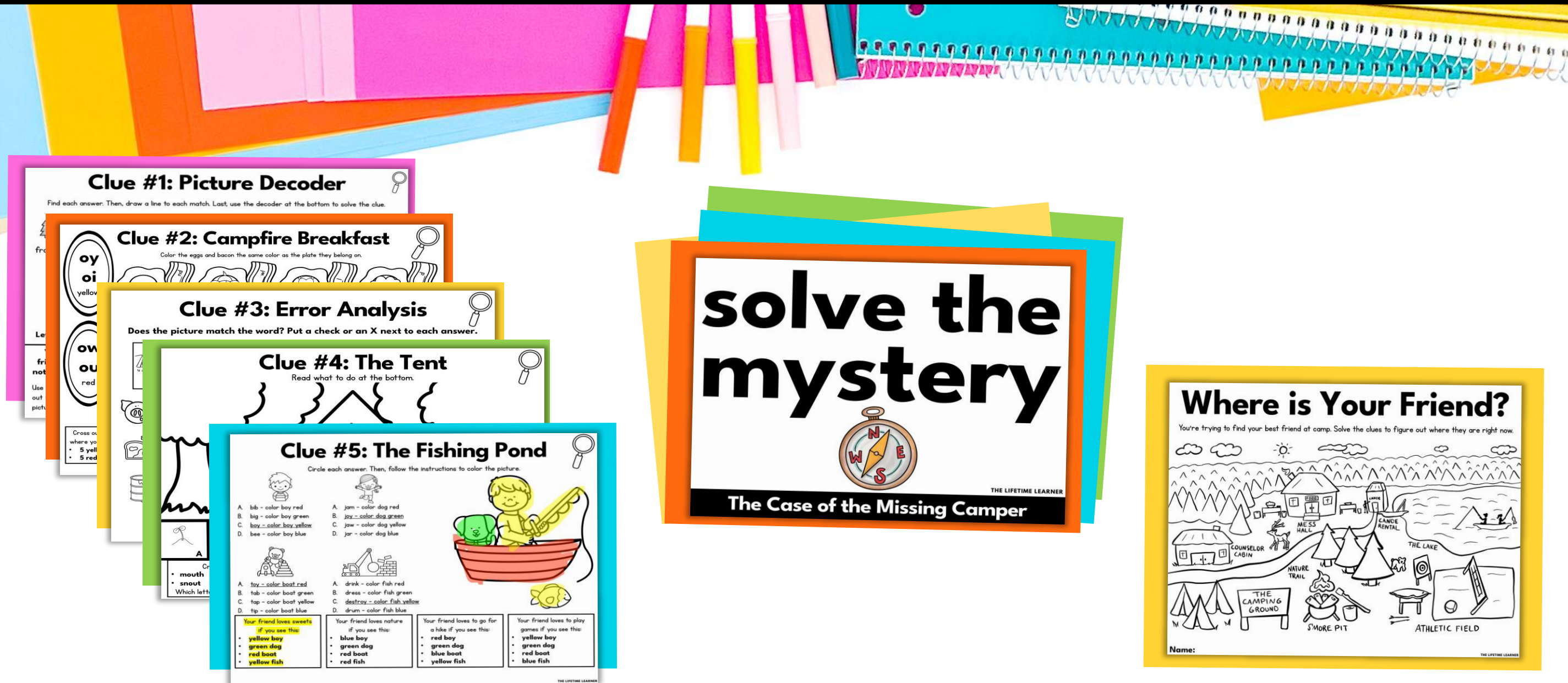


# WHAT IS THIS?



Students complete a series of clues to figure out where the missing camper is!

# HOW TO PLAY

## What Happened?

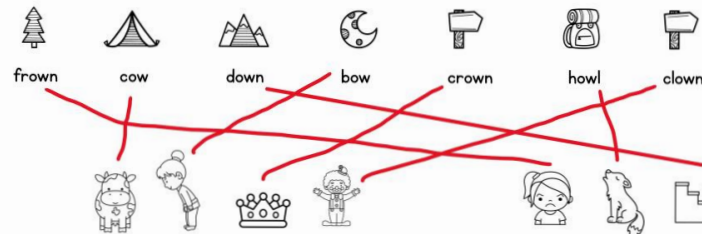
You and your best friend are finally at summer camp, but now, you don't know where your friend went. It's up to you to solve a set of clues to figure out where they are and solve the mystery!

1. Take a map of locations and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where your friend is.
3. Cross out wrong locations each time you find out new information. Good luck!



## 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.



Letters: **B** **A** **L** **L** **or** **N** **E** **T**

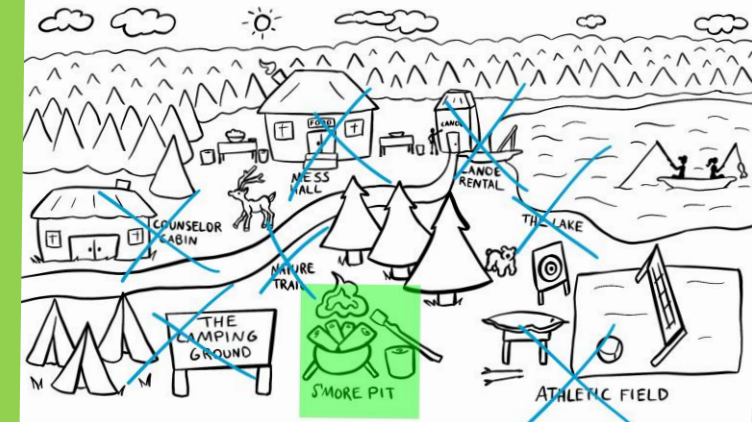
Your friend is not near a

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 =	

## Where is Your Friend?

You're trying to find your best friend at camp. Solve the clues to figure out where they are right now.



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

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what place to cross out.

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



# SKILL PRACTICE

- Diphthongs Review
- OI Words
- OY Words
- OW Words
- OU Words

**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.

frown   cow   down

Letters: **B**   **A**

Your friend is not near a

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

**Clue #2: Campfire Breakfast**

Color the eggs and bacon the same color as the plate they belong on.

oy oi yellow

ow ou red

Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

Cross out places at camp where you eat if there are:

- 5 yellow eggs
- 5 red eggs

Cross out places at camp with a canoe if there are:

- 7 yellow eggs
- 5 red eggs

Cross out places at camp by water if there are:

- 5 yellow eggs
- 7 red eggs

Cross out places at camp with a trail if there are:

- 7 yellow eggs
- 7 red eggs

**Clue #3: Error Analysis**

Are the words match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

S'MORE PIT

coin

boil

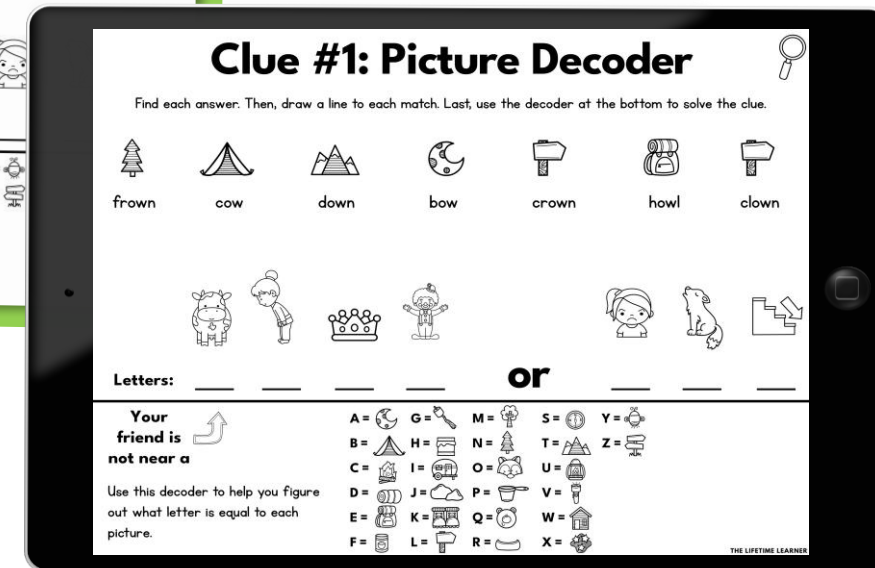
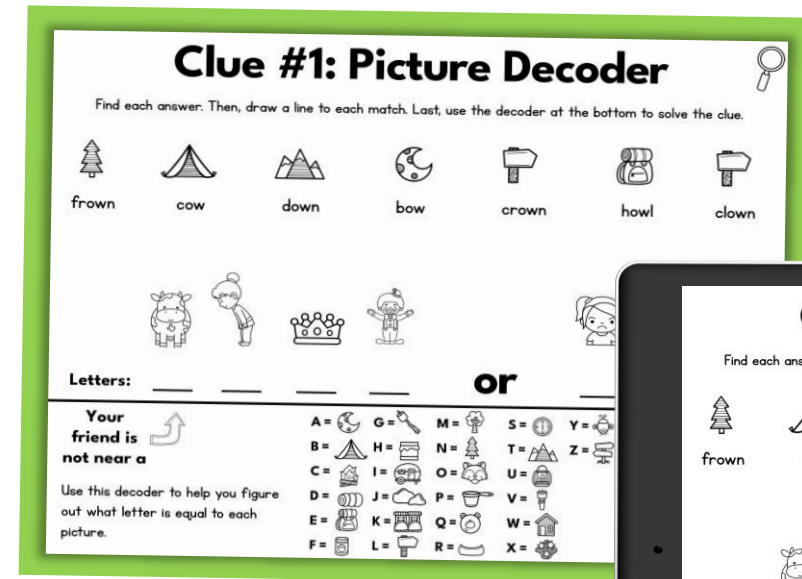
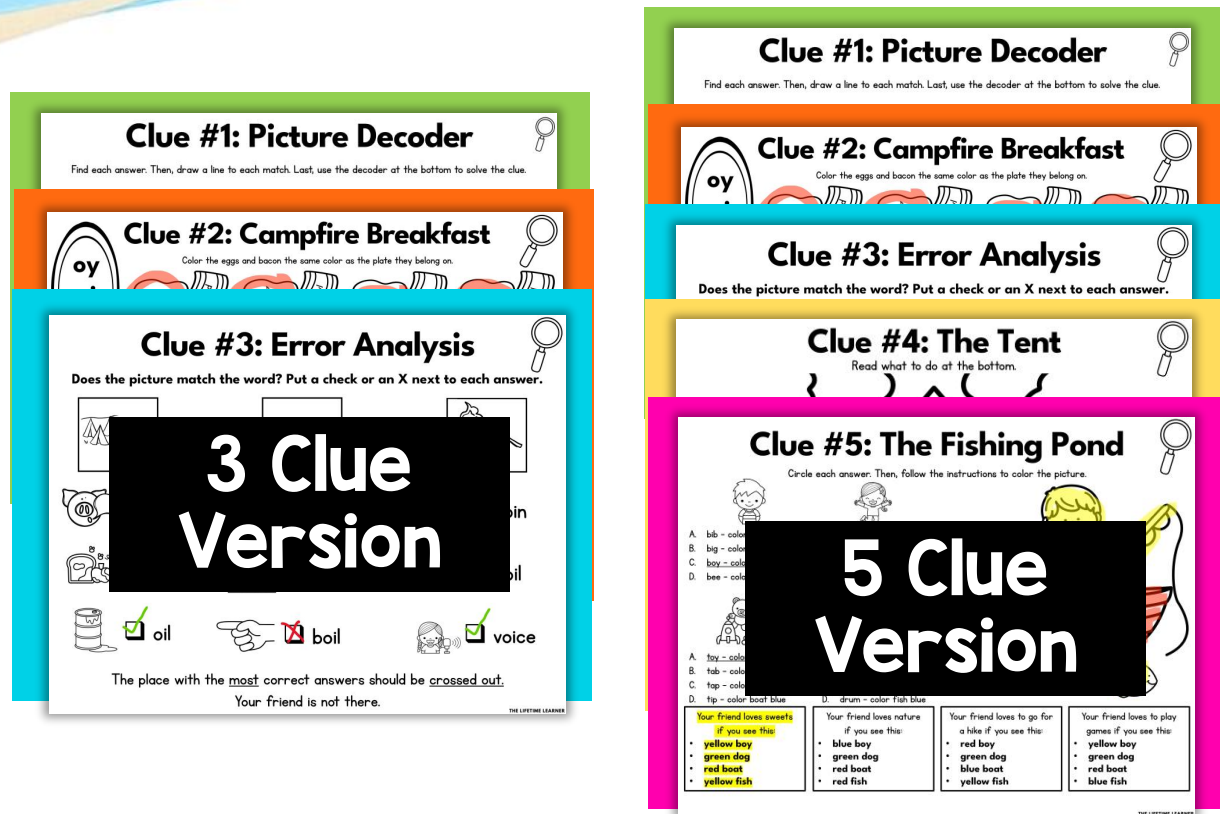
voice

be crossed out.

**All clues focus on reviewing diphthongs!**

# MULTIPLE VERSIONS

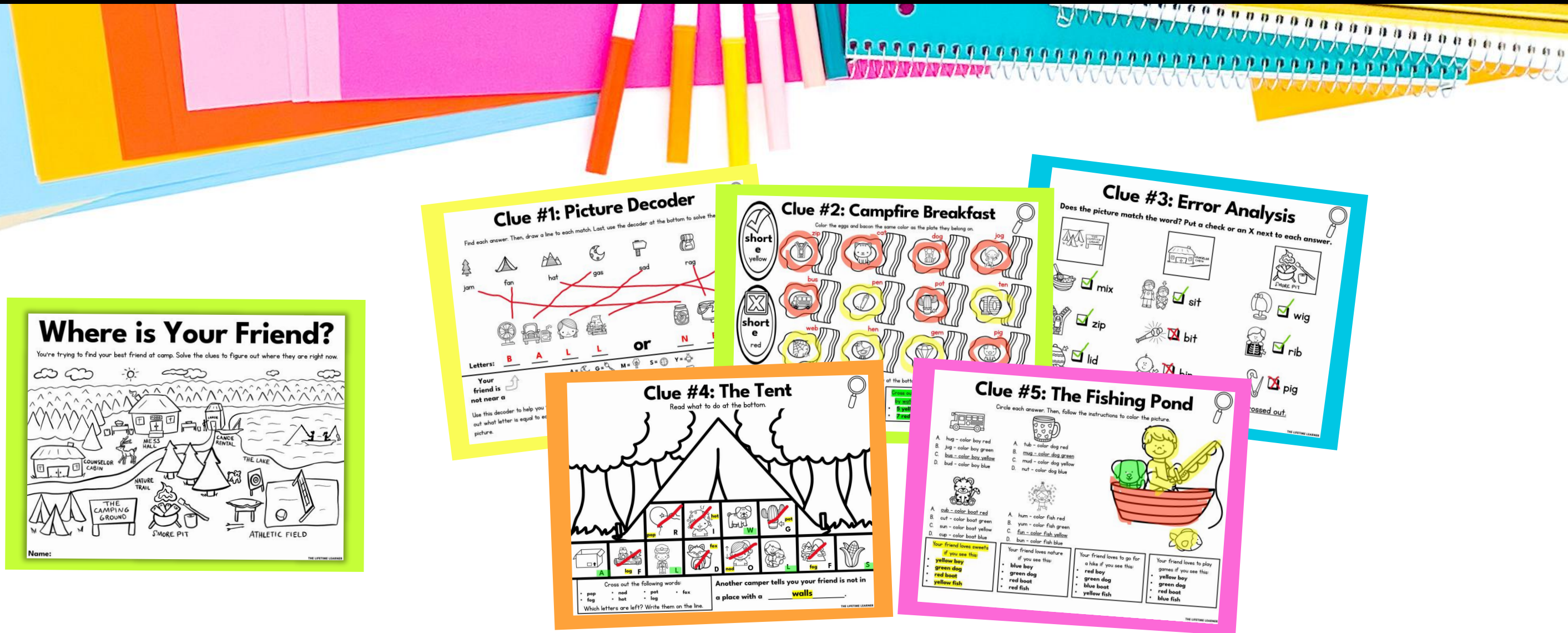
Print & Digital Forms



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



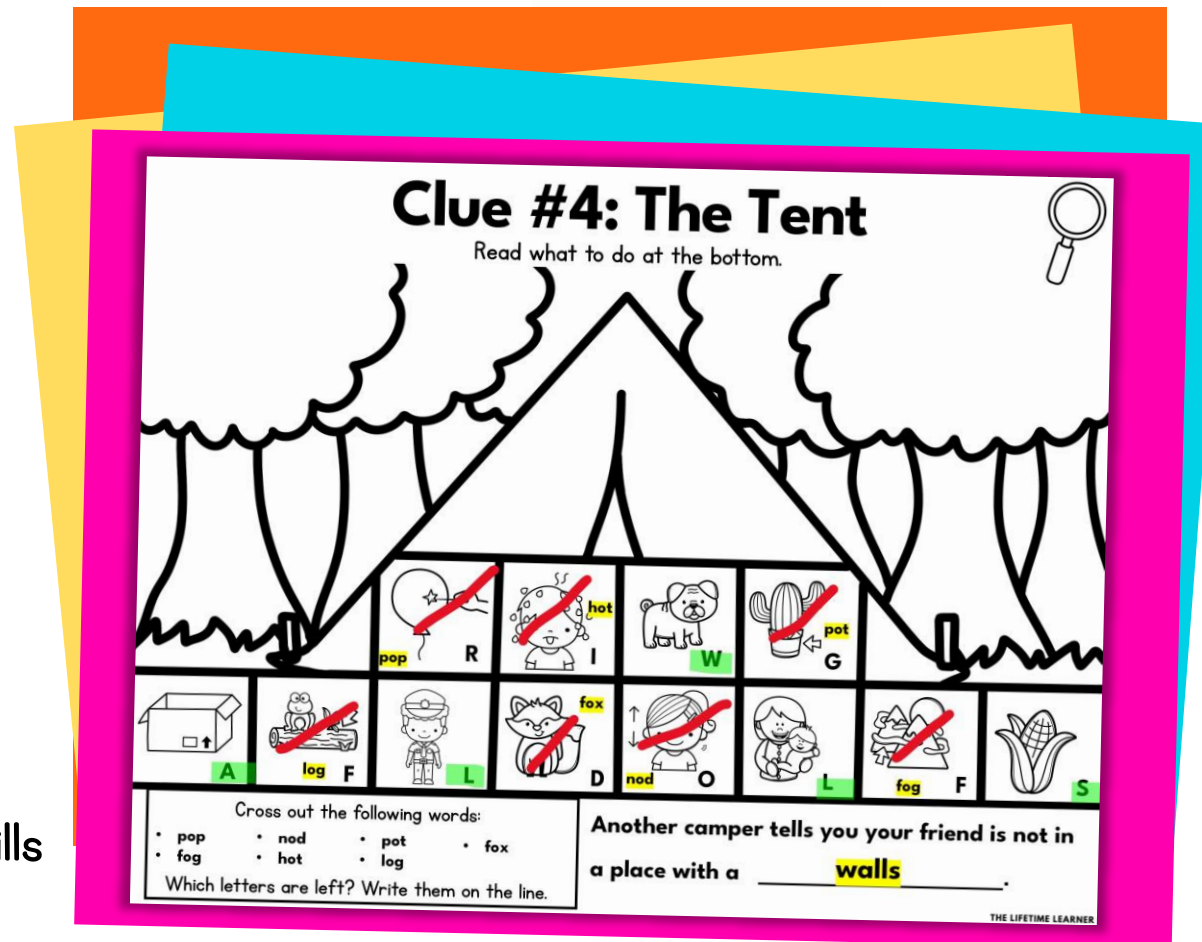
If students finish early,  
give them a  
certificate of completion  
and a directed drawing  
to complete while others  
continue working.



# 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: Diphthongs 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!**

**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: Campfire Breakfast**  
Color the eggs and bacon the same color as the plate they belong on.

**Clue #3: Error Analysis**  
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

**Clue #4: The Tent**  
Read what to do at the bottom.

**Clue #5: The Fishing Pond**  
Circle each answer. Then, follow the instructions to color the picture.

**Your friend loves sweets**  
if you see this:  
• yellow boy  
• green dog  
• red boat  
• yellow fish

**Your friend loves nature**  
if you see this:  
• blue boy  
• green dog  
• red boat  
• red fish

**Your friend loves to go for a hike**  
if you see this:  
• red boy  
• green dog  
• blue boat  
• yellow fish

**Your friend loves to play games**  
if you see this:  
• yellow boy  
• green dog  
• red boat  
• blue fish


**The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:**

**Lindsay**  
You solved the mystery!

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


**LET'S DRAW...**  
**a rock**

1 2 3  
4 5 6




**LET'S DRAW...**  
**a hat**

1 2 3  
4 5 6




**Where is Your Friend?**  
You're trying to find your best friend at camp. Solve the clues to figure out where they are right now.



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

**solve the mystery**



**The Case of the Missing Camper**



# 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: Picture Decoder**

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

freem down bow crown howl clown

Letters: **B** **A** **L** **L** or **N** **E** **T**

Your friend is not near 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 =	

**Clue #1: Find It!**

Tell how many clouds long or tall each kite is. Circle the boxes that equal 4 units. Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

my 3	your 4	the 8	lake 5
hiding	friend 4	hiked 6	is 4
not 4	swimming 5	sleeping 4	eating 3

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong piece(s) off your list.

Your friend is not sleeping

# 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!**

