

# WHAT IS THIS?



**Clue #1: Error Analysis**  
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

**Clue #2: Rhyming Fish**  
Color the coral the same color as the fish they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

**Clue #3: Find It!**  
Circle the boxes that start or end with *th*. Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**  
Find the words in the picture. Circle them and then use them to solve the mystery.

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

U	I	S	K	R
stick	whisk	brush	cheese	shut
T	Q	N	I	S
sick	shelf	chop	neck	fish

This animal:  
**S Q U I R T S I N K**  
fish shelf stick neck shut sick brush whisk chop chess

## solve the mystery

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

### The Case of the Scuba Diver



### What Did I See in the Ocean?

Read the facts about each animal to help you solve the clues.

I have red fins. <b>Pufferfish</b>	I have yellow tentacles. <b>Octopus</b>	I have a blue nose. <b>Dolphin</b>	I have green tentacles. <b>Jellyfish</b>
I have red claws. <b>Crab</b>	I have a blue tail. <b>Shark</b>	I have a green shell. <b>Sea Turtle</b>	I have a yellow face. <b>Seahorse</b>

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

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Students complete a series of clues to figure out what sea creature you saw!

# HOW TO PLAY



## What Happened?

On your scuba diving trip, you had a great time exploring the sea. The problem is that you don't know which type of ocean creature you saw! Now, you need to solve some clues to figure out which animal it was. Solve the mystery so you can tell your friends about your scuba adventure.

1. Take a list of sea animals and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering which animal you saw.
3. Cross out the wrong animals each time you find out new information. Good luck!



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## Clue #1: Error Analysis

Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer. Read the hint from the animal with the most correct answers.

I have sharp claws. You did not see any sharp claws!	Crab <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> thud <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moth <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> shin	I have sharp teeth. You did not see any sharp teeth!	Shark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> flash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> chin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> chest	I have a green shell. You did not see a green shell.	Sea Turtle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> stick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> wash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> luck
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## What Did I See in the Ocean?

Read the facts about each animal to help you solve the clues.

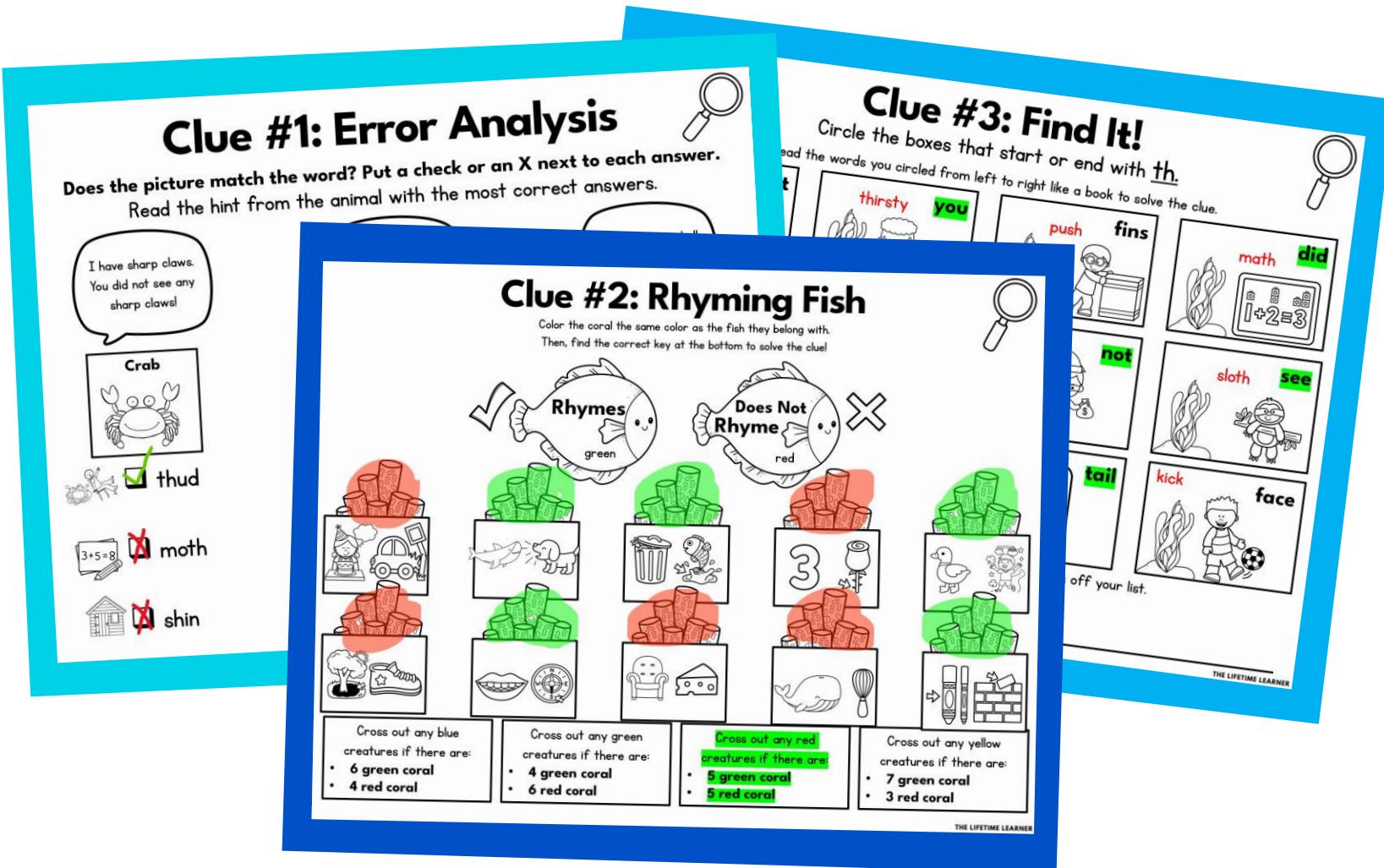
 Pufferfish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red fins. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red claws. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a red face.	 Octopus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have yellow tentacles. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a blue tail.	 Dolphin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a blue nose. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a green shell.	 Jellyfish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have green tentacles. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a yellow face.
 Crab <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red fins. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red claws. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a red face.	 Shark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red fins. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red claws. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a red face.	 Sea Turtle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red fins. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red claws. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a red face.	 Seahorse <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red fins. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have red claws. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have a red face.

Name:

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what sea creature to cross out. When all clues are completed, the mystery of the scuba diver will be solved!

# SKILL PRACTICE



- Digraphs Review
- TH Words
- SH Words
- WH Words
- CH Words
- Beginning Digraphs
- Ending Digraphs
- Rhyming Words

**All clues focus on reviewing digraphs!**

# MULTIPLE VERSIONS



**Clue #1: Error Analysis**  
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**3 Clue Version**

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**Clue #4: Word Hunt**  
Circle the boxes that start or end with **th**.  
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**Clue #5: Descrambler**  
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each wave on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

**5 Clue Version**

**This animal:**  
**S Q U I R T S      I N K**  
fish shelf stick neck shut sick brush whisk chop chess

**Short & Long Options**

**Clue #1: Error Analysis**  
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

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**5 Clue Version**



## Print & Digital Forms

**Clue #2: Rhyming Fish**  
Color the coral the same color as the fish they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

**Rhymes** green

**Does Not Rhyme** red

Cross out any blue creatures if there are:  
• 6 green coral  
• 4 red coral

Cross out any green creatures if there are:  
• 5 green coral  
• 3 red coral

**Clue #2: Rhyming Fish**  
Color the coral the same color as the fish they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

**Rhymes** green

**Does Not Rhyme** red

Cross out any blue creatures if there are:  
• 6 green coral  
• 4 red coral

Cross out any green creatures if there are:  
• 5 green coral  
• 3 red coral

Cross out any red creatures if there are:  
• 7 green coral  
• 3 red coral

Cross out any yellow creatures if there are:  
• 8 green coral  
• 5 red coral

# CVC OPTION AVAILABLE

**What Did I See in the Ocean?**

Read the facts about each animal to help you solve the clues.

Pufferfish	Octopus	Dolphin	Jellyfish
Crab	Shark	Sea Turtle	Seahorse

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

**Clue #1: Error Analysis**  
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each animal. Read the hint from the animal with the most correct answers.

**Clue #2: Rhyming Fish**  
Color the coral the same color as the fish they belong with. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue.

**Clue #3: Find It!**  
Circle the boxes that start or end with n. Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**  
Cross out the following pictures:  
• rat • gas • cut • beg  
• set • bug • fix • job  
What shark picture is left? Write that word on the line.

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

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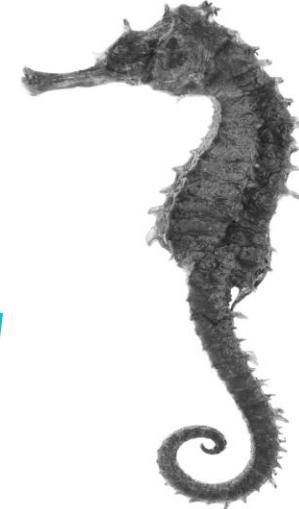
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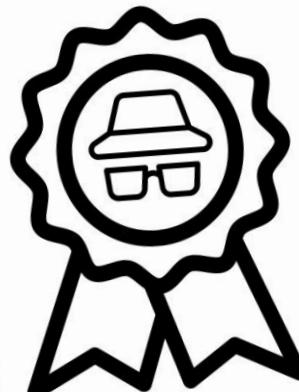
Differentiate within your small groups. Same clues. Same mystery. Different focus!

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**

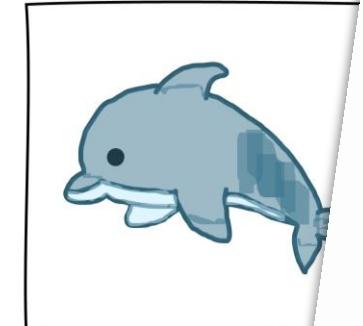
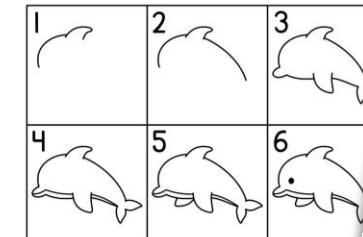
**Date**

**ASW**

**Presented by:**

**LET'S DRAW...**

**a dolphin**



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**LET'S DRAW...**

**a fish**



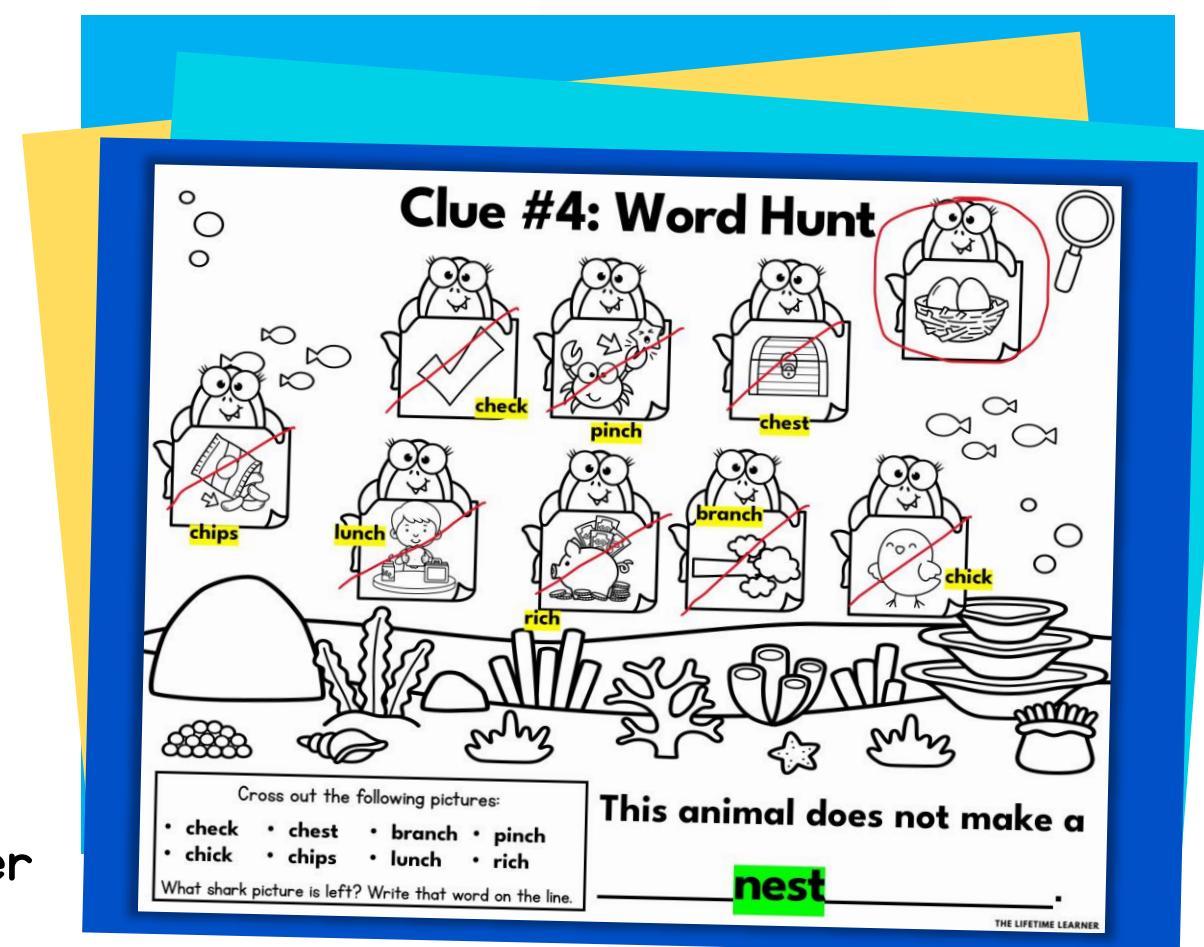
THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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: Digraph 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!

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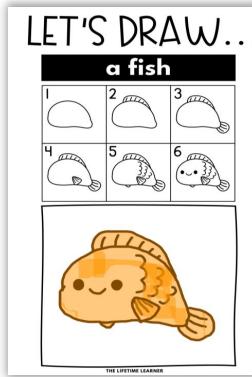
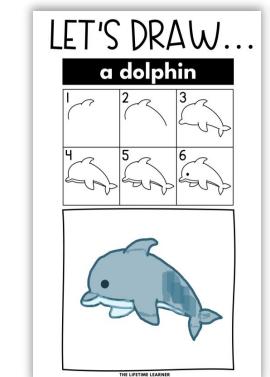
**This animal:**  
S Q U I R T S      I N K

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

**The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:**

 **Lindsay**  
You solved the mystery!  
11/2   
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Presented by: \_\_\_\_\_

THE LIFETIME LEARNER



**What Did I See in the Ocean?**  
Read the facts about each animal to help you solve the clues.

 Pufferfish I have red fins.	 Octopus I have yellow tentacles.	 Dolphin I have a blue nose.	 Jellyfish I have green tentacles.
 Crab I have red claws.	 Shark I have a blue tail.	 Sea Turtle I have a green shell.	 Seahorse I have a yellow face.

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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

# solve the mystery



**The Case of the Scuba Diver**

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

### Example of Clue 1

**Clue #1: Error Analysis**

Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer. Read the hint from the animal with the most correct answers.

**Shark**  
I have sharp claws. You did not see me.  
Shark  thud

**Sea Turtle**  
I have sharp teeth. You did not see any sharp teeth!  
Sea Turtle  flash

**Stick**  
I have a green shell. You did not see a green shell.  
Stick  wash

**Chin**  
I have sharp teeth. You did not see any sharp teeth!  
Chin  shin

**Chest**  
I have sharp claws. You did not see me.  
Chest  luck

**Shin**  
I have sharp claws. You did not see me.  
Shin  wash

**Thud**  
I have sharp claws. You did not see me.  
Thud  thud

**Flash**  
I have sharp teeth. You did not see any sharp teeth!  
Flash  flash

**Wash**  
I have sharp claws. You did not see me.  
Wash  wash

**Luck**  
I have sharp claws. You did not see me.  
Luck  luck

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## Math

**Clue #1: Sorting Fish**

Solve each equation by crossing out the fish in the tanks. Color the fish the same color as the box they belong to. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

Color	Equation	Color	Equation	Color	Equation	Color	Equation
brown	5	purple	10	green	12	blue	3
10	brown	3	purple	5	green	12	10
0	5-2	12	9-4	12	18-6	13-3	10
5	15-3	12	16-6	10	14-9	5	8
15-3	0	16-6	12	14-9	10	11-8	3
12	5	10	12	5	12	3	10

**Red Animals:**

- 2 brown fish
- 3 purple fish
- 2 green fish
- 3 blue fish

**Blue Animals:**

- 2 brown fish
- 2 purple fish
- 3 green fish
- 3 blue fish

**Yellow Animals:**

- 3 brown fish
- 2 purple fish
- 3 green fish
- 2 blue fish

**Green Animals:**

- 3 brown fish
- 2 purple fish
- 3 green fish
- 2 blue fish

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

# KEEP THE FUN GOING!

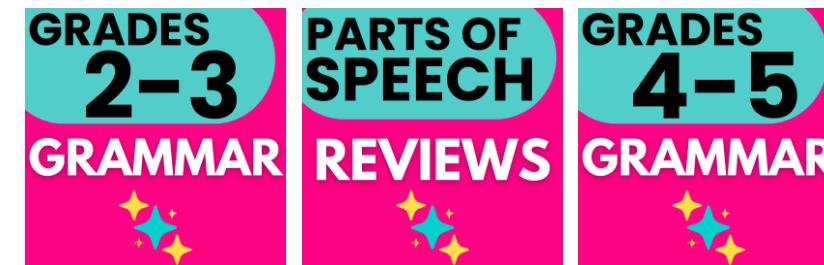
## GRAB A MATH MYSTERY:

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