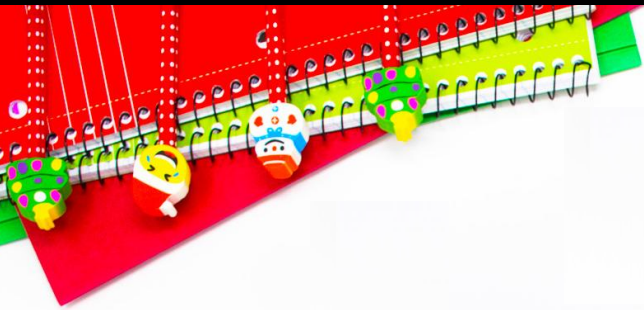


WHAT IS THIS?



Students complete a series of clues to figure out where Santa is!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

Oh no! SANTA IS MISSING!! It's your job to figure out where he is. Solve the clues to figure out where Santa is and solve the mystery!

1. Take a location list and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where Santa is.
3. Cross out wrong places each time you find out new information. Good luck!



Clue #1: Read It Like a Book

Color the boxes that are true. Cross out the boxes that are not true.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

 Santa drink	 will fang	 is hung	 can king
 not sang	 in honk	 cup wing	 his skunk
 elf stink	 pet trunk	 bed bank	 toy think

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

SANTA IS NOT IN HIS BED

The North Pole

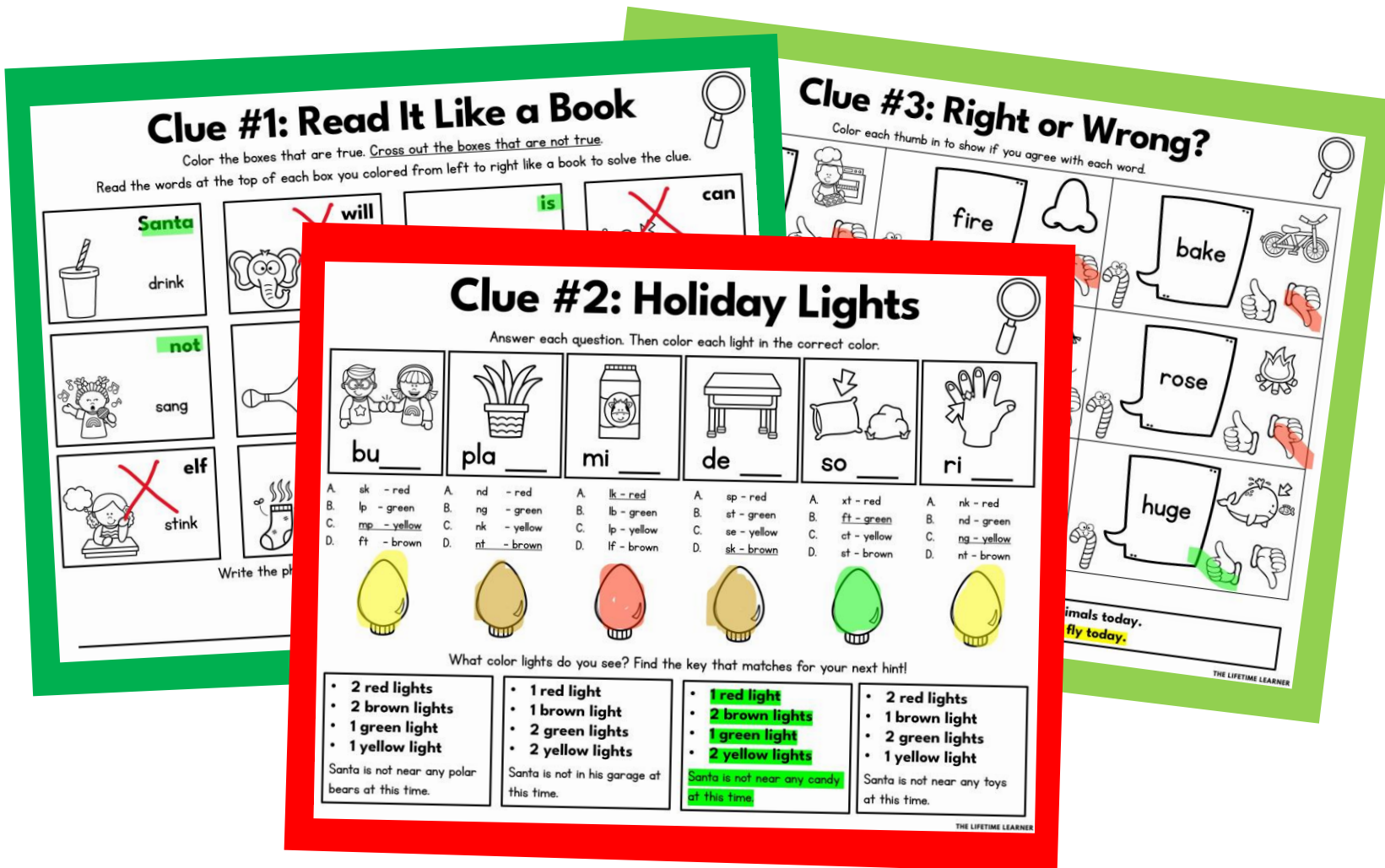
As you solve each clue, cross out the places that Santa is not located at. The place left at the end will reveal Santa's location!

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 Santa" will be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE



Clue #1: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that are true. Cross out the boxes that are not true.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Holiday Lights
Answer each question. Then color each light in the correct color.

Clue #3: Right or Wrong?
Color each thumb in to show if you agree with each word.

Clue #1 Details: Words: Santa, will, is, can, drink, sang, elf, stink. Clue: Santa is not near any polar bears at this time.

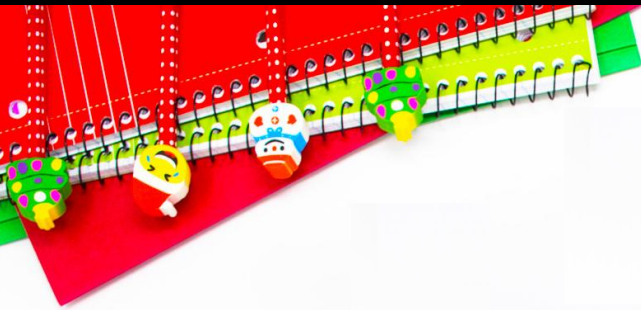
Clue #2 Details: Questions: bu __, pla __, mi __, de __, so __, ri __. Clue: Santa is not near any candy at this time.

Clue #3 Details: Words: fire, bake, rose, huge. Clue: Santa is not near any toys at this time.

- 1st Grade Phonics Review
- Glued Sounds
- Final Blends
- CVCe Words
- Digraphs
- Floss Rule

All clues focus on reviewing phonic skills!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that are true. Cross out the boxes that are not true.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Holiday Lights
Answer each question. Then color each light in the correct color.

Clue #3: Right or Wrong?
Color each thumb in to show if you agree with each word.

bike fire bake
tape lake

3 Clue Version

How many words were correct?

More green answers = Santa did not go near any animals today.
More red answers = Santa did not plan to drive or fly today.

Clue #1: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that are true. Cross out the boxes that are not true.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Holiday Lights
Answer each question. Then color each light in the correct color.

Clue #3: Right or Wrong?
Color each thumb in to show if you agree with each word.

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Clue #5: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each chimney on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

5 Clue Version

Santa was not near any S N O W M E N today.
fuzz kiss grass cliff buzz sniff shell

Clue #2: Holiday Lights
Answer each question. Then color each light in the correct color.

bu pla mi de so ri

A. sk - red B. ng - green C. mp - yellow D. ft - brown
A. nd - red B. ng - green C. nk - yellow D. nt - brown
A. lk - red B. lb - green C. lp - yellow D. lf - brown
A. sp - red B. at - green C. se - yellow D. sk - brown
A. xt - red B. ft - green C. at - yellow D. st - brown
A. nk - red B. nd - green C. ng - yellow D. nt - brown

What color lights do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

• 2 red lights
• 2 brown lights
• 1 green light
• 1 yellow light
Santa is not near any polar bears at this time.

• 1 red light
• 1 brown light
• 2 green lights
• 2 yellow lights
Santa is not in his garage at this time.

• 1 red light
• 2 brown lights
• 1 green light
• 2 yellow lights
Santa is not near any candy at this time.

• 2 red lights
• 1 brown light
• 2 green lights
• 1 yellow light
Santa is not near any toys at this time.

Clue #2: Holiday Lights
Answer each question. Then color each light in the correct color.

bu pla mi de so ri

A. sk - red B. ng - green C. mp - yellow D. ft - brown
A. nd - red B. ng - green C. nk - yellow D. nt - brown
A. lk - red B. lb - green C. lp - yellow D. lf - brown
A. sp - red B. at - green C. se - yellow D. sk - brown
A. xt - red B. ft - green C. at - yellow D. st - brown
A. nk - red B. nd - green C. ng - yellow D. nt - brown

What color lights do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

• 2 red lights
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• 1 green light
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Santa is not near any polar bears at this time.

• 1 red light
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• 2 green lights
• 2 yellow lights
Santa is not in his garage at this time.

• 1 red light
• 2 brown lights
• 1 green light
• 2 yellow lights
Santa is not near any candy at this time.

• 2 red lights
• 1 brown light
• 2 green lights
• 1 yellow light
Santa is not near any toys at this time.

Short & Long Options

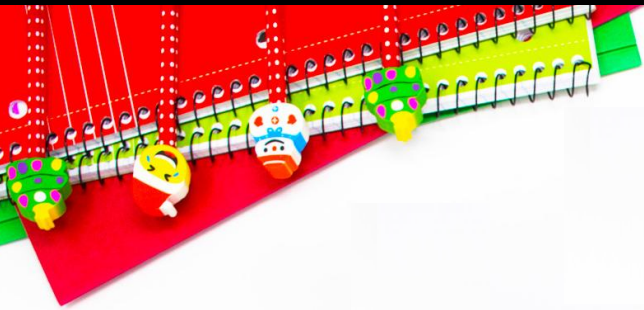
CVC OPTION AVAILABLE



Differentiate within your small groups. Same clues. Same mystery. Different focus!

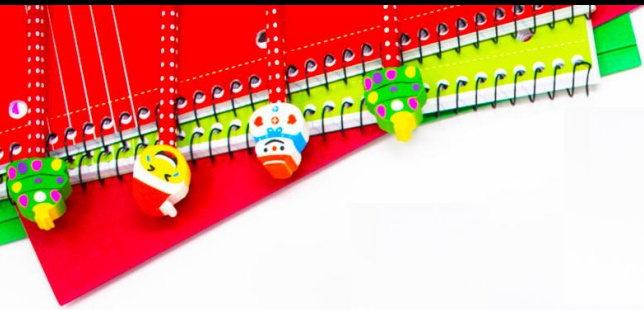
There is a version of the mystery included that reviews CVC Words (Short A, E, I, O, U).

FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY

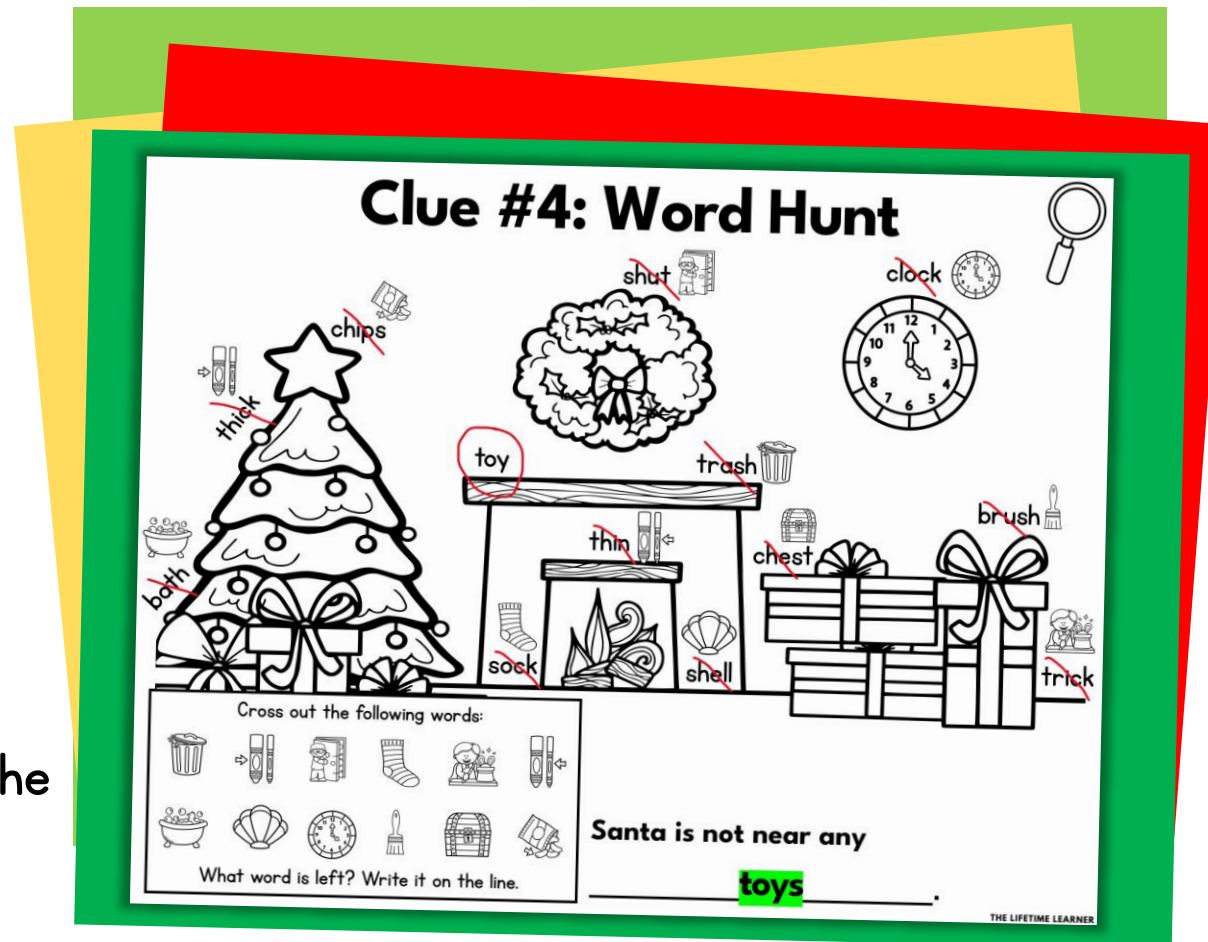


If students finish early,
give them a
certificate of completion
and a directed drawing
to complete while others
continue working.

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: Phonics 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.

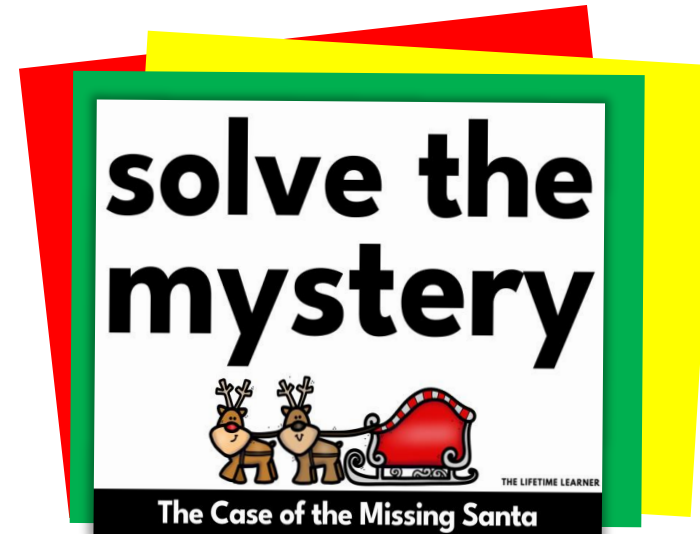
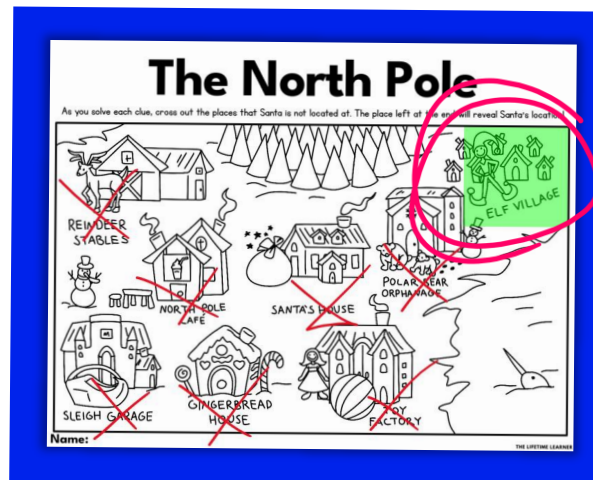
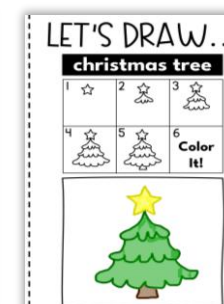
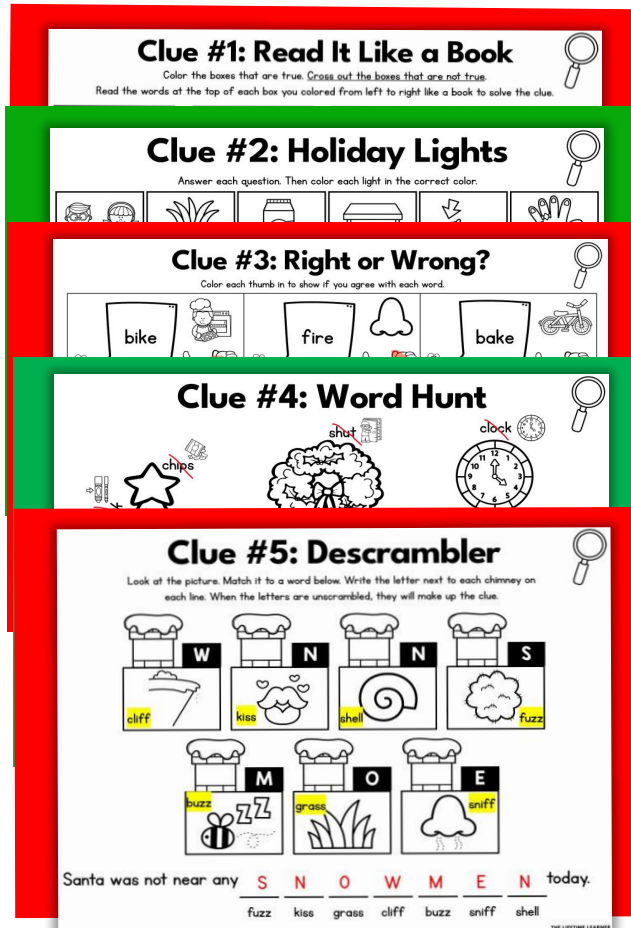
First graders will need teacher support to read & understand the clues/directions

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!



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.






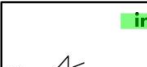


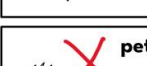


Reading

Example
of Clue 1

Math

Clue #1: Read It Like a Book

Color the boxes that are true. Cross out the boxes that are not true.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

 Santa drink	 will fang	 is hung	 can king
 in honk	 cup wing	 his skunk	
 elf stink	 pet trunk	 bed bank	 toy think

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

SANTA IS NOT IN HIS BED

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

56 full	78 and	29 reindeer	66 someone	88 by	48 it
38 garage	19 village	68 you	58 the	64 sleigh	96 bear
17 toy	98 empty	23 Santa	60 elf	28 stopped	18 was

Answer: Word: 68 you 68-10 58 the 38+10 48 it

38-10 28 stopped 28+10 38 garage 28-10 18 was

78+10 88 by 88-10 78 and 88+10 98 empty

Solve each problem. Write the answer. Then, write the word that goes with it. When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out 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!

