

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: 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.

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.

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Camper

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Where is Your Friend?

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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!

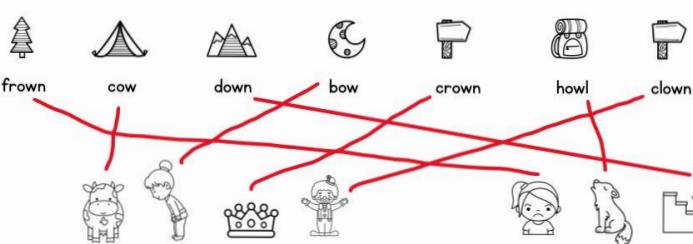
1. Take a map of locations and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where your friend is.
3. Cross out wrong locations each time you find out new information. Good luck!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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

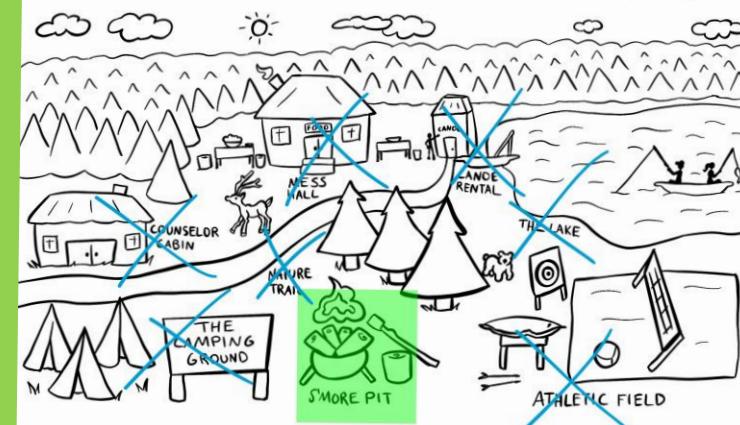
Your friend is not near a 

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 =	

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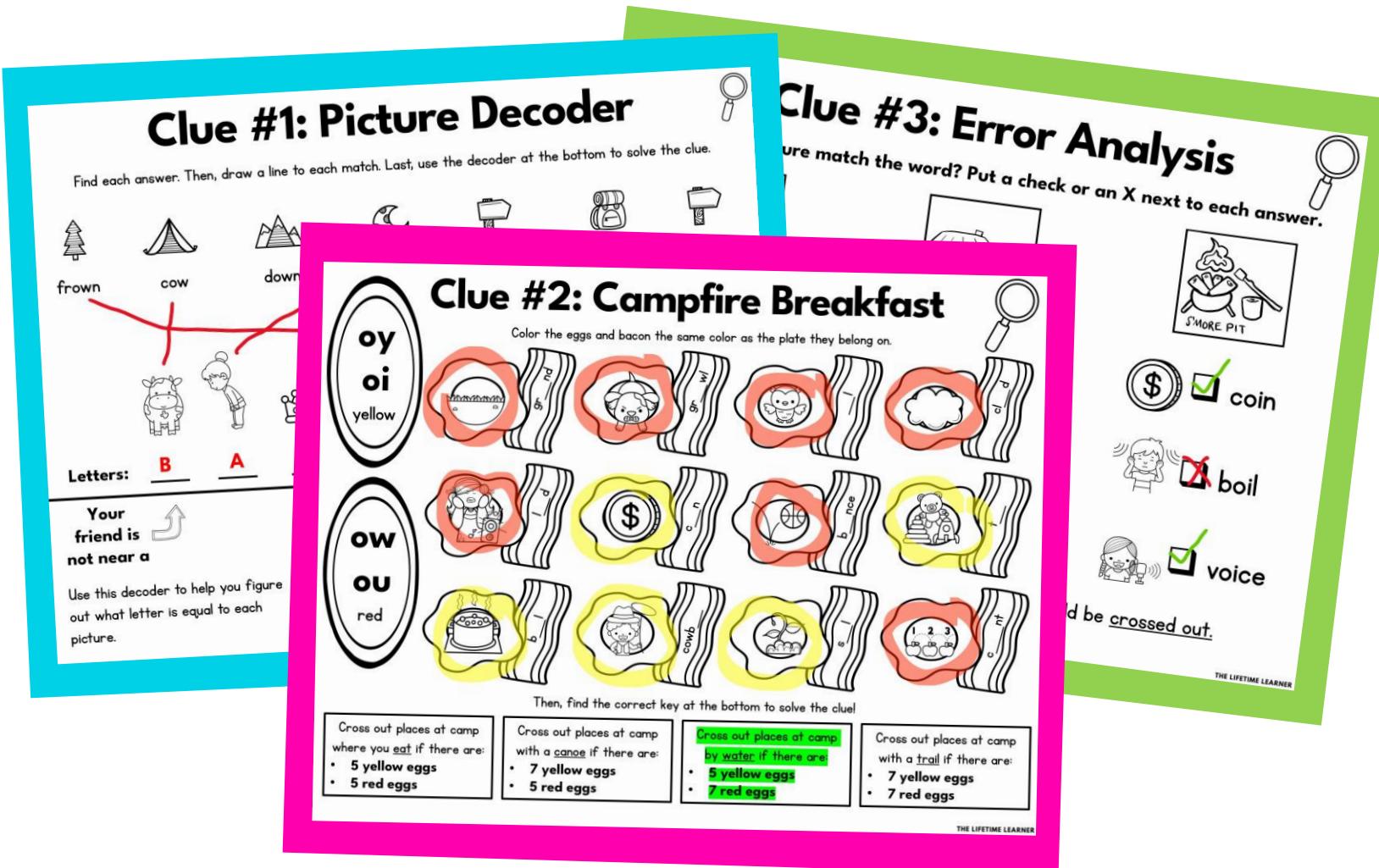
Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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

All clues focus on reviewing diphthongs!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



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3 Clue Version

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5 Clue Version

The place with the most correct answers should be crossed out.
Your friend is not there.

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Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
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frown cow down bow crown howl clown

Letters: _____ or _____

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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 rock

1	2	3
4	5	6

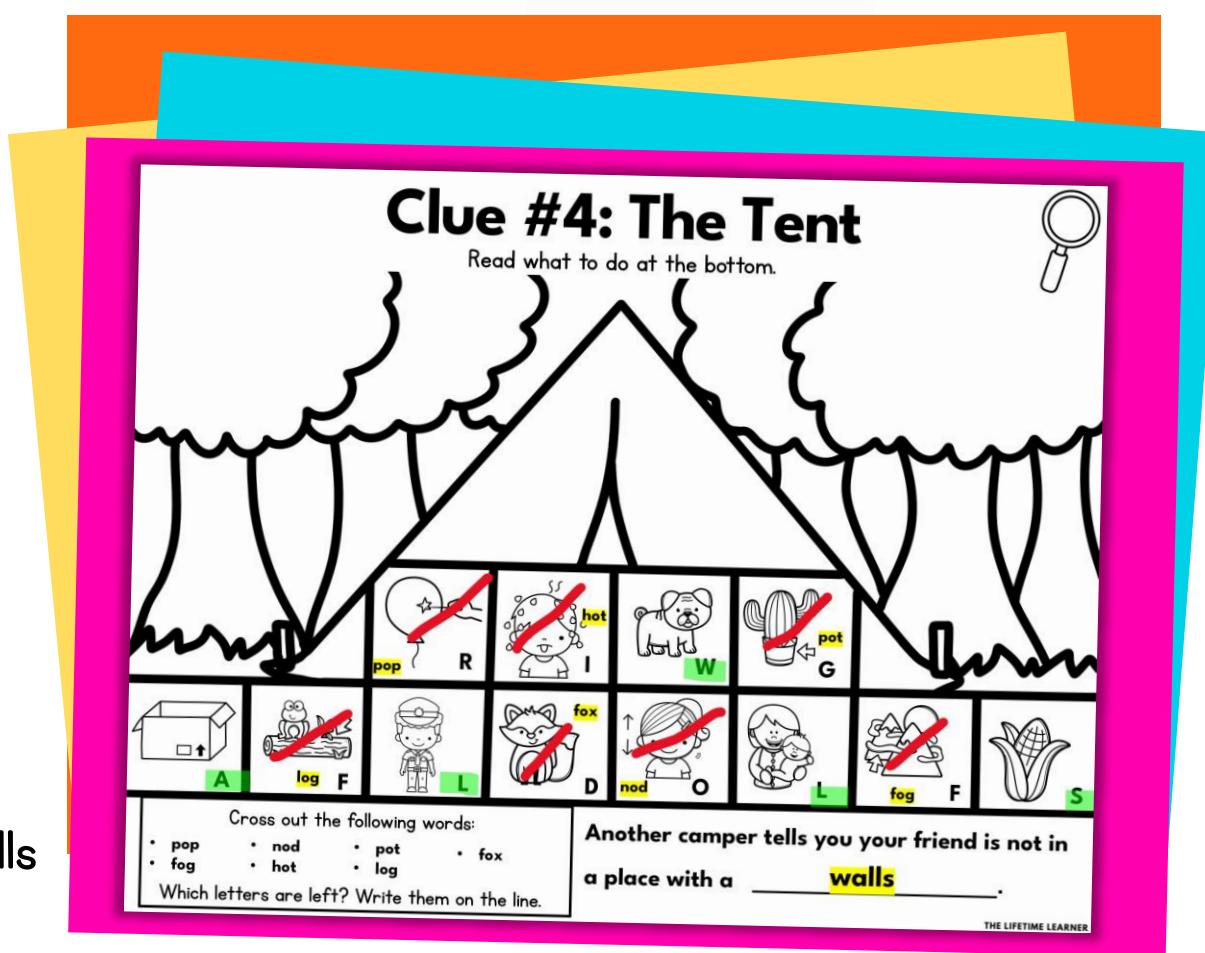
LET'S DRAW... a hat

1	2	3
4	5	6

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!

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A. hug - color boy red
B. jug - color boy green
C. bus - color boy yellow
D. bud - color boy blue

A. cub - color boat red
B. cut - color boat green
C. sun - color boat yellow
D. cup - color boat blue

A. tub - color dog red
B. mug - color dog green
C. mud - color dog yellow
D. nut - color dog blue

A. hum - color fish red
B. yum - color fish green
C. fun - color fish yellow
D. bun - color fish blue

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
• yellow fish

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

LET'S DRAW...

a rock

LET'S DRAW...

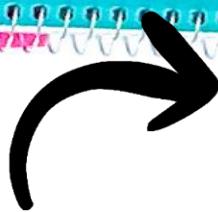
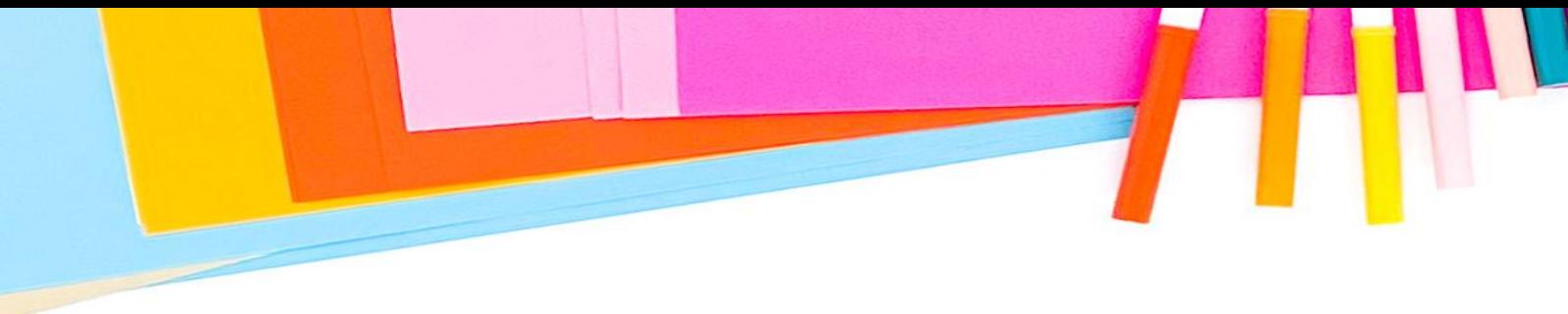
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Where is Your Friend?

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Name: _____

WHAT MAKES READING MYSTERIES UNIQUE?



Reading

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.

Example of Clue 1

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Math

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.

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 4 friend 4 hiked 6 is 4 not 4 swimming 5 sleeping 4 eating 3

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

Your friend is not sleeping

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

KEEP THE FUN GOING!

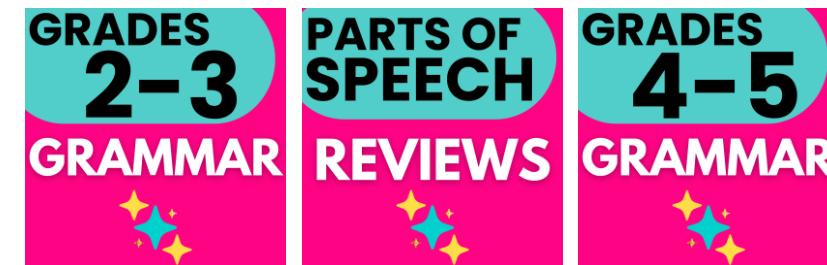
GRAB A MATH MYSTERY:

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