

# WHAT IS THIS?

**Clue #1: Find It!**  
Circle the boxes where the picture matches the sentence.  
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

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

**Clue #3: Color the Witch's House**  
Circle the answer for each and color in the picture.

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**

**Clue #5: Descrambler**  
Read the sentence. Then, write the letter above the matching picture. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

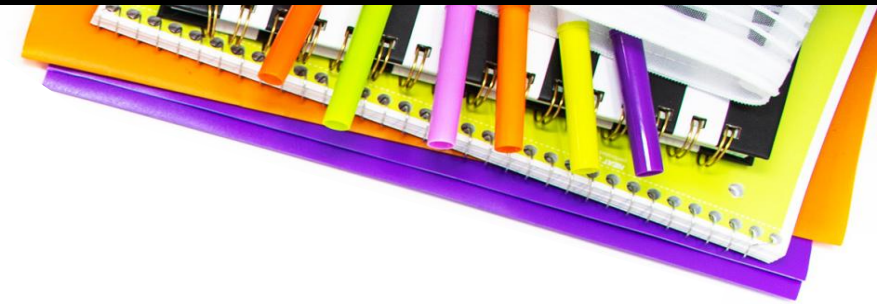
**Who Stole the Candy?**  
As you solve each clue, cross out the suspects who did not take the candy. The suspect left at the end is the culprit!

 I like green candy.	 I like marshmallows.	 I like red candy.	 I don't like candy.
 I like candy corn.	 I like green candy.	 I like chocolate candy.	 I like chocolate candy.

**solve the mystery**  
The Case of the Missing Candy

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 where the picture matches the sentence.  
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

 I put it in the basket. <b>the</b>	 I drop my napkin. <b>red</b>	 We look at the sunset. <b>thief</b>	 I put on a helmet. <b>big</b>
 I pick out a pumpkin. <b>U</b> hat	 She saw a rabbit. <b>has</b>	 I have a big magnet. <b>leg</b>	 He put on a jacket. <b>fang</b>
 We walk in the garden. <b>a</b>	 I get a ticket to go in. <b>no</b>	 We sit on the carpet. <b>frown</b>	 A button fell off my shirt. <b>smile</b>

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

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

## Halloween Phonics Review:

- Closed Syllable (Multi-Syllable)
- Beginning LRS Blends (Multi-Syllable)
- Consonant -LE Closed Syllable Words
- Final Blends
- CVCe Words Review

**Clue #1: Find It!**  
Circle the boxes where the picture matches the sentence.  
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

the  
I put it in the basket.

red  
hat  
I pick out a pumpkin.

thief  
a  
We walk in the garden.

big  
Write the phrase.

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

The bat flaps his wings.

I play a prank on my pal.

We see a black cat as we walk.

My mom plugs in the orange lights.

We get stuck in a slime trap.

She put on a mask with a skull on it.

I blink to see in the dark.

My dog sniffs the prints on the path.

He did smash the pumpkin.

I spill my bucket when I run fast.

I poke the web with a stick.

I print and cut out a witch hat.

Cross out the suspect who has the most correct answers.

**Clue #3: Color the Witch's House**  
Circle the answer for each and color in the picture.

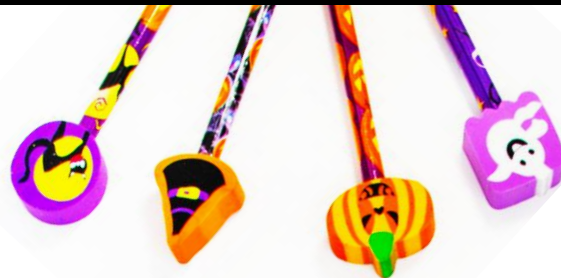
purple pot  
red pot  
green pot  
yellow pot

hat  
at  
at  
at  
re of the witch's house.

The thief is NOT a boy if you see:  
• purple fire  
• red web  
• purple pot  
• purple slug  
• green book  
• yellow hat

**All clues focus on reviewing 2<sup>nd</sup> grade phonics skills!**

# MULTIPLE VERSIONS



**Clue #1: Find It!**  
Circle the boxes where the picture matches the sentence.  
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

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

**Clue #3: Color the Witch's House**  
Circle the answer for each and color in the picture.

**3 Clue Version**

<input type="checkbox"/> candle - purple fire	<input type="checkbox"/> candle - red fire	<input type="checkbox"/> candle - green fire
<input type="checkbox"/> middle	<input type="checkbox"/> middle	<input type="checkbox"/> middle
<input type="checkbox"/> fiddle	<input type="checkbox"/> fiddle	<input type="checkbox"/> fiddle
<input type="checkbox"/> dangle	<input type="checkbox"/> dangle	<input type="checkbox"/> dangle

The thief does... if you see...  
red fire, yellow web, purple pot, green slug, purple book, yellow hat  
yellow fire, red web, red pot, green slug, yellow book, purple hat  
purple fire, red web, purple pot, purple slug, green book, yellow hat  
purple fire, red web, purple pot, purple slug, green book, yellow hat

**Clue #1: Find It!**  
Circle the boxes where the picture matches the sentence.  
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

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

**Clue #3: Color the Witch's House**  
Circle the answer for each and color in the picture.

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**  
Cross out the following pictures:  
milk • hand • stomp • wind  
jump • nest • mask • plant  
What picture is left? Write that word on the line.

**Clue #5: Descrambler**  
Read the sentence. Then, write the letter above the matching picture. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

**5 Clue Version**

S H A R P T E E T H

## Print & Digital Forms

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**

Cross out the following pictures:  
milk • hand • stomp • wind  
jump • nest • mask • plant  
What picture is left? Write that word on the line.

The thief does have a **nose**.

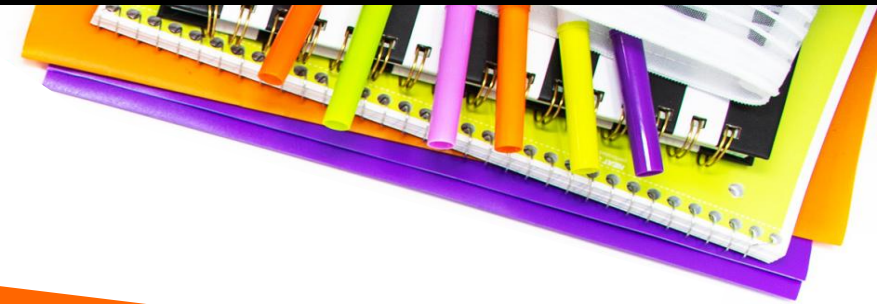
**Clue #4: Word Hunt**

Cross out the following pictures:  
milk • hand • stomp • wind  
jump • nest • mask • plant  
What picture is left? Write that word on the line.

The thief does have a **nose**.

## Short & Long Options

# CVC OPTION AVAILABLE



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

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

### Clue #1: Find It!

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

dot	the	map	red	pop	thief	jam
dig	hat	box	has	cup	leg	hen
fox	a	pin	no	fan	frown	h

Write \_\_\_\_\_

### Clue #2: Error Analysis

Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> kid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> dip	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> rip
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fix	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lid
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> whip

### Clue #3: Color the Witch's House

What word is shown in each picture?  
Circle the answer and color in the picture.

bad - purple fire	bag - red fire	hat - yellow fire
<input type="checkbox"/> man - purple web	<input type="checkbox"/> map - red web	<input type="checkbox"/> mat - green web
<input type="checkbox"/> mad - yellow web	<input type="checkbox"/> cat - purple hat	<input type="checkbox"/> ran - red hat
<input type="checkbox"/> rat - green hat	<input type="checkbox"/> rap - yellow hat	<input type="checkbox"/> hat - yellow hat

Choose the key below that matches how you colored the picture of the witch's house.

<input type="checkbox"/> purple fire	<input type="checkbox"/> red web	<input type="checkbox"/> purple hat
<input type="checkbox"/> green book	<input type="checkbox"/> yellow hat	<input type="checkbox"/> yellow hat

### Clue #4: Word Hunt

Cross out the following pictures:  
• run • pup • mud • yum  
• hut • bus • gum • cub

The thief does have a nose.

### 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.

A	T	H	T	P
S	E	H	R	E

The thief has: S H A R P T E E T H

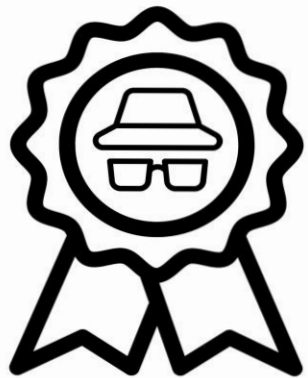
Differentiate within your small groups. Same clues. Same mystery. Different focus!

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

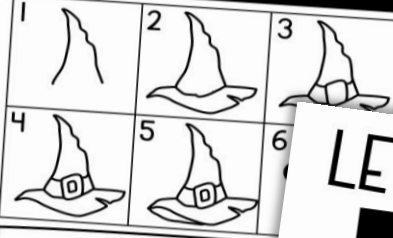
*AW*

Presented by:

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

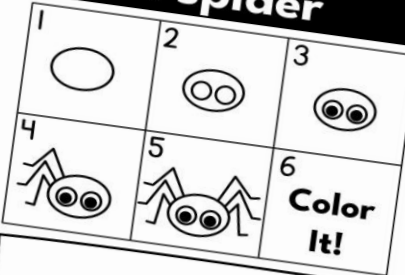
a witch hat



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

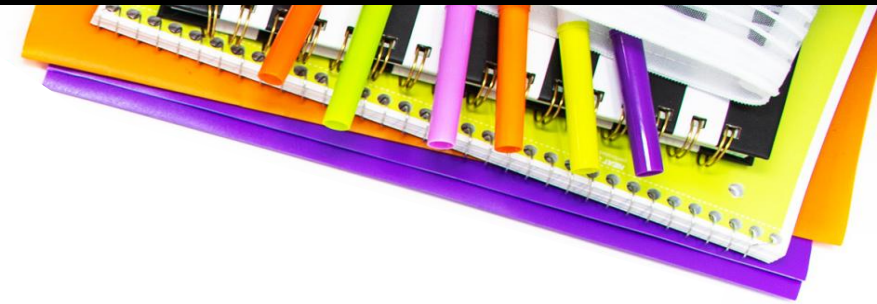
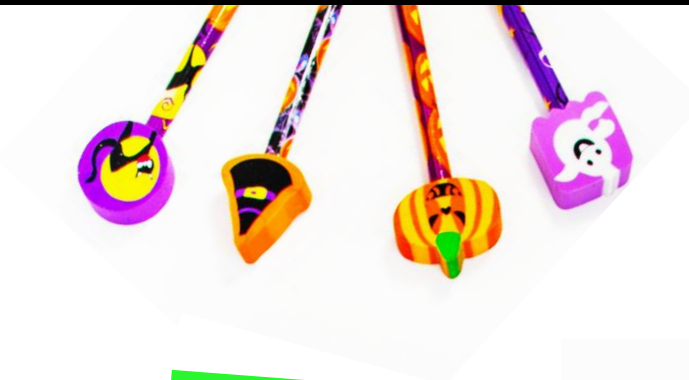
a spider



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 Mystery OR CVC Words Mystery.
- You can even mix/match clues to combine the 2 skills together.

**Clue #3: Color the Witch's House**

Circle the answer for each and color in the picture.

 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> cackle - purple fire</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> cattle - red fire</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> cuddle - green fire</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> candle - yellow fire</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> cuddle - purple web</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cackle - red web</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> cattle - green web</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> candle - yellow web</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bubble - purple pot</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> bottle - red pot</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> battle - green pot</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> bundle - yellow pot</li> </ul>
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> middle - purple slug</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> meddle - red slug</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fiddle - green slug</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> dangle - yellow slug</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tangle - purple book</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> tickle - red book</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> twinkle - green book</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> tremble - yellow book</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> dazzle - purple hat</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> puzzle - red hat</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sizzle - green hat</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fizzle - yellow hat</li> </ul>

Choose the key below that matches how you colored the picture of the witch's house.

<p>The thief does NOT like candy corn if you see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• red fire</li> <li>• yellow web</li> <li>• purple pot</li> <li>• green slug</li> <li>• purple book</li> <li>• yellow hat</li> </ul>	<p>The thief does NOT like chocolate if you see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• yellow fire</li> <li>• red web</li> <li>• red pot</li> <li>• green slug</li> <li>• yellow book</li> <li>• purple hat</li> </ul>	<p>The thief is NOT a girl if you see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• yellow fire</li> <li>• red web</li> <li>• purple pot</li> <li>• green slug</li> <li>• purple book</li> <li>• yellow hat</li> </ul>	<p>The thief is NOT a boy if you see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• purple fire</li> <li>• red web</li> <li>• purple pot</li> <li>• purple slug</li> <li>• green book</li> <li>• yellow hat</li> </ul>
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## Ideas for Use:

- Use as a mini lesson during whole group time
- During small groups
- In partners
- In table groups
- For fast finishers

# 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!**  
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Does the sentence match the picture? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

**Clue #3: Color the Witch's House**  
Circle the answer for each and color in the picture.  
candle - purple fire    candle - purple web    bubble - purple net

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**

**Clue #5: Descrambler**  
Read the sentence. Then, write the letter above the matching picture. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

<b>A</b> The witch will bake a cake.	<b>T</b> His nose smells the rose.	<b>H</b> I woke up to a pokel.	<b>T</b> I wipe it off the pipe.	<b>P</b> They like to get on a bike.
<b>S</b> He sat on a tire by the fire.	<b>E</b> We have to get in line by nine.	<b>H</b> I hope he drops the rope.	<b>R</b> A mole was in the hole!	<b>E</b> The mice ate our rice.

The thief has:  
**S H A R P T E E T H**

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

**Lindsay**  
You solved the mystery!

**11/2**    **AW**  
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!

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

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.








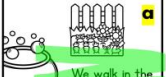


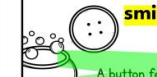
The only thing that stays the same is the list of suspects students start with!

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 where the picture matches the sentence.  
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

 <b>the</b>	 <b>red</b>	 <b>thief</b>	 <b>big</b>
I drop my napkin.	We look at the sunset.	I put on a helmet.	
 <b>has</b>	 <b>leg</b>	 <b>fang</b>	
She saw a rabbit.	I have a big magnet.	He put on a jacket.	
 <b>a</b>	 <b>no</b>	 <b>frown</b>	 <b>smile</b>
We walk in the garden.	I get a ticket to go in.	We sit on the carpet.	A button fell off my shirt.

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

405	is	905	eyes	180	the	245	green	910	bow	570	a
385	likes	745	wearing	460	red	700	hat	240	whoever	740	candy
470	took	710	marshmallow	575	eyes	125	candy	465	monster	900	not

Tell what number comes next when skip counting by 5 or 10s.

Answer: 240	Word: whoever	95, 105, 115, ___	Answer: 125	Word: candy	715, 725, 735, ___	Answer: 745	Word: wearing	
470, 500, 530, 560, 590, 620, 650, 680, 710, 740, 770, 800, 830, 860, 890, 920, 950, 980, 1010, 1040, 1070, 1100, 1130, 1160, 1190, 1220, 1250	470	took	375, 385, 395, ___	405	is	555, 560, 565, ___	570	a
165, 170, 175, ___	180	the	885, 890, 895, ___	900	not	670, 680, 690, ___	700	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!**

