

WHAT IS THIS?

The image displays a variety of Halloween-themed educational materials. At the top, there are ladybug cutouts, colorful pencil toppers, and a spiral notebook. Below these are five clue cards for a mystery game titled "solve the mystery: The Case of the Missing Candy".

Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that have a middle sound of "a".
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: Color the Witch's House
What blend does each picture start with? Circle the answer and color in the picture.

Clue #4: Word Hunt

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

solve the mystery
The Case of the Missing Candy

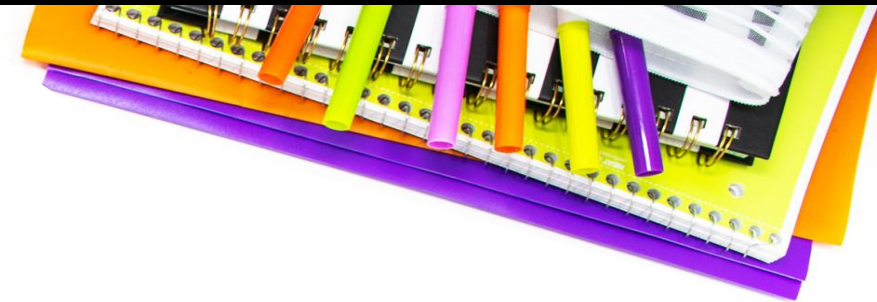
Who Stole the Candy?
As you solve each clue, cross out the suspects who did not take the candy. The suspect left at the end is the culprit!

Witch	Ghost	Vampire	Monster
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I like green candy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I like marshmallows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I like red candy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I don't like candy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I like candy corn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I like green candy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I like chocolate candy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I like chocolate candy

S H A R P T E E T H
shop chop chin shell ship check chest chip shut chick

Students complete a series of clues to figure out who took the missing candy!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

Oh no! You put down your trick-or-treat bag for a second and someone took it. It's your job to figure out who took the Halloween candy. Solve the clues to figure out the mystery!

1. Take a suspect list and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering who the culprit (thief) is!
3. Cross out wrong suspects each time you find out new information. Good luck!



Clue #1: Find It!

Circle the boxes that have a middle sound of "a".
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

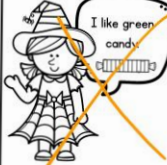


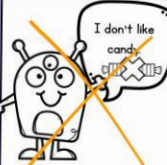




bat the	fog red	rag thief	hop big
pig hat	hat has	bun leg	web fang
pan a	mop no	leg frown	map smile

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

THE THIEF HAS A SMILE

Who Stole the Candy?

As you solve each clue, cross out the suspects who did not take the candy. The suspect left at the end is the culprit!

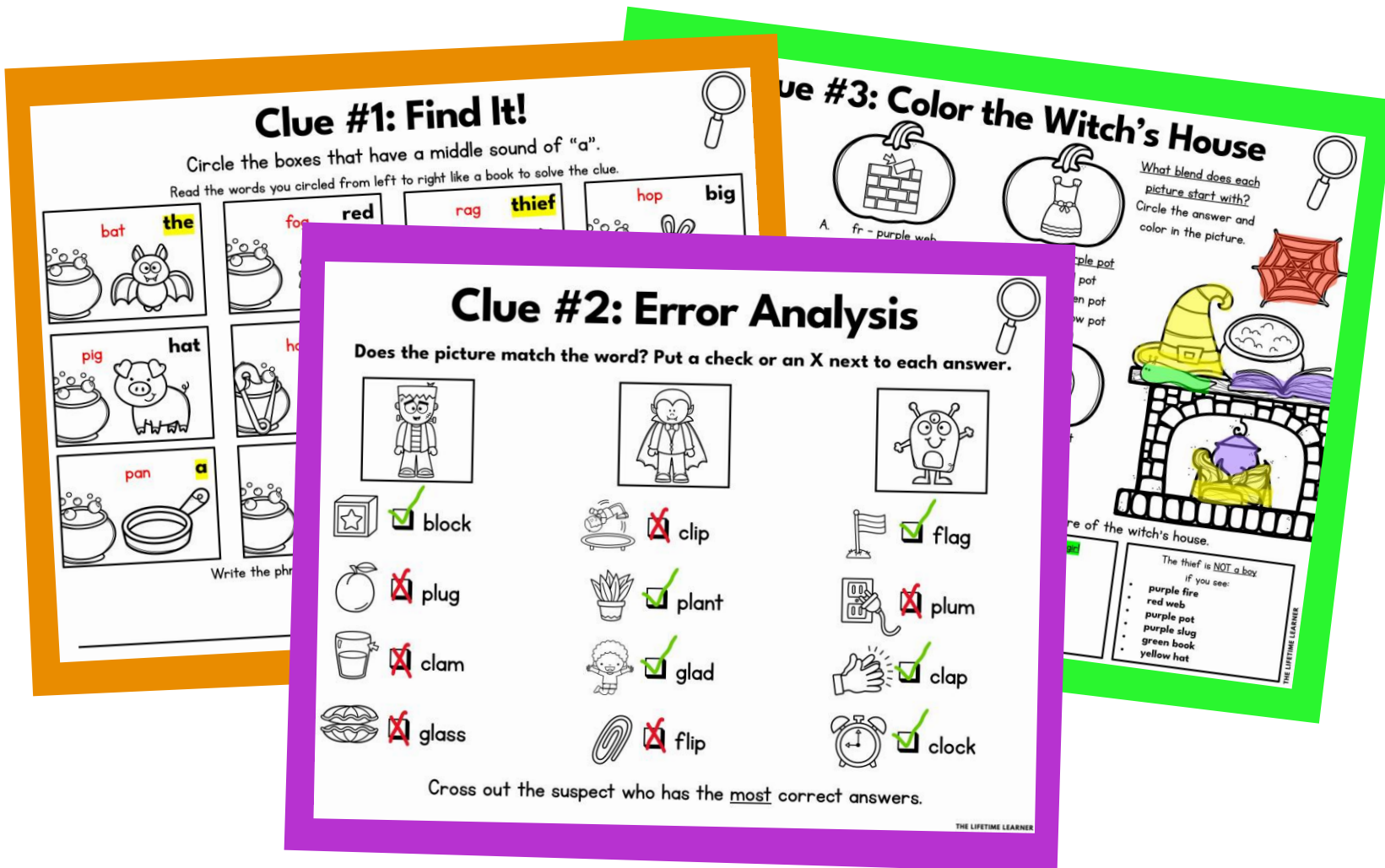
 I like green candy. Witch	 I like marshmallows. Ghost	 I like red candy. Vampire	 I don't like candy. Monster
 I like candy corn. Spooky Bones	 I like green candy. Frankenstein	 I like chocolate candy. Mummy	 I like chocolate candy. Pumpkin Head

Name: _____

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

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

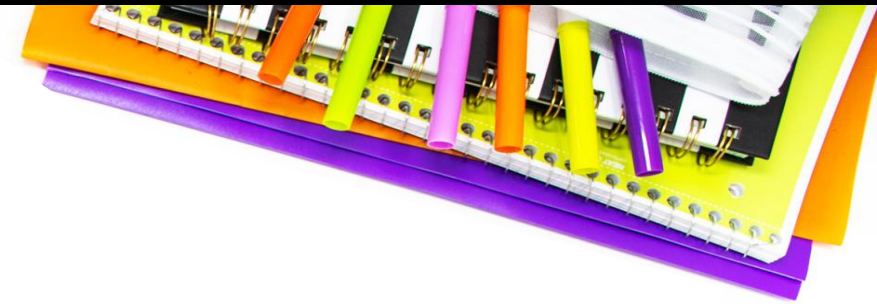
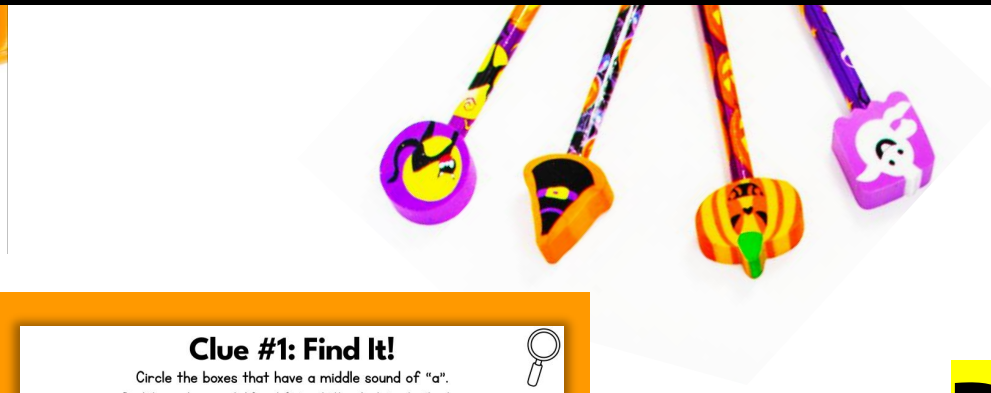
SKILL PRACTICE



- 1st Grade Phonics Review
- CVC Words
- L Blends
- R Blends
- S Blends
- Beginning Digraphs

All clues focus on reviewing phonic skills!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that have a middle sound of "a".
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: Color the Witch's House
What blend does each picture start with?
Circle the answer and color in the picture.

3 Clue Version

The thief does NOT do any of these	If you see	Color the picture	If you see
red fire	yellow fire	yellow fire	yellow fire
yellow web	red web	red web	red web
purple pot	red pot	purple pot	purple pot
green slug	green slug	green slug	green slug
purple book	yellow book	purple book	yellow book
yellow hat	purple hat	yellow hat	purple hat

Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that have a middle sound of "a".
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: Color the Witch's House
What blend does each picture start with?
Circle the answer and color in the picture.

Clue #4: Word Hunt

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

5 Clue Version

The thief has:

S H A R P T E E T H

shop chop chin shell ship check chest chip shut

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Cross out the following pictures:

- scab
- skip
- stick
- snap
- spell
- slam
- spill
- slug

The thief does have a **nose**

What word is left? Write it on the line.

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Cross out the following pictures:

- scab
- skip
- stick
- snap
- spell
- slam
- spill
- slug

The thief does have a **nose**

What word is left? Write it on the line.

Short & Long Options

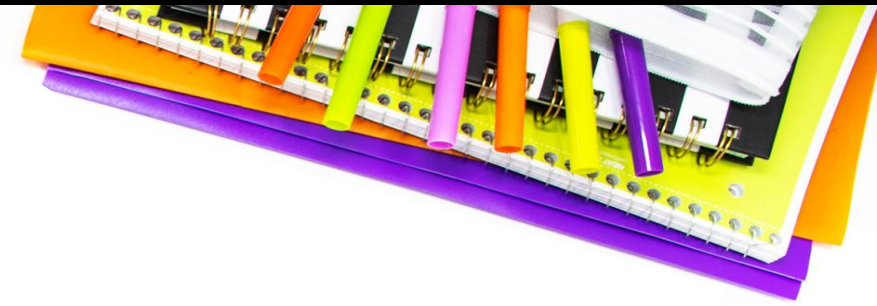
CVC OPTION AVAILABLE



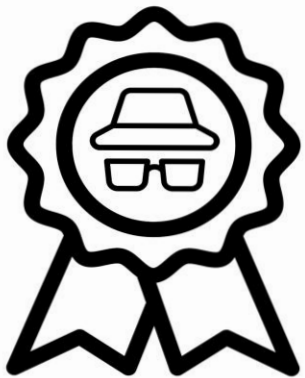
Differentiate within your small groups. Same clues. Same mystery. Different focus!

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:**



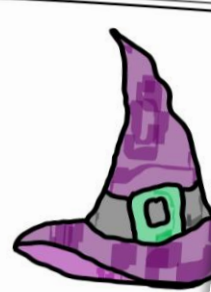
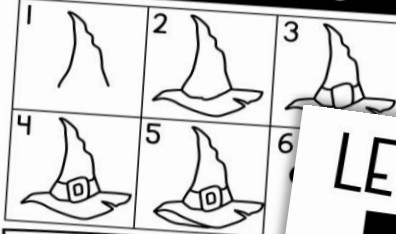
Lindsay
You solved the mystery!

11/2
Date

AW
Presented by:

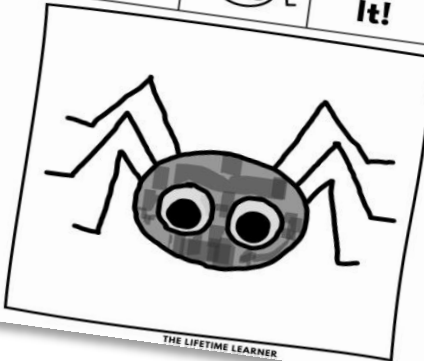
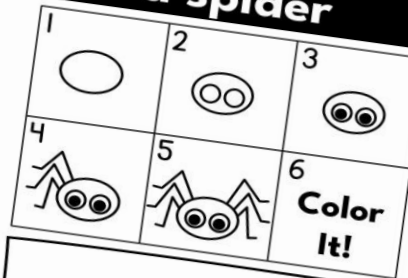
THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a witch hat



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a spider



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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 Review 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: Find It!
Circle the boxes that have a middle sound of "a".
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: Color the Witch's House
What blend does each picture start with?
Circle the answer and color in the picture.

Clue #4: Word Hunt

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

The thief has:

S H A R P T E E T H

shop chop chin shell ship check chest chip shut chick

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

 **Lindsay**
You solved the mystery!

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

LET'S DRAW... a witch hat

1 2 3
4 5 6 Color It!

LET'S DRAW... a spider

1 2 3
4 5 6 Color It!


Who Stole the Candy?
As you solve each clue, cross out the suspects who did not take the candy. The suspect left at the end is the culprit!

Witch **Ghost** **Vampire** **Monster**

Spooky Bones **Frankenstein** **Mummy** **Pumpkin Head**

Name:

solve the mystery



The Case of the Missing Candy

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

Clue #1: Find It!

Circle the boxes that have a middle sound of "a".
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

bat	the	fog	red	rag	thief	hop	big
hat	has	bun	leg	web	fang	pan	a
mop	no	leg	frown	map	smile		

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

THE THIEF HAS A SMILE

**Example
of Clue 1**

Math

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

30	is	118	eyes	96	the	71	green	73	bow	58	a
60	likes	69	wearing	59	red	87	hat	67	whoever	117	candy
40	took	80	marshmallow	55	eyes	44	candy	86	monster	114	not

Tell what number comes next. Some count up. Some count down.

Answer: 67	Word: whoever	120, 119, 118, ____	Answer: 117	Word: candy	72, 71, 70, ____	Answer: 69	Word: wearing	
13, 12, 11, ____	40	took	27, 28, 29, ____	30	is	55, 56, 57, ____	58	a
93, 94, 95, ____	96	the	111, 112, 113, ____	114	not	90, 89, 88, ____	87	hat

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!**

