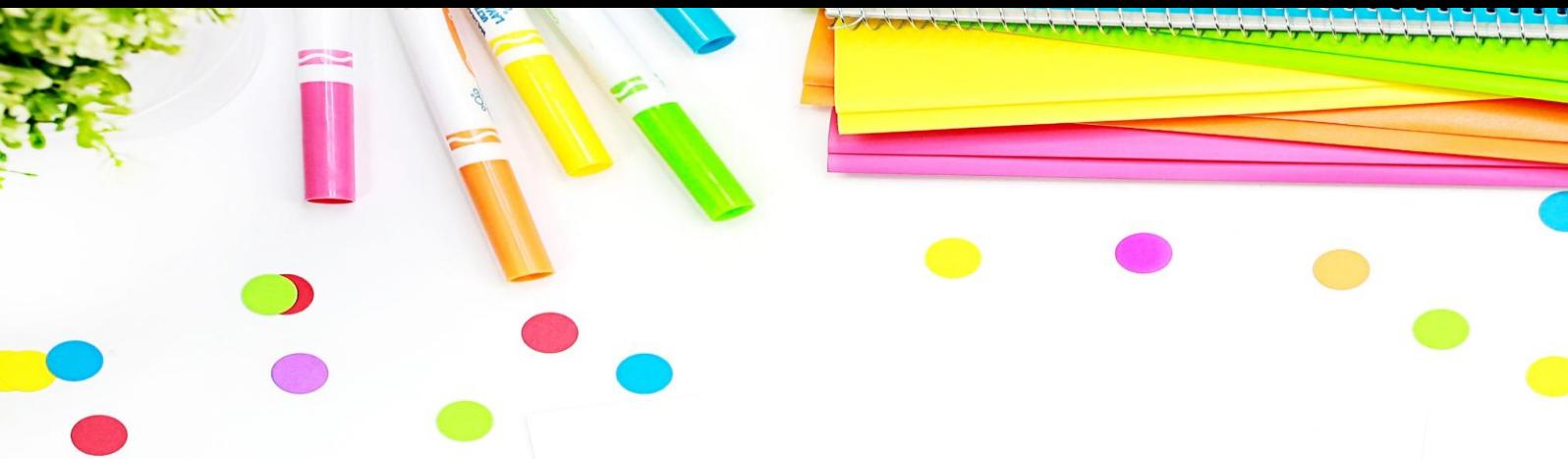
Fried Chicken	Flowers	Basketball	Video Game
Dog	Books	Robot Game	Taco

Name: THE LIFETIME LEARNER

solve the mystery

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

WHAT MAKES READING MYSTERIES UNIQUE?



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

They have brand-new clues, focus on reading 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.

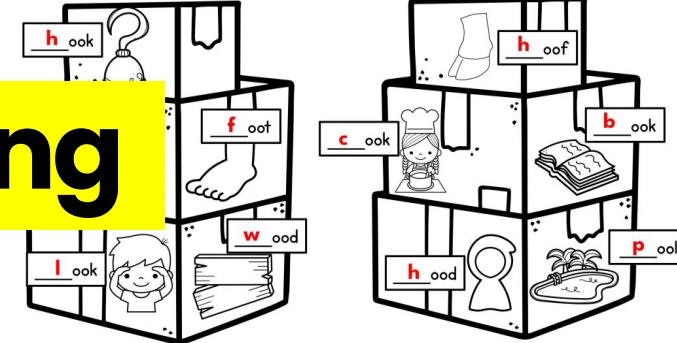
Reading

Example of Clue 1

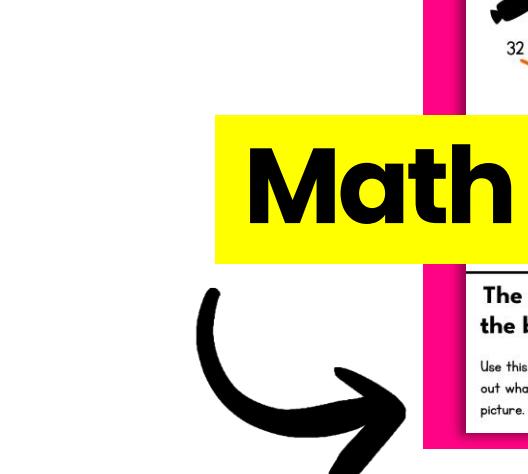
Math

Clue #1: Missing Letters

Fill in the missing letter for each. Then, read what to do at the bottom.

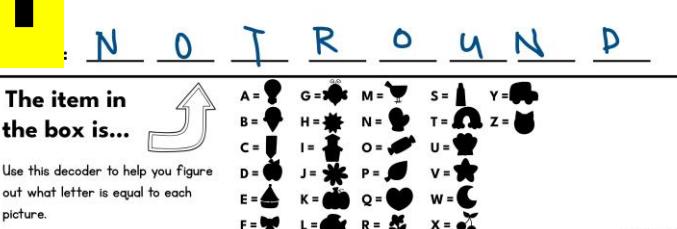
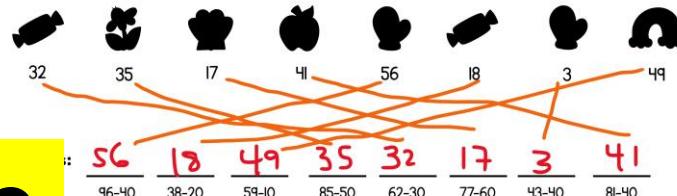


The item in the box does NOT have:
B: 5 letters H: 4 letters
W: 6 letters C: 8 letters
L: 9 letters P: 7 letters



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.



KEEP THE FUN GOING!

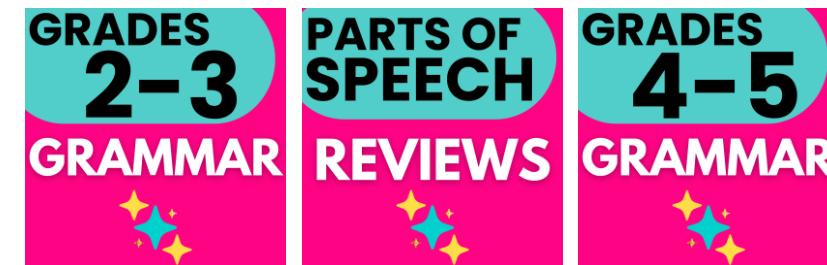
GRAB A MATH MYSTERY:

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



MORE READING MYSTERIES:

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



BUY A BUNDLE
TO SAVE BIG!



THE BUNDLE