

WHAT IS THIS?

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

Clue #2: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

flower ladder finger

Clue #3: Multiple Choice
Tell what word each picture shows. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

A. chirp B. chin C. chat D. chip
A. swirl B. skip C. scab

Clue #4: Word Hunt
Fill in the first letter of each word.

f ur b lur t

A. drag B. dirt C. drop D. dish

Clue #5: Ending Sounds
Color the clouds the same color as the star they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

red ends with K	yellow ends with D	green ends with T	blue ends with F
dir t	dar k	sur f	yar d
shar k	star t	bar k	car d

What letter did you write?
• C = boy
• N = girl

The princess did not go see any sheep if:
• 2 red clouds
• 3 yellow clouds
• 2 green clouds
• 3 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any leaves if:
• 3 red clouds
• 3 yellow clouds
• 3 green clouds
• 2 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any kid with a cage if:
• 2 red clouds
• 2 yellow clouds
• 3 green clouds
• 3 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any animals if you see:
• 2 red clouds
• 2 yellow clouds
• 3 green clouds
• 2 blue clouds

solve the mystery



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

The Case of the Missing Princess

Where is the Princess Hiding?

Figure out whose house the princess is hiding at right now by solving each clue.

3 Little Pigs	Goldilocks	Little Red Riding Hood	Little Red Hen
Jack and the Beanstalk	Gingerbread Man	Mary Had a Little Lamb	Humpy Dumpty

Name: _____

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

HOW TO PLAY

What Happened?

The princess has disappeared! You need to figure out which fairytale character in the kingdom she is hiding with. Help figure out which character the princess is hiding with by solving clues.

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

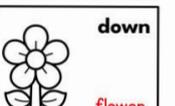


THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1: Find It!

Circle the boxes that have the -ar sound.

Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

 princess farm	 prince bird	 not jar	 can feather
 near car	 has burger	 brick yarn	 stick harp
 up squirrel	 straw scarf	 down flower	 egg circle

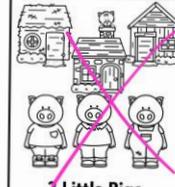
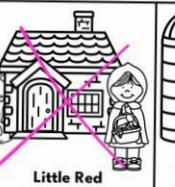
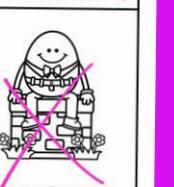
Write the phrase on the line. Use the hint to cross the wrong place off your list.

PRINCESS NOT NEAR BRICK STICK STRAW

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Where is the Princess Hiding?

Figure out whose house the princess is hiding at right now by solving each clue.

 3 Little Pigs	 Goldilocks	 Little Red Riding Hood	 Little Red Hen
 Jack and the Beanstalk	 Gingerbread Man	 Mary Had a Little Lamb	 Humpty Dumpty

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 princess will be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE

- R Controlled Vowels Review
- AR Words
- ER Words
- IR Words
- UR Words

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

princess prince not can

farm car squirrel

Clue #2: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

flower	ladder	finger
whisper	hammer	baker
water	river	letter

In each box, color a thumbs up or a thumbs down to show if the picture is correct.

How many pictures were correct?

1 Correct = Cross out any places with eggs.	5 Correct = Cross out any places with girls.
2 Correct = Cross out any places with hens.	6 Correct = Cross out any places with boys.
3 Correct = Cross out any places with beans.	7 Correct = Cross out any places with bears.
4 Correct = Cross out any places with a lamb.	8 Correct = Cross out any places with a wolf.

Clue #3: Multiple Choice
Tell what word each picture shows. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

A. swirl

A. scab
B. smirk
C. skirt
D. shirt

A. girl
B. germ
C. dirt
D. grab

How many Ds did you circle?
1 D = treats
2 Ds = door
3 Ds = girls
4 Ds = boys

All clues focus on reviewing R controlled vowels!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS

Print & Digital Forms

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

Clue #2: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

Clue #3: Multiple Choice
Tell what word each picture shows. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

3 Clue Version

Circle how many you chose in each box below. Then, read the phrase to know what to cross out.

How many A's did you circle? 1 A = no 2 As = she 3 As = the 4 As = when	How many B's did you circle? 1 B = loves 2 Bs = hates 3 Bs = eats 4 Bs = runs	How many C's did you circle? 1 C = meat 2 Cs = crack 3 Cs = sweet 4 Cs = pet	How many D's did you circle? 1 D = treats 2 Ds = door 3 Ds = girls 4 Ds = boys
---	---	--	--

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

Clue #2: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

Clue #3: Multiple Choice
Tell what word each picture shows. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

Clue #4: Word Hunt
Fill in the first letter of each word.

Clue #5: Ending Sounds
Color the clouds the same color as the star they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

5 Clue Version

The princess did not go see any sheep if: • 2 red clouds • 3 yellow clouds • 2 green clouds • 3 blue clouds	The princess did not go see any beans if: • 3 red clouds • 3 yellow clouds • 2 green clouds • 2 blue clouds	The princess did not go see any kid with a cape if: • 2 red clouds • 2 yellow clouds • 3 green clouds • 3 blue clouds	How many words did you see: • 2 red clouds • 2 yellow clouds • 3 green clouds • 2 blue clouds
---	---	---	---

Clue #4: Word Hunt
Fill in the first letter of each word.

What letter did you write the most? Circle it. Write word on line.

• C = boy • H = animal
• N = girl • B = kid

The princess went to visit a **kid**.

Clue #4: Word Hunt
Fill in the first letter of each word.

What letter did you write the most? Circle it. Write word on line.

• C = boy • H = animal
• N = girl • B = kid

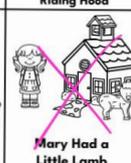
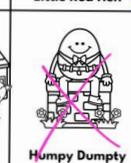
The princess went to visit a **kid**.

Short & Long Options

CVC OPTION AVAILABLE

Where is the Princess Hiding?

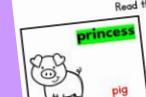
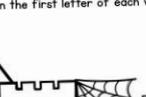
Figure out whose house the princess is hiding at right now by solving each clue.

 3 Little Pigs	 Goldilocks	 Little Red Riding Hood	 Little Red Hen
 Jack and the Beanstalk	 Gingerbread Man	 Mary Had a Little Lamb	 Humpty Dumpty

Name: _____

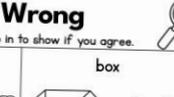
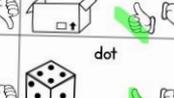
Clue #1: Find It!

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

 princess	 prince	 not	 pig
 near	 has	 mix	 brick
 bit	 fox	 sip	 down
 up	 straw	 dot	 jot

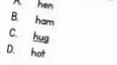
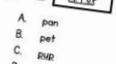
Clue #2: Right or Wrong

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

 pod	 rob	 box
 cup	 mop	 dot
 mad	 hot	 fog

Clue #3: Multiple Choice

Tell what word each picture shows. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

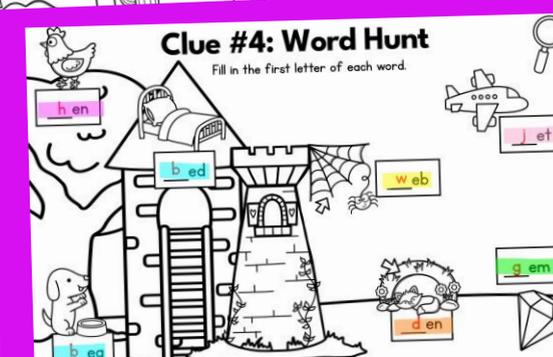
 fun	 hen	 get
 fan	 ham	 gas
 fat	 bug	 gem
	 hat	 gum

How many you chose in each box below. Then, read the phrase to know what to cross out.

A. mad	A. pan	A. sun
B. mad	B. pet	B. sat
C. map	C. pup	C. six
D. map	D. pat	D. set

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Fill in the first letter of each word.



The princess went to visit a **kid**.

What letter did you write the most? Circle it. Write word on line.

G = boy	H = animal
D = girl	B = kid

Clue #5: Ending Sounds

Color the clouds the same color as the star they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

red ends with N	yellow ends with M	green ends with T	blue ends with P
ma f	pa n	ta p	ja m
fa n	fa t	ra n	ra m
la p	ba f	la p	la p

The princess did not go see any sheep if:

- 2 red clouds
- 3 yellow clouds
- 2 green clouds
- 3 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any bears if:

- 3 red clouds
- 2 yellow clouds
- 2 green clouds
- 2 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any kids with a cape if:

- 2 red clouds
- 3 green clouds
- 3 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any clouds if:

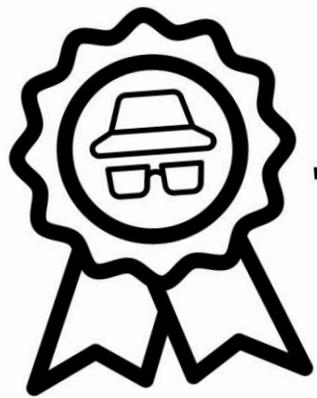
- 3 red clouds
- 2 yellow clouds
- 3 green clouds
- 2 blue clouds

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

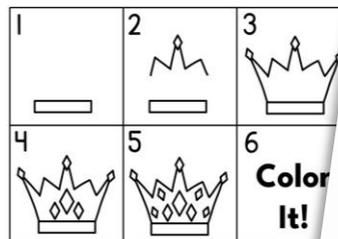
You solved the mystery!

11/2
Date

AW
Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...

a crown



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

a queen



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: R Controlled Vowel Review Mystery OR CVC Words Mystery. You can even mix/match clues to combine the 2 skills together (clues are interchangeable)!

Clue #5: Ending Sounds

Color the clouds the same color as the star they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

red	yellow	green	blue	
ends with K	ends with D	ends with T	ends with F	
dir t	dar k	sur f	yar d	dar t
shar k	star t	bar k	car d	scar f
The princess did not go see any sheep if: • 2 red clouds • 3 yellow clouds • 2 green clouds • 3 blue clouds	The princess did not go see any beans if: • 3 red clouds • 3 yellow clouds • 2 green clouds • 2 blue clouds	The princess did not go see any kid with a cape if: • 2 red clouds • 2 yellow clouds • 3 green clouds • 3 blue clouds	The princess did not go see any animals if you see: • 3 red clouds • 2 yellow clouds • 3 green clouds • 2 blue clouds	

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 the **-ar** sound.
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

flower	ladder	finger
--------	--------	--------

Clue #3: Multiple Choice
Tell what word each picture shows. Circle the right answer. Then read the bottom.

Clue #4: Word Hunt
Fill in the first letter of each word.

Clue #5: Ending Sounds
Color the clouds the same color as the star they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

red star ends with K	yellow star ends with D	green star ends with T	blue star ends with F	
dir t	dar k	sur f	yar d	dar t
shar k	star t	bar k	car d	scar f

The princess did not go see any sheep if:
• 2 red clouds
• 3 yellow clouds
• 2 green clouds
• 3 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any bags if:
• 3 red clouds
• 3 yellow clouds
• 2 green clouds
• 2 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any kid with a cape if:
• 2 red clouds
• 2 yellow clouds
• 3 green clouds
• 3 blue clouds

The princess did not go see any animals if:
• 3 red clouds
• 2 yellow clouds
• 3 green clouds
• 2 blue clouds

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay
You solved the mystery!

11/2 Date
SW Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...
a crown

Color It!

LET'S DRAW...
a queen

Where is the Princess Hiding?

Figure out whose house the princess is hiding at right now by solving each clue.

3 Little Pigs	Goldilocks	Little Red Riding Hood	Little Red Hen
Jack and the Beanstalk	Gingerbread Man	Mary Had a Little Lamb	Humpty Dumpty

Name: _____

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Princess

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 the **-ar** sound.
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

princess	prince	not	can
bird	has	brick	stick
up	straw	down	egg
squirrel	scarf	flower	circle

Write the phrase on the line. Use the hint to cross the wrong place off your list.

PRINCESS NOT NEAR BRICK STICK STRAW

Example of Clue 1

Math

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.

81	89	99	106	90	88	76	104	53	
90	89	76	53	106	81	99	104	88	
9 more than 81	5 less than 94	4 more than 72	3 less than 56	6 more than 100	7 less than 88	2 more than 97	8 less than 112	3 more than 85	
B	E	A	N	S	T	A	L	K	

The princess is hiding somewhere with NO...
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 =	

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!

