

WHAT IS THIS?



Clue #1: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each race car on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

Clue #2: Finish Line Sort
Color the finish lines the same color as the box they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

Starts Starts Starts Starts

Clue #3: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer. Read the hint from the car with the most correct answers.

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

b _ a _ d _ g _ w _ i _ t _ c _ h

Clue #5: Fill in the Blank
Read each word below. Find the matching picture above. Then write the word in each box.

red	tire	Nobu	shortest	black	in
winner	longest	race	flag	the	boat
the	the	Andres	tail	light	car

What letter did you write?
• A = boy
• U = girl

sketch the crutch the switch in
judge winner hatch shortest nudge the
bridge has ledge hair itch race

When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom ↓ in each row to figure out the clue.

solve the mystery

The Case of the Big Race

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Who Won the Race?

Figure out who won the big race by solving each clue.

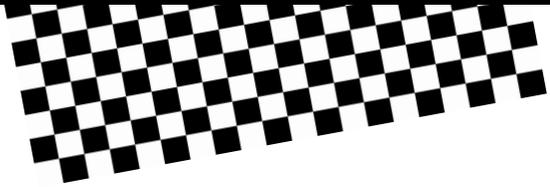
 1 Ji My car is blue.	 2 Milo My car is green.	 3 Andres My car is red.	 4 Luna My car is blue.
 5 Leo My car is red.	 6 Jada My car is green.	 7 Eve My car is pink.	 8 Nobu My car is black.

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Students complete a series of clues to figure out who won the race!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

You forgot to watch the big race on TV last night. Now, you're going to need to solve some clues to figure out who won! Help figure out who came in 1st place so you'll be able to chat with friends about the winner.

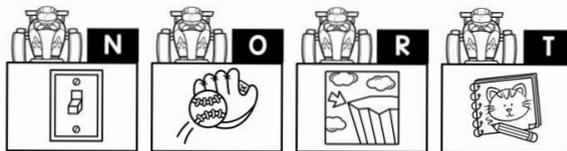
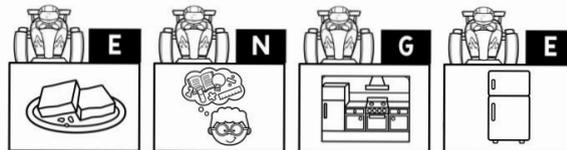
1. Take a list of racers and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering who won the race.
3. Cross out wrong race cars each time you find out new information. Good luck!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1: Descrambler

Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each race car on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.



The winner's car is:

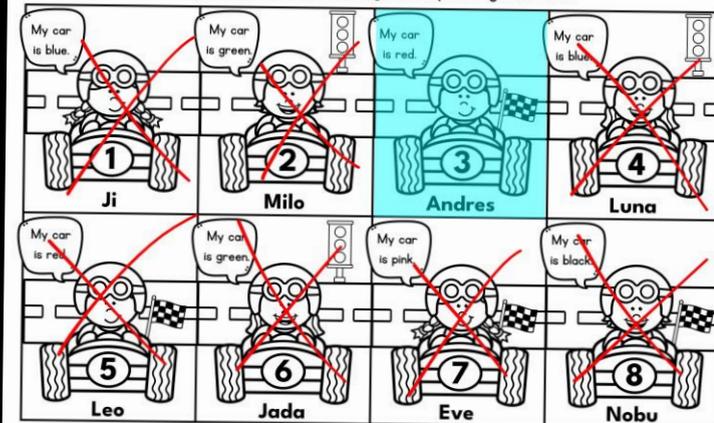
N O T G R E E N

knowledge catch sketch kitchen edge fudge fridge switch

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Who Won the Race?

Figure out who won the big race by solving each clue.



Name: _____

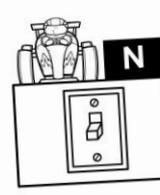
THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal which racers to cross out. When all clues are completed, the mystery of the big race will be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE

Clue #1: Descrambler

Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each race car on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.



N O

knowledge catch

Clue #3: Error Analysis

Are the words sure match the picture? Put a check or an X next to each answer. Use the hint from the car with the most correct answers.

The winner's name has more than 3 letters.



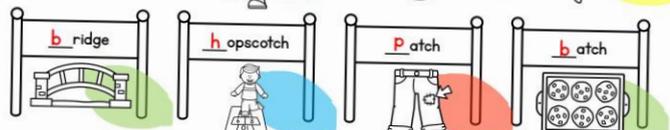
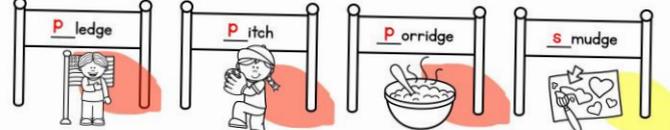
workout. He did pitch the ball.

She put on a watch.

Scratch your wrist.

Clue #2: Finish Line Sort

Color the finish lines the same color as the box they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!



Cross out Car #1 if: • 4 red • 1 yellow • 2 green • 1 blue	Cross out Car #2 if: • 4 red • 1 yellow • 1 green • 2 blue	Cross out Car #3 if: • 4 red • 2 yellow • 1 green • 1 blue	Cross out Car #4 if: • 3 red • 1 yellow • 2 green • 2 blue
--	--	--	--

Trigraphs Review:

- Match Picture to Word
- TCH and DGE
- Onset and Rime
- Focus on Only TCH
- Focus on Only DGE
- Missing Beginnings
- Missing Endings

All clues focus on reviewing trigraphs!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each race car on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

Clue #2: Finish Line Sort
Color the finish lines the same color as the box they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

Clue #3: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer. Read the hint from the car with the most correct answers.

3 Clue Version

The winner's name has less than 3 letters. The winner's name has 3 letters. The winner's name has more than 3 letters.

I make a stitch in the cloth. Fetch the ball for me. She put on a watch.

Latch the door so it's locked. The witch did a spell. Scratch your wrist.

Clue #1: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each race car on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

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Color the finish lines the same color as the box they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

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

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

Clue #5: Fill in the Blank

red, tire, Nobu, shortest, black, in, winner, longest, race, flag, the, hair, car, sketch, judge, bridge, has, ledge, hair, itch, race

When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

Clue #2: Finish Line Sort
Color the finish lines the same color as the box they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

Starts with p (red), Starts with s (yellow), Starts with b (green), Starts with h (blue)

P_ledge, P_itch, P_orridge, s_mudge, b_ridge, h_opscotch, P_atch

Cross out Car #1 if:
• 4 red
• 1 yellow
• 2 green
• 1 blue

Cross out Car #2 if:
• 4 red
• 1 yellow
• 1 green
• 2 blue

Cross out Car #3 if:
• 4 red
• 2 yellow
• 1 green
• 1 blue

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• 4 red
• 1 yellow
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Cross out Car #2 if:
• 4 red
• 1 yellow
• 1 green
• 2 blue

Cross out Car #3 if:
• 4 red
• 2 yellow
• 1 green
• 1 blue

Cross out Car #4 if:
• 3 red
• 1 yellow
• 2 green
• 2 blue

Short & Long Options

CVC OPTION AVAILABLE



Who Won the Race?

Figure out who won the big race by solving each clue.

 1 Ji My car is blue.	 2 Milo My car is green.	 3 Andres My car is red.	 4 Luna My car is blue.
 5 Leo My car is red.	 6 Jada My car is green.	 7 Eve My car is pink.	 8 Nobu My car is black.

Name: _____

Clue #1: Descrambler

Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each race car on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

E	N	G	E
N	O	R	T

N _____

Clue #2: Finish Line Sort

Color the finish lines the same color as the box they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

Starts with t Starts with v Starts with n Starts with r

op	ug	en	an
et	ip	ag	ap

Clue #3: Error Analysis

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

The winner's name has less than 3 letters.

The winner's name has 3 letters.

The winner's name has more than 3 letters.

bus	lid	job	fix
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Fill in the last letter of each word.

hu g	ba g	tu b
pe n	ru b	ro b
zi p	we b	

The winner was not a **girl**.

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

- P = boy
- G = red color
- B = girl
- T = black color

Clue #5: Fill in the Blank

Read each word below. Find the matching picture above. Then write the word in each box.

red	tire	Nobu	shortest	black	in
winner	longest	race	flag	the	hair
the	the	Andres	has	light	car

Word: _____

bun	net	kit
jug	wig	mad
rat	nut	pig

When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

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

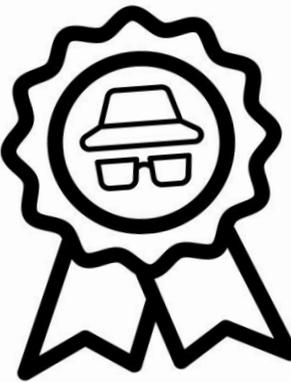


The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

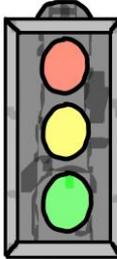
11/2 Date **AW** Presented by:



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a traffic light

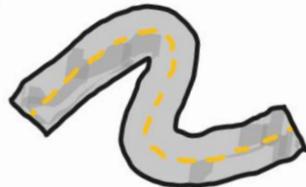
1	2	3
4	5	6



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a road

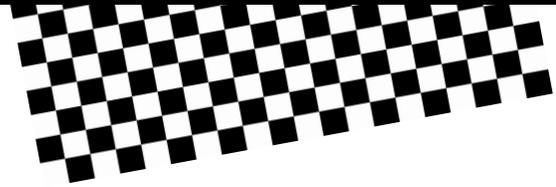
1	2	3
4	5	6



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 #4: Word Hunt
Fill in the missing letter in each word.

b _ a dge w _ i _ tch

f _ e _ tch n _ u _ dge l _ e _ dge

m _ a _ tch fr _ i _ dge cr _ u _ tch f _ u _ dge

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

- A = boy
- U = girl
- M = red color
- D = black color

The winner was not a **girl**.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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!

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winner	longest	race	flag	the	hair
the	the	Andres	hat	light	car

Word: sketch the crutch the switch in

Word: judge winner hatch shortest nudge the

Word: bridge has ledge hair itch race

When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

11/2 *AW*

Date Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...
a road

LET'S DRAW...
a traffic light

Who Won the Race?
Figure out who won the big race by solving each clue.

My car is blue.	My car is green.	My car is red.	My car is blue.
1 Ji	2 Milo	3 Andres	4 Luna
My car is red.	My car is green.	My car is pink.	My car is black.
5 Leo	6 Jada	7 Eve	8 Nobu

Name: _____

solve the mystery

The Case of the Big Race

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

WHAT MAKES READING MYSTERIES UNIQUE?

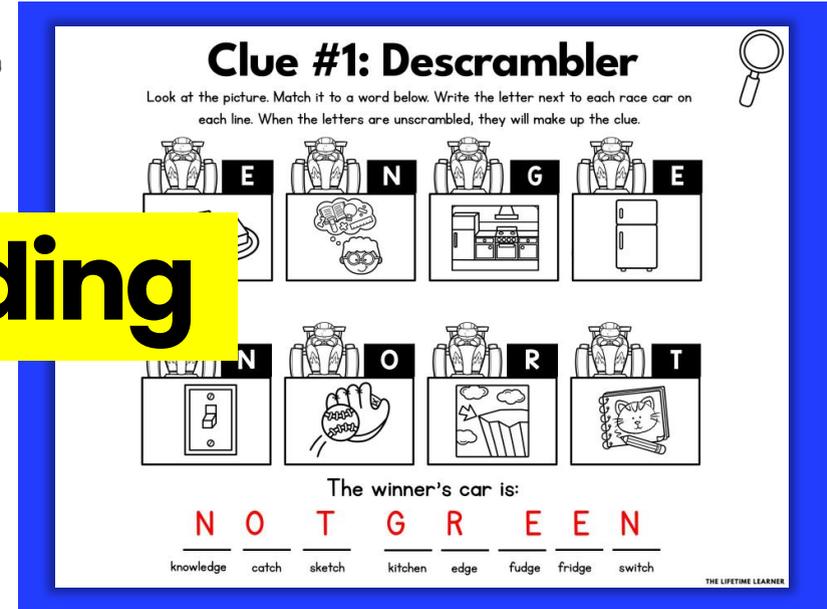
Reading Mysteries aren't just a copy of Math Mysteries!

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



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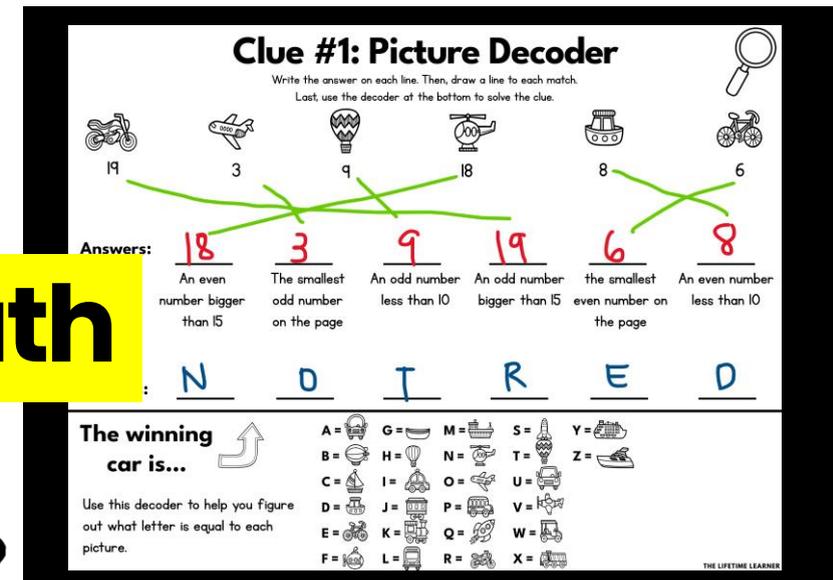
The winner's car is:

N O T G R E E N

knowledge catch sketch kitchen edge fudge fridge switch

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.

					
19	3	9	18	8	6

Answers: 18 3 9 19 6 8

An even number bigger than 15 The smallest odd number on the page An odd number less than 10 An odd number bigger than 15 the smallest even number on the page An even number less than 10

N O T R E E D

The winning car is...

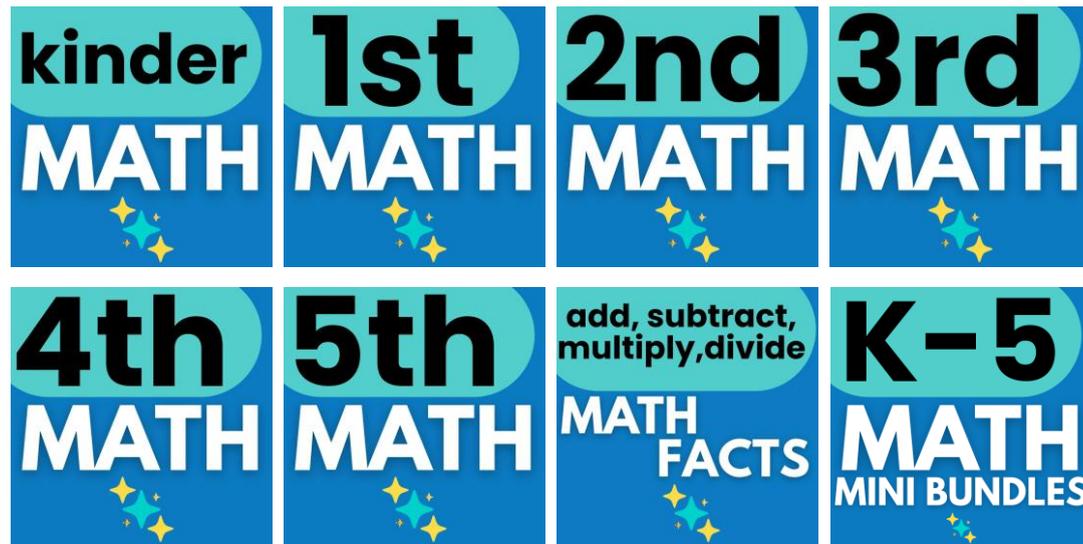
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

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!

