

WHAT IS THIS?



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

Clue #2: Color the Mushrooms
Answer each question. Color in each mushroom. Then, read the bottom.

mat	bit	peg	dot	rag	cub
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Clue 3: Fill in the Blank

shop	wings	fly	fairy	ship	took
dragon	the	wand	horn	thief	fire

Clue #4: Count Them
Color in all of the words ending in -g.

Clue #5: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> web	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fox	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cob	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cab

The suspect with the most correct answers is the thief!

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Wand

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

The Suspect List

Read what the suspects had to say about where they were when the magic wand went missing.

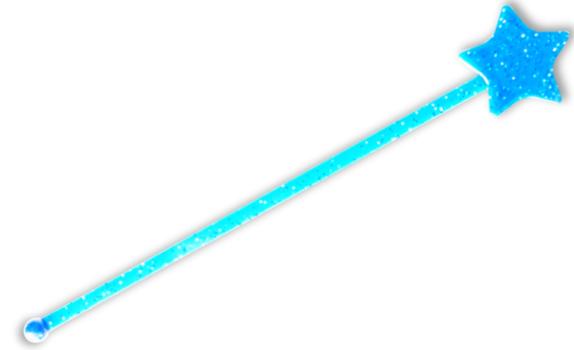
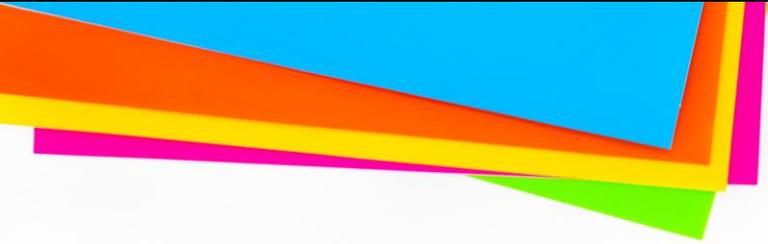
 I was flying in the forest. Dragon	 I was flying in the garden. Fairy	 I was at my house. Gnome	 I was in the forest. Unicorn
 I was at the shop. Wizard	 I was in the garden. Monster	 I was at my house. Witch	 I was at the shop. Troll

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Students complete a series of clues to figure out who took the missing wand!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

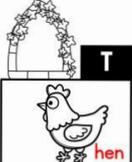
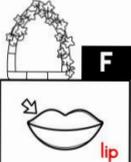
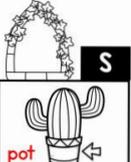
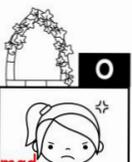
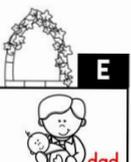
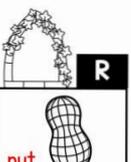
Uh oh! Your new magic wand went missing and you don't know who took it! It's up to you to find out where your wand might be.

Solve each clue to figure out the mystery. Every time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where the treasure is! Good luck!



Clue #1: Descrambler

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

 T	 F	 S
 O	 E	 R

The thief was not in the:

F **O** **R** **E** **S** **T**
lip mad nut dad pot hen

The Suspect List

Read what the suspects had to say about where they were when the magic wand went missing.

 Dragon I was flying in the forest.	 Fairy I was flying in the garden.	 Gnome I was at my house.	 Unicorn I was in the forest.
 Wizard I was at the shop.	 Monster I was in the garden.	 Witch I was at my house.	 Troll I was at the shop.

Name: _____

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal which suspect to cross out.

When all clues are completed, the mystery of the magic wand will be solved!

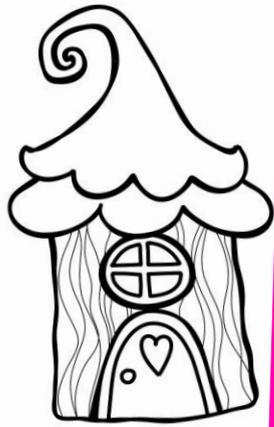
SKILL PRACTICE

CVC Word Review!

- Short A
- Short E
- Short I
- Short O
- Short U
- Rhyming Words / Word Families
- Onset and Rime
- Blending Sounds

Clue #1: Descrambler

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



F O
lip ma

Clue 3: Fill in the Blank

wings	fly	fairy	ship	took
the	wand	thief	fire	has
feet	has			

write the word in each box.

Word:

cat has

fox no

hug wings

each row to figure out the clue.

Clue #2: Color the Mushrooms

Answer each question. Color in each mushroom. Then, read the bottom.

mat	bit	peg	dot	rag	cub
- color it red					
- color it green					
- color it yellow					
- color it blue					



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

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 red mushrooms• 1 blue mushroom• 1 green mushroom• 2 yellow mushrooms <p>The thief does not have a wand in their hand.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 red mushroom• 2 blue mushrooms• 2 green mushrooms• 1 yellow mushroom <p>The thief does not have any horns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 red mushrooms• 1 blue mushroom• 2 green mushrooms• 1 yellow mushroom <p>The thief is animal with a long tail.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 red mushroom• 2 blue mushrooms• 1 green mushroom• 2 yellow mushrooms <p>The thief has a hat on their head.</p>
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All clues focus on reviewing CVC words!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

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

Clue #2: Color the Mushrooms
Answer each question. Color in each mushroom. Then, read the bottom.

Clue 3: Fill in the Blank
shop wings fly fairy ship took
dragon the wand horn thief fire
the has
Read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

3 Clue Version

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

Clue #2: Color the Mushrooms
Answer each question. Color in each mushroom. Then, read the bottom.

Clue 3: Fill in the Blank
shop wings fly fairy ship took

Clue #4: Count Them
Color in all of the words.

Clue #5: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

The suspect with the most correct answers is the thief!

5 Clue Version

Clue #2: Color the Mushrooms
Answer each question. Color in each mushroom. Then, read the bottom.

mat	bit	peg	dot	rag	cub
- color it red					
- color it green					
- color it yellow					
- color it blue					

What color mushrooms do you see? Find the key that matches.

- 2 red mushrooms
- 1 blue mushroom
- 1 green mushroom
- 2 yellow mushrooms

The thief does not have a wand in their hand.

Clue #2: Color the Mushrooms
Answer each question. Color in each mushroom. Then, read the bottom.

mat	bit	peg	dot	rag	cub
- color it red					
- color it green					
- color it yellow					
- color it blue					

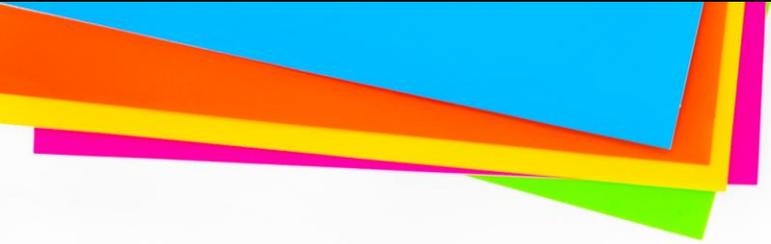
What color mushrooms do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

- 2 red mushrooms
- 1 blue mushroom
- 1 green mushroom
- 2 yellow mushrooms

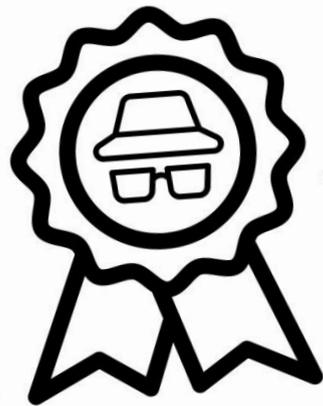
The thief does not have a wand in their hand.

Short & Long Options

FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:



Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

11/2

Date

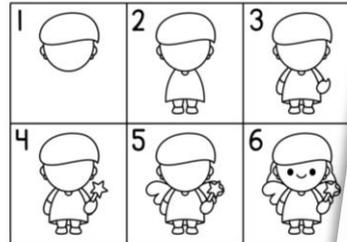
AW

Presented by:

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

a fairy



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

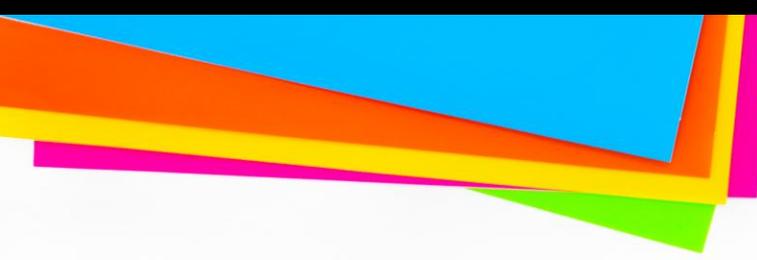
a frog prince



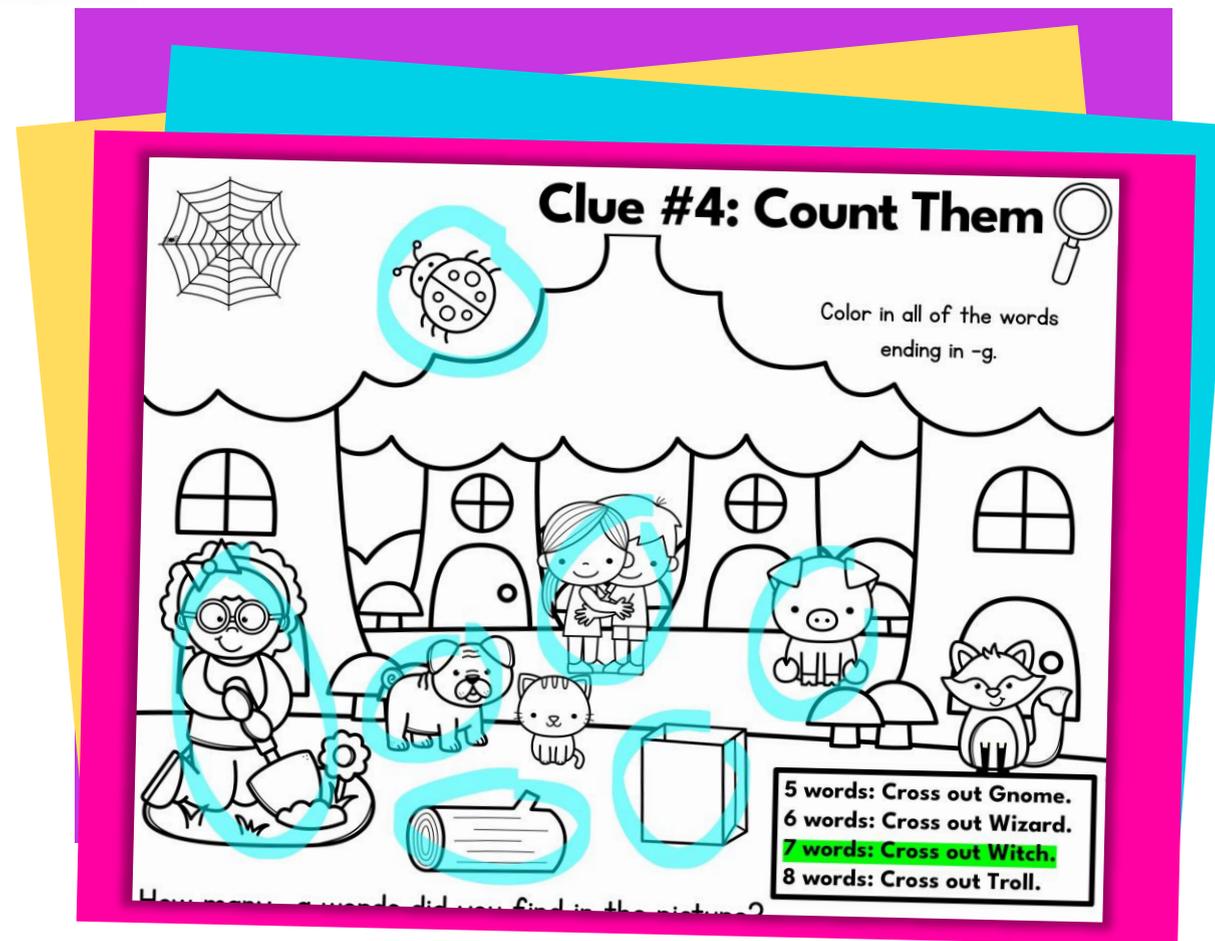
THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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



In K-1, this works well as a whole group lesson or in small groups at the teacher table.

Students 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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Clue #3: Fill in the Blank

shop wings fly fairy ship took

Clue #4: Count Them
Color in all of the words ending in -a.

Clue #5: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

lid	pin	tan
web	fox	lap
mad	pet	hum
cob	hid	cab

The suspect with the most correct answers is the thief!

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

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

LET'S DRAW...
a fairy

1 2 3
4 5 6

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a frog prince

1 2 3
4 5 6 Color It!

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

The Suspect List
Read what the suspects had to say about where they were when the magic wand went missing.

I was flying in the forest. Dragon	I was flying in the garden. Fairy	I was at my house. Gnome	I was in the forest. Unicorn
I was at the shop. Wizard	I was in the garden. Monster	I was at my house. Witch	I was at the shop. Troll

Name: _____

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Wand

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

WHAT MAKES READING MYSTERIES UNIQUE?

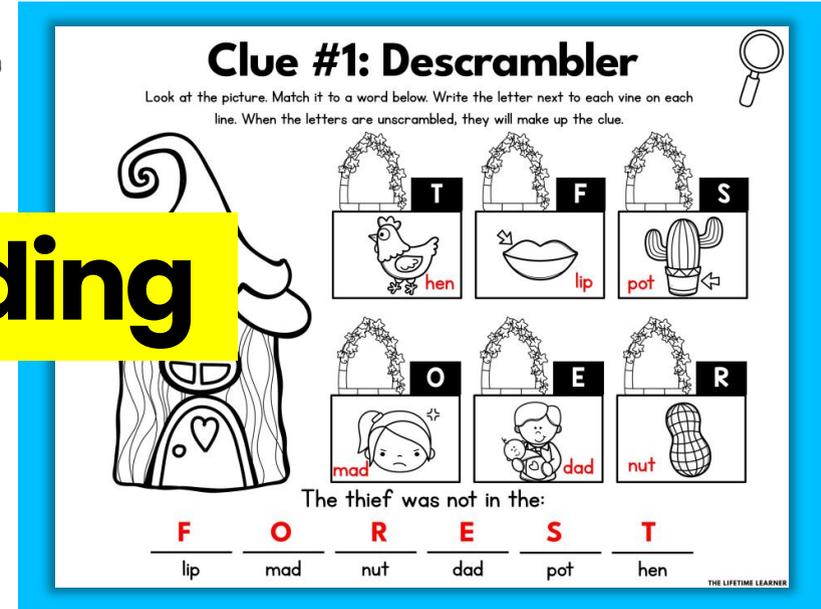
Reading Mysteries aren't just a copy of Math Mysteries!

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!

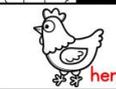
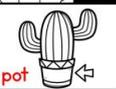
So, if you have both, students can play during math and then again during reading for double the fun.

Reading



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

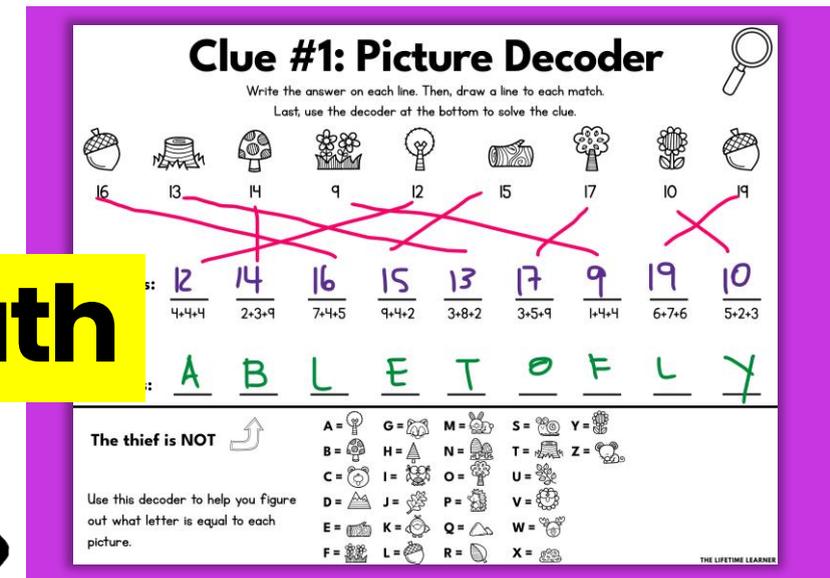
  

The thief was not in the:

F O R E S T
lip mad nut dad pot hen

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.

16 13 14 9 12 15 17 10 19

12 14 16 15 13 17 9 19 10
4+4+4 2+3+9 7+4+5 9+4+2 3+8+2 3+5+9 1+4+4 6+7+6 5+2+3

A B L E T O F L Y

The thief is NOT 

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!**

