

WHAT IS THIS?

Clue #1: Color the Kids
Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

Clue #2: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that rhyme. Cross out the boxes that do not rhyme.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #3: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

Clue #4: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.
Read the hint from the leprechaun with the most correct answers.

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

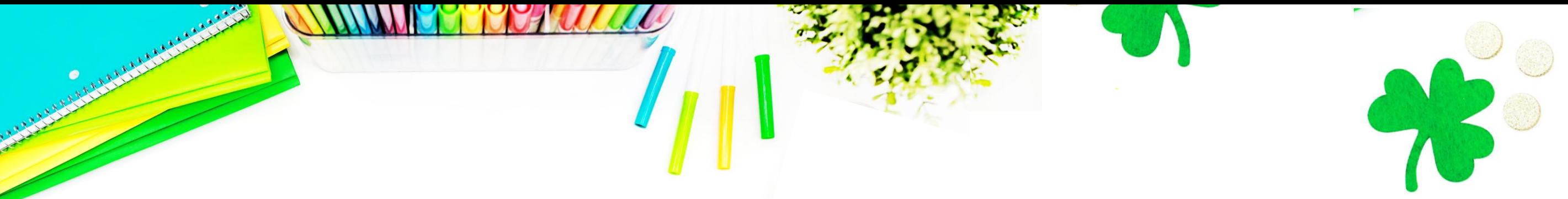
Where is the Gold?
Figure out where the leprechaun hid the gold by solving the clues.

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Gold Coins

Students complete a series of clues to figure out where the missing coins are!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

The pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is missing! A leprechaun found it and hid it somewhere on the map. Now, it's up to you to figure out where they hid the gold.

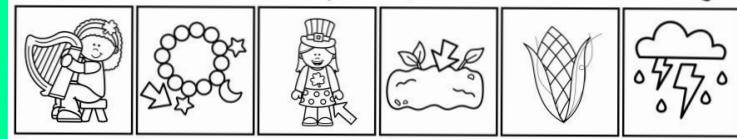
1. Take a map and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where the gold is.
3. Cross out wrong locations each time you find out new information. Good luck!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1: Color the Kids

Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.



<input type="checkbox"/> horn - color it red <input type="checkbox"/> harp - color it green <input type="checkbox"/> hard - color it yellow <input type="checkbox"/> hurt - color it blue	<input type="checkbox"/> chirp - color it red <input type="checkbox"/> chart - color it green <input type="checkbox"/> score - color it yellow <input type="checkbox"/> chase - color it blue	<input type="checkbox"/> scarf - color it red <input type="checkbox"/> skirt - color it green <input type="checkbox"/> charm - color it yellow <input type="checkbox"/> shirt - color it blue	<input type="checkbox"/> dirt - color it red <input type="checkbox"/> dark - color it yellow <input type="checkbox"/> skirt - color it blue	<input type="checkbox"/> card - color it red <input type="checkbox"/> corn - color it green <input type="checkbox"/> dark - color it yellow <input type="checkbox"/> cart - color it blue	<input type="checkbox"/> storm - color it red <input type="checkbox"/> star - color it green <input type="checkbox"/> stir - color it yellow <input type="checkbox"/> store - color it blue
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• 1 red kid • 1 blue kid • 2 green kids • 2 yellow kids The gold is not in a place filled with trees.	• 2 red kids • 2 blue kids • 1 green kid • 1 yellow kid The gold is not in a place with water.	• 2 red kids • 1 blue kid • 2 green kids • 1 yellow kid The gold is not where it's hard to climb.	• 1 red kid • 2 blue kids • 1 green kid • 2 yellow kids The gold is not in a place like a hotel.
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Where is the Gold?

Figure out where the leprechaun hid the gold by solving the clues.



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what place(s) to cross out.

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

SKILL PRACTICE

Clue #1: Color the Kids
Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

horn - color it red
 horn - color it green
 hard - color it yellow
 hurt - color it blue

chirp - color it red
 chart - color it green
 charm - color it yellow
 chase - color it blue

What color kids do you have?
• 1 red kid
• 1 blue kid
• 2 green kids
• 2 yellow kids
The gold is not in a place filled with trees.

Clue #2: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that rhyme. Cross out the boxes that do not rhyme.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

look	the	go	gold
sprint strap	splat flat	scraps shrimp	split bit
is	not	where	rain
splash flash	string ring	shrug hug	squid squat
bridge	trees	people	live
split scream	street stripe	scrub tub	spring sing

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong places off your list.
THE GOLD IS NOT WHERE PEOPLE LIVE

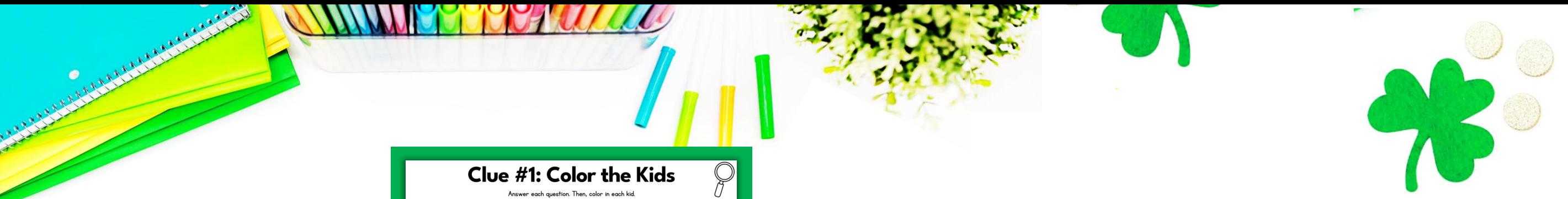
Clue #3: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

branch
clock
rainbow
sled
not in a
POW
area.

- 1st Grade Phonics Review
- R Controlled Vowels
- 3 Letter Blends
- Beginning Blends (L, R, S Blends)
- Diphthongs (OI, OY, OU, OW)
- Long O Words

All clues focus on reviewing 1st grade phonic skills!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Clue #1: Color the Kids
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Clue #3: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

3 Clue Version

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Clue #4: Error Analysis
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Clue #5: Descrambler
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5 Clue Version

Short & Long Options

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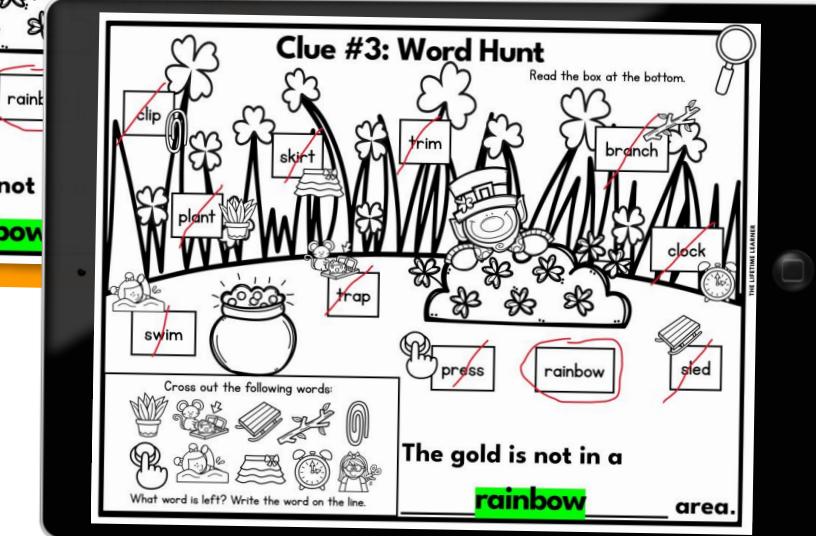
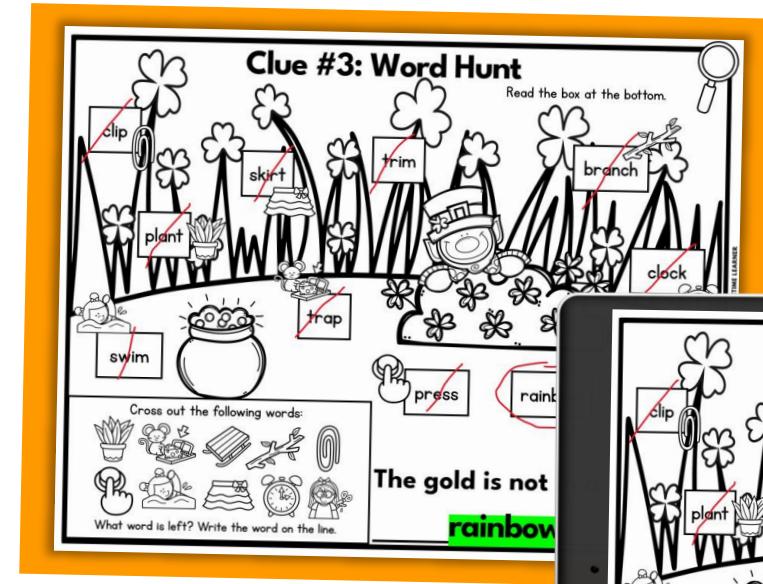
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5 Clue Version

Print & Digital Forms



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

Clue #4: Error Analysis

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

Hint	Picture	Answer
The gold is not in a place with a field.		cow <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The gold is not in a place with a river.		boil <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The gold is not in a place with shade.		joy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		house <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		toy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		soil <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		town <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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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The right place has **G O L D I N I T S** name.

tip toe hoe throw snow throat mow boat soap coach

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay
You solved the mystery!
11/2 SW
Date Presented by:

Where is the Gold?
Figure out where the leprechaun hid the gold by solving the clues.

RAINBOW FALLS TREASURE MOUNTAIN
LUCKY CHARM INN CLOVER FOREST
LEPRECHAUN VILLAGE GOLDEN FIELDS
SILVER BRIDGE RAINBOW RIVER

Name: *[Name]*

LET'S DRAW...
a rainbow
1 2 3
4 5 6 Color It!

LET'S DRAW...
a top hat
1 2 3
4 5 6 Color It!

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Gold Coins



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: Color the Kids

Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

Color it red
color it green
color it yellow
color it blue
scarf - color it red
scarf - color it green
scarf - color it yellow
skirt - color it blue
dirt - color it red
dirt - color it green
dirt - color it yellow
dirt - color it blue
card - color it red
card - color it green
card - color it yellow
card - color it blue
storm - color it red
star - color it green
star - color it yellow
star - color it blue
corn - color it red
corn - color it green
corn - color it yellow
corn - color it blue
cart - color it red
cart - color it green
cart - color it yellow
cart - color it blue

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

1 red kid	2 red kids	1 red kid
1 blue kid	1 blue kid	2 blue kids
2 green kids	1 green kid	1 green kid
2 yellow kids	1 yellow kid	2 yellow kids

The gold is not in a place filled with trees.

The gold is not in a place with water.

Clue #1: Color the Kids

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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.

Answers:

1:30 5:30 7:00 3:30 10:30 8:00

5:30 8:00 3:30 12:30 10:30 7:00

H O U S E E S

The missing gold is not near any...

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 =	

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

KEEP THE FUN GOING!

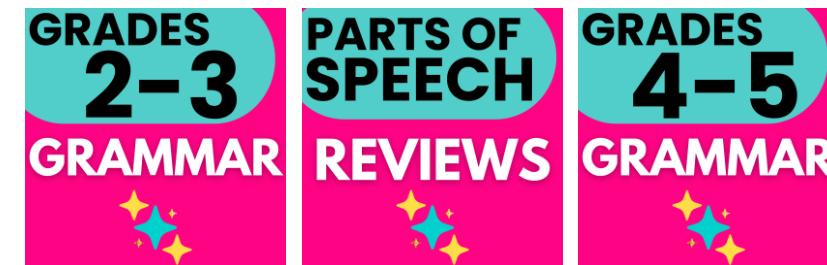
GRAB A MATH MYSTERY:

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