

WHAT IS THIS?

The image displays a series of colorful educational worksheets and a central title card, all related to a mystery game about a missing astronaut. The worksheets are stacked on the left, featuring various clues and activities:

- Clue #1: Find It!** Circle the boxes that are true. Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.
- Clue #2: Error Analysis** Who has the most correct statements? Put a check or an X next to each answer. Read the hint from the person with the most correct answers.
- Clue #3: The Solar System** Read the bottom. (Includes a diagram of the solar system with labels like 'farther', 'farthest', 'large', 'greenest', 'far', 'greenest', 'large'.)
- Clue #4: Picture Hunt** Read the box at the bottom. (Includes a drawing of an astronaut and a list of items to find.)
- Clue #5: Color the Comets** These are all true fun facts! Tell which word would fit in each blank. Then, color in the comets. (Includes a key for coloring comets based on facts like 'Saturn's rings are wider than Jupiter's rings' and 'The Moon is dimmer than the Sun'.)

In the center, a large title card reads:

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Astronaut

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

On the right, a green-bordered worksheet titled 'Where Did the Astronaut Go?' is shown. It contains a grid of planets with clues and instructions to cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

Where Did the Astronaut Go?

Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

I have 0 moons. Mercury	I have 0 moons. Venus	I have 1 moon. Earth	I have 2 moons. Mars
I have 79 moons. Jupiter	I have 82 moons. Saturn	I have 27 moons. Uranus	I have 14 moons. Neptune

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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

HOW TO PLAY

What Happened?

The astronaut went on a secret mission to another planet, and it's your job to figure out which planet he traveled to. Solve each clue to figure out the mystery. Every time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering which planet the astronaut landed on. Cross out the places the astronaut is not located each time you solve a clue. Good luck!



Clue #1: Find It!

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

 The youngest kid in the line is the baby. not	 The first dog dug the deepest hole. 0	 The boy laying down is the sickest of the three kids. a	 The floor lamp is taller than the table lamp. place
 The cheapest jar is the one worth fifteen cents. 82	 The second man is richer than the first man. with	 The scissors are sharper than the pencil. more	 The saddest kid is not crying right now. 79
 The girl with the microphone is the loudest. than	 The second cake is fancier than the first cake. 50	 The slippery floor is wetter than the sponge. moons	 The chilliest kid is in the middle. 2

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong planets off your list.

not a place with more than 50 moons

Where Did the Astronaut Go?

Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

<div>I have 0 moons.</div> <div></div> <div>Mercury</div>	<div>I have 0 moons.</div> <div></div> <div>Venus</div>	<div>I have 1 moon.</div> <div></div> <div>Earth</div>	<div>I have 2 moons.</div> <div></div> <div>Mars</div>
<div>I have 79 moons.</div> <div></div> <div>Jupiter</div>	<div>I have 82 moons.</div> <div></div> <div>Saturn</div>	<div>I have 27 moons.</div> <div></div> <div>Uranus</div>	<div>I have 14 moons.</div> <div></div> <div>Neptune</div>

Name: _____

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what planet(s) to cross out. When all clues are completed, the mystery of the missing astronaut will be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE

Comparative Endings Review:

- Fill In The Blank
- Comparative Adjective Sentences
- Practice with ER & EST
- Error Analysis
- Adjectives/Emotions

Clue #1: Find It!

Circle the boxes that are true.

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

not

The youngest kid in the line is the baby.

0

The first deep

a

The second place

82

The cheapest jar is the one worth fifteen cents.

than

The girl with the microphone is the loudest.

The second

Write the phrase

not a p

Clue #2: Error Analysis

Who has the most correct statements? Put a check or an X next to each answer.
Read the hint from the person with the most correct answers.

<p>The astronaut did not see any moons.</p> <p>Cal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am the shortest.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am in the darkest place.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My rocket is the biggest.</p>	<p>The astronaut did not go see any rings.</p> <p>Hal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am the shortest.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am in the darkest place.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My rocket is bigger than Cal's.</p>	<p>The astronaut left Earth and did not come back.</p> <p>Sal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am the tallest.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am in the darkest place.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My rocket is bigger than Hal's.</p>
--	---	--

Clue #3: The Solar System

Read the bottom.

farthest

greener

largest

large

larger

What ending do you see the MOST?

Astronaut did not go to a place with:

Base Word: Letter V

All clues focus on reviewing ER and EST comparisons!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that are true.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Who has the most correct statements? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: The Solar System
Read the bottom.

3 Clue Version

Tally up how many of each type you see.

-er	4
-est	5
Base word	3

What ending do you see the MOST?
The astronaut did not go to a place with:
ER : Letter U Base Word: Letter V
EST: Letter M

Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that are true.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Who has the most correct statements? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #3: The Solar System
Read the bottom.

Clue #4: Picture Hunt
Read the box at the

Clue #5: Color the Comets
These are all true fun facts! Tell which word would fit in each blank. Then, color in the comets.

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

• 3 red comets • 1 blue comet • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet	• 2 red comets • 2 blue comets • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet	• 1 red comet • 1 blue comet • 2 green comets • 2 yellow comets	• 1 red comet • 1 blue comet • 1 green comet • 3 yellow comets
---	--	--	---

Clue #5: Color the Comets
These are all true fun facts! Tell which word would fit in each blank. Then, color in the comets.

Saturn's rings are <u>wider</u> than Jupiter's rings.	The Moon is <u>dimmer</u> than the Sun.	Venus is the <u>cloudiest</u> planet.	Mars has the <u>tallest</u> volcano in the Solar System.	The Sun is <u>older</u> than Earth.	Neptune has <u>stronger</u> winds than any other planet.
---	---	---------------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------	--

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

• 3 red comets • 1 blue comet • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet	• 2 red comets • 2 blue comets • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet	• 1 red comet • 1 blue comet • 2 green comets • 2 yellow comets
---	--	--

Clue #5: Color the Comets
These are all true fun facts! Tell which word would fit in each blank. Then, color in the comets.

Saturn's rings are <u>wider</u> than Jupiter's rings.	The Moon is <u>dimmer</u> than the Sun.	Venus is the <u>cloudiest</u> planet.	Mars has the <u>tallest</u> volcano in the Solar System.	The Sun is <u>older</u> than Earth.	Neptune has <u>stronger</u> winds than any other planet.
---	---	---------------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------	--

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

• 3 red comets • 1 blue comet • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet	• 2 red comets • 2 blue comets • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet	• 1 red comet • 1 blue comet • 2 green comets • 2 yellow comets	• 1 red comet • 1 blue comet • 1 green comet • 3 yellow comets
---	--	--	---

Short & Long Options

CVC OPTION AVAILABLE

Where Did the Astronaut Go?

Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 0 moons. Mercury	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 0 moons. Venus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 1 moon. Earth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 2 moons. Mars
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 79 moons. Jupiter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 82 moons. Saturn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 27 moons. Uranus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have 14 moons. Neptune

Name: _____

Clue #1: Find It!

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

 not	 0	 jet	 a
 ten	 cop	 with	 more
 82	 rug	 fed	 web
 than	 pen	 50	 moons

Write _____

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Each alien has a sign.
Cross out the pictures at the bottom.
Which alien is left?
Write their word on the line.

hat • jug • pop • hip • lid • yes • hum • vet

Cross out the following pictures:
The planet has a **letter S** in its name.

Clue #2: Error Analysis

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

The astronaut did not see any moons. cat	The astronaut did not go see any rings. map	The astronaut left Earth and did not come back. fun
--	---	---

Clue #5: Color the Comets

Tell what each middle sound is. Then, color in the comets.

 m n	 j t	 m p	 m d	 h p	 d g
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------

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

3 red comets 1 blue comet 1 green comet 1 yellow comet	2 red comets 2 blue comets 1 green comet 1 yellow comet	1 red comet 1 blue comet 2 green comets 2 yellow comets	1 red comet 1 blue comet 1 green comet 2 yellow comets
---	--	--	---

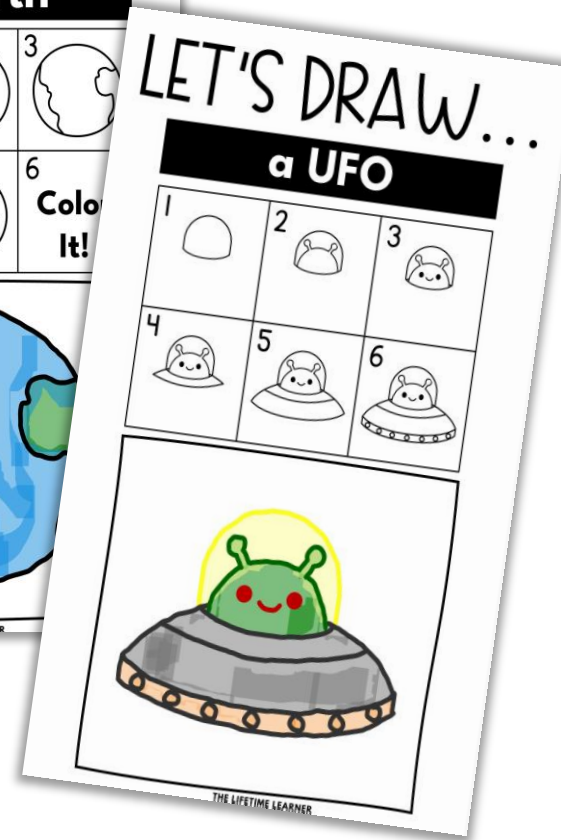
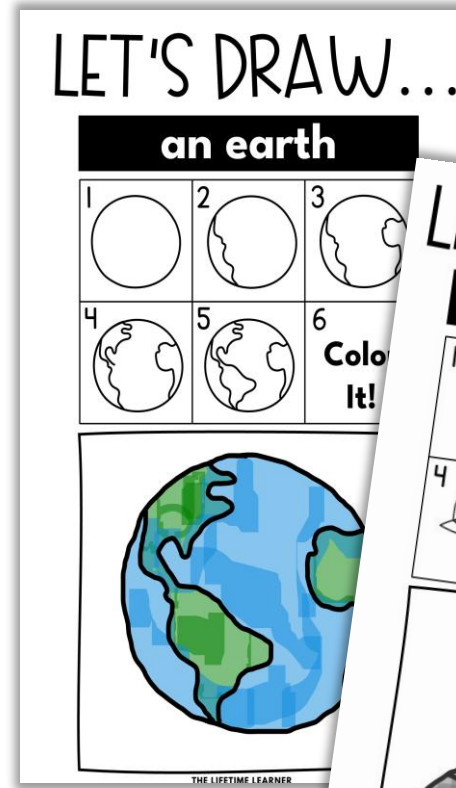
Clue #3: The Solar System

den • ten • jet • pen • wed • wet • bed • hen • red • men

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).

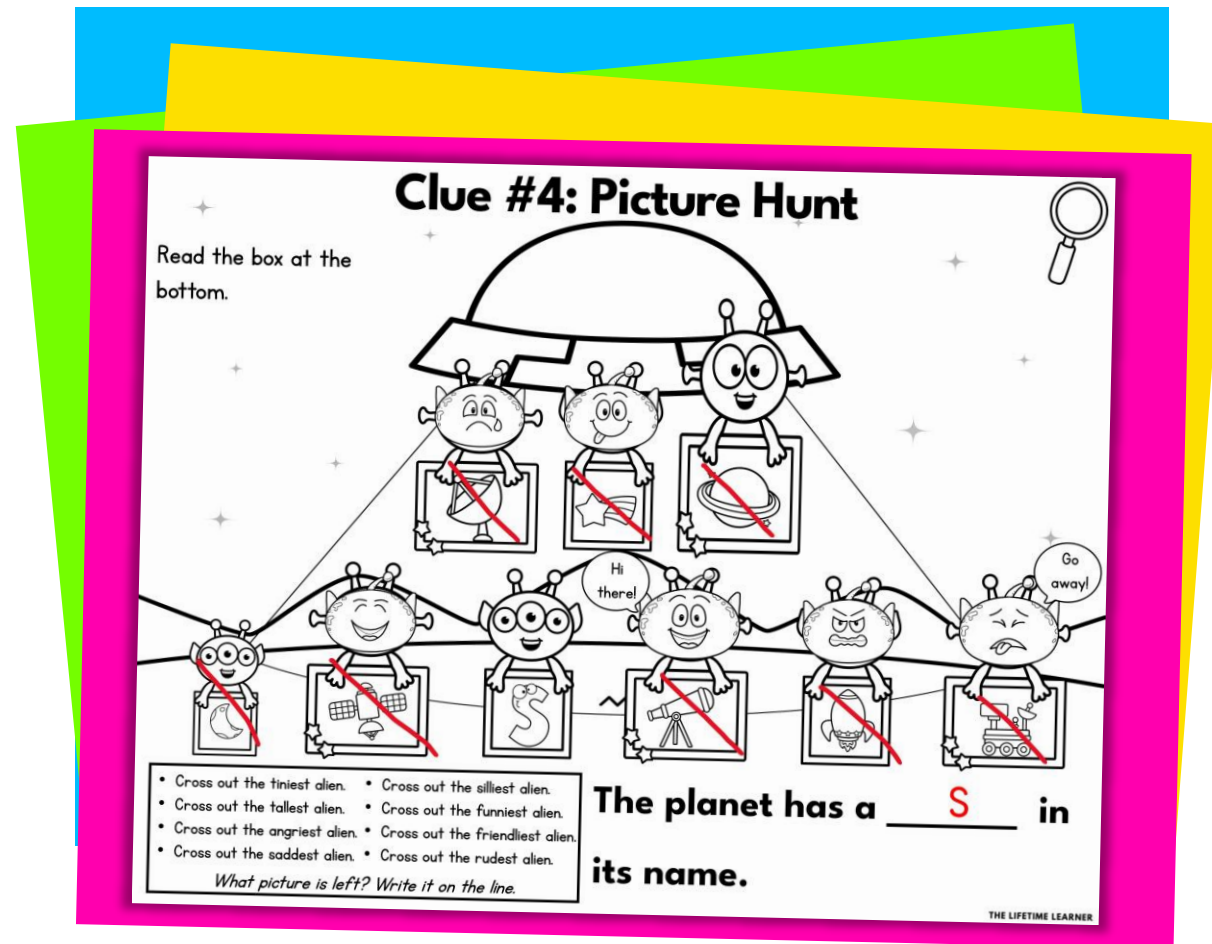
FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



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



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!
Circle the boxes that are true.
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Error Analysis
Who has the most correct statements? Put a check or an X next to each answer.
Read the hint from the person with the most correct answers.

Clue #3: The Solar System
Read the bottom.

Clue #4: Picture Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

Clue #5: Color the Comets
These are all true fun facts! Tell which word would fit in each blank. Then, color in the comets.

Saturn's rings are <u>wider</u> than Jupiter's rings.	The Moon is <u>dimmer</u> than the Sun.	Venus is the <u>cloudiest</u> planet.	Mars has the <u>tallest</u> volcano in the Solar System.	The Sun is <u>older</u> than Earth.	Neptune has <u>stronger</u> winds than any other planet.
• wide - color it red • wider - color it green • widest - color it yellow	• dimmer - color it red • dim - color it yellow • dimmest - color it blue	• cloudier - color it green • cloudiest - color it yellow • cloudly - color it blue	• taller - color it red • tallest - color it yellow • tall - color it blue	• old - color it red • oldest - color it green • older - color it yellow	• strongest - color it green • strong - color it yellow • stronger - color it blue

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

• 3 red comets • 1 blue comet • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet The astronaut is at a place with 27 moons.	• 2 red comets • 2 blue comets • 1 green comet • 1 yellow comet The astronaut is at a place with 0 moons.	• 1 red comet • 1 blue comet • 2 green comets • 2 yellow comets The astronaut is at a place with rings.	• 1 red comet • 1 blue comet • 1 green comet • 3 yellow comets The astronaut is on a small planet.
---	---	---	--

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay
You solved the mystery!

11/2 Date
SW Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...
an earth

1 2 3
4 5 6 Color It!

LET'S DRAW...
a UFO

1 2 3
4 5 6

Where Did the Astronaut Go?
Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

I have 0 moons. Mercury	I have 0 moons. Venus	I have 1 moon. Earth	I have 2 moons. Mars
I have 79 moons. Jupiter	I have 82 moons. Saturn	I have 27 moons. Uranus	I have 14 moons. Neptune

Name: _____

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Astronaut

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

Math

Clue #1: Find It!

Circle the boxes that are true.

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

 The first dog dug the deepest hole.	 The boy laying down is the sickest of the three kids.	 The floor lamp is taller than the table lamp.
 The second man is richer than the first man.	 The scissors are sharper than the pencil.	 The saddest kid is not crying right now.
 The girl with the microphone is the loudest.	 The second cake is fancier than the first cake.	 The slippery floor is wetter than the sponge.

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong planets off your list.

not a place with more than 50 moons

Clue #1: Picture Decoder

























Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match.

Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

12	35	16	14	4	18	9	21	8
6+6+6	4+4+4	7+7+7	6+6	1+1+1	5+5+5+5	2+2+2+2	1+1+1+1	3+3+3

The astronaut is not on...

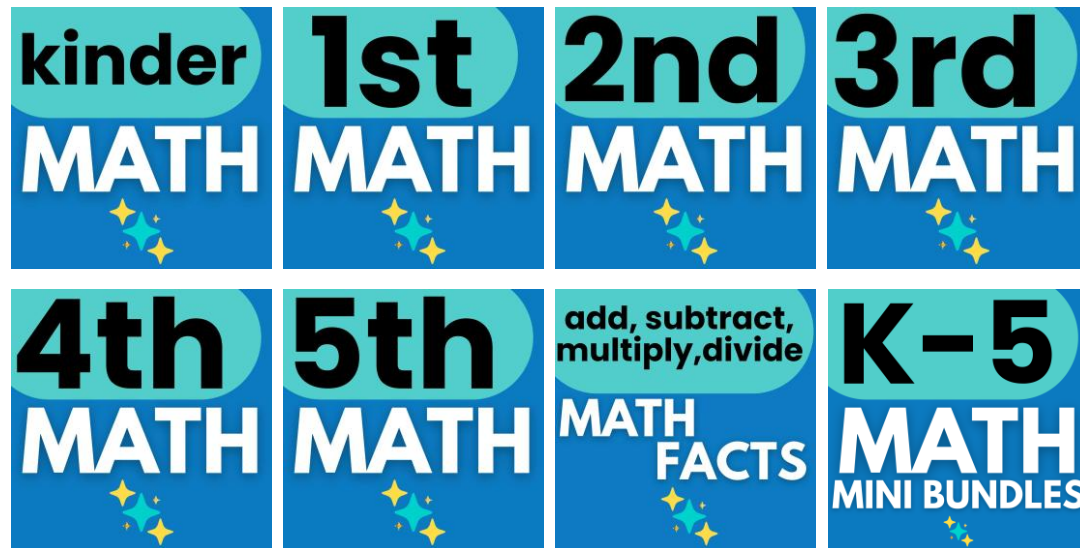
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

A = 	G = 	M = 	S = 	Y = 
B = 	H = 	N = 	T = 	Z = 
C = 	I = 	O = 	U = 	V = 
D = 	J = 	P = 	W = 	X = 
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!**

