

# 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

**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  
SILVER BRIDGE  
GOLDEN FIELDS  
RAINBOW RIVER

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

The right place has **G O L D I N I T S** name.  
tub fug cut pup gum fun rug mug nut

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.

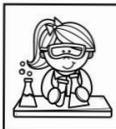
1. Take a map and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where the gold is.
3. Cross out wrong locations each time you find out new information. Good luck!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## Clue #1: Color the Kids

Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> leg - color it red<br><input type="checkbox"/> lab - color it green<br><input type="checkbox"/> lip - color it yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> log - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> sun - color it red<br><input type="checkbox"/> sip - color it green<br><input type="checkbox"/> sap - color it yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> sat - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> web - color it red<br><input type="checkbox"/> wig - color it green<br><input type="checkbox"/> win - color it yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> wax - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> cab - color it red<br><input type="checkbox"/> cab - color it green<br><input type="checkbox"/> cub - color it yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> cat - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> ham - color it red<br><input type="checkbox"/> jam - color it green<br><input type="checkbox"/> ram - color it yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> dam - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> rat - color it red<br><input type="checkbox"/> hat - color it green<br><input type="checkbox"/> bat - color it yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> cat - color it blue |



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

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 red kid</li> <li>• 1 blue kid</li> <li>• 2 green kids</li> <li>• 2 yellow kids</li> </ul> <p>The gold is not in a place filled with trees.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 red kids</li> <li>• 2 blue kids</li> <li>• 1 green kid</li> <li>• 1 yellow kid</li> </ul> <p>The gold is not in a place with water.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 red kids</li> <li>• 1 blue kid</li> <li>• 2 green kids</li> <li>• 1 yellow kid</li> </ul> <p>The gold is not where it's hard to climb.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 red kid</li> <li>• 2 blue kids</li> <li>• 1 green kid</li> <li>• 2 yellow kids</li> </ul> <p>The gold is not in a place like a hotel.</p> |
|---|--|---|--|

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## Where is the Gold?

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



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

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

## CVC Word Review!

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

**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.

|                                 |                                |                             |                               |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <del>look</del><br>hen<br>bet   | <b>the</b><br>hen<br>pen       | <del>go</del><br>web<br>den | <b>gold</b><br>leg<br>beg     |
| <b>is</b><br>pet<br>wet         | <b>not</b><br>red<br>bed       | <b>where</b><br>vet<br>met  | <del>rain</del><br>get<br>ten |
| <del>bridge</del><br>pen<br>gem | <del>trees</del><br>wet<br>yes | <b>people</b><br>men<br>pen | <b>live</b><br>jet<br>set     |

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

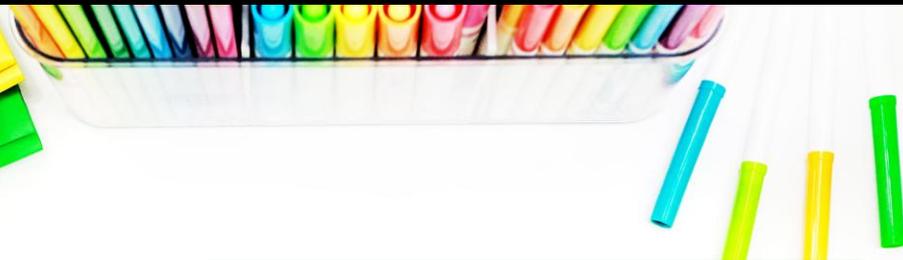
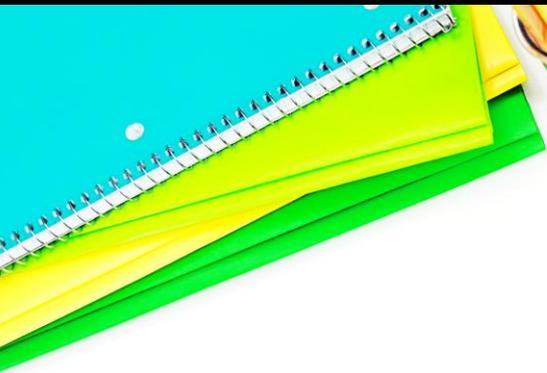
**THE GOLD IS NOT WHERE PEOPLE LIVE**

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

bit  
six  
zip  
rainbow  
not in a  
ow  
area.

**All clues focus on reviewing CVC words!**

# MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

**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.

**3 Clue Version**

Cross out the following words:

The gold is not in a **rainbow** area.

What word is left? Write the word on the line.

**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.

**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.

**5 Clue Version**

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

tub tug out pup gum fun rug mug nut

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

Cross out the following words:

The gold is not in a **rainbow** area.

What word is left? Write the word on the line.

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

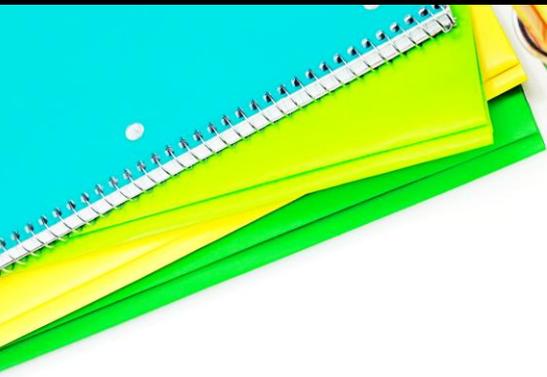
Cross out the following words:

The gold is not in a **rainbow** area.

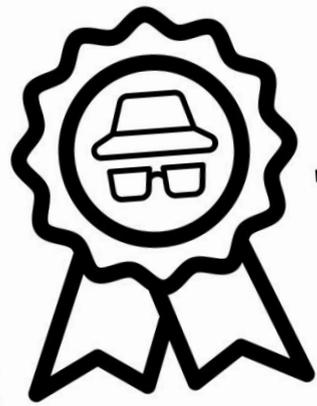
What word is left? Write the word on the line.

Short & Long Options

# FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:



Lindsay

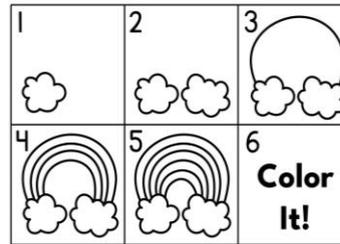
You solved the mystery!

11/2  
Date

AW  
Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...

a rainbow



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

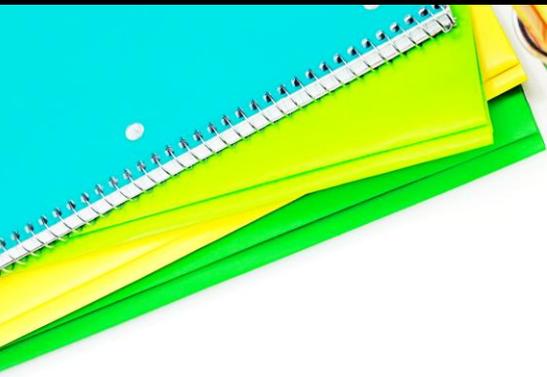
a top hat



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

**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                                     | Picture   | Word | Answer                              |
|--|---|------|-------------------------------------|
| The gold is not in a place with a field. |  | mop  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |  | wig  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |  | pot  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| The gold is not in a place with a river. |  | net  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |  | hot  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |  | mom  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| The gold is not in a place with shade.   |  | fan  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |  | log  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |  | rod  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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!**

**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.

|                                     |      |                                     |     |                                     |    |                                     |      |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | look | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | the | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | go | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | gold |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|------|

**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.

|                                     |   |                                     |   |                                     |   |                                     |   |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | G | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | D | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | T | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | I |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | L | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | I | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | O | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | S |                                     |   |

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

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| tub | tug | cut | pup | gum | fun | rug | rug | nut |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

**Lindsay**

You solved the mystery!

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

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!



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



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

**solve the mystery**



**The Case of the Missing Gold Coins**

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

Example of Clue 1

Math

### Clue #1: Color the Kids

Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> red<br><input type="checkbox"/> green<br><input type="checkbox"/> yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> blue | <input type="checkbox"/> red<br><input type="checkbox"/> green<br><input type="checkbox"/> yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> blue | <input type="checkbox"/> red<br><input type="checkbox"/> green<br><input type="checkbox"/> yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> blue | <input type="checkbox"/> red<br><input type="checkbox"/> green<br><input type="checkbox"/> yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> blue | <input type="checkbox"/> red<br><input type="checkbox"/> green<br><input type="checkbox"/> yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> blue | <input type="checkbox"/> red<br><input type="checkbox"/> green<br><input type="checkbox"/> yellow<br><input type="checkbox"/> blue |

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

|  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 red kid</li><li>1 blue kid</li><li>2 green kids</li><li>2 yellow kids</li></ul> <p>The gold is not in a place filled with trees.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2 red kids</li><li>2 blue kids</li><li>1 green kid</li><li>1 yellow kid</li></ul> <p>The gold is not in a place with water.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2 red kids</li><li>1 blue kid</li><li>2 green kids</li><li>1 yellow kid</li></ul> <p>The gold is not where it's hard to climb.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 red kid</li><li>2 blue kids</li><li>1 green kid</li><li>2 yellow kids</li></ul> <p>The gold is not in a place like a hotel.</p> |
|--|---|--|---|

### 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.

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

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

H O U S E S

The missing gold is not near any...

|     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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!**

