

# WHAT IS THIS?

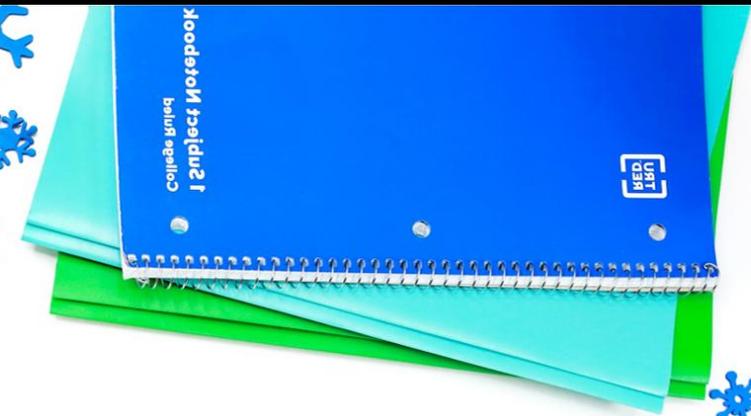
The image features a central stack of five clue cards, each with a different colored border (blue, cyan, purple, cyan, purple). The cards are titled as follows:

- Clue #1: Fill in the Blank** - A grid of words and numbers with some highlighted in yellow.
- Clue #2: Word Hunt** - A cartoon illustration of a snowman with a word search grid overlaid.
- Clue #3: Winter Animals** - A grid of animal illustrations with instructions to circle or cross out based on a hint.
- Clue #4: Error Analysis** - A grid of snowman illustrations with speech bubbles and instructions to check or mark with an X.
- Clue #5: Read It Like a Book** - A grid of words and illustrations with instructions to color and read to solve a clue.

In the center, a large purple-bordered box contains the text "solve the mystery" in a large, bold, black font, with a small snowman illustration below it. Below this box is a black banner with the text "The Case of the Winter Snowman" in white. To the right, a purple-bordered box titled "Which Snowman is Mine?" shows eight snowman illustrations, each with a large purple 'X' over it, except for Snowman #8 which is highlighted in cyan. Below the snowman grid is a line for the student's name.

Students complete a series of clues to figure out which is the mystery snowman!

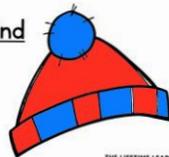
# HOW TO PLAY



## What Happened?

Lots of kids who live in the neighborhood built a snowman for everyone to see. Can you figure out which one I built? Solve the clues to figure out the mystery and reveal which snowman belongs to me!

1. Take a snowman list and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering which snowman is mine.
3. Cross out wrong snowmen each time you find out new information. Good luck!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## Clue #1: Fill in the Blank



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

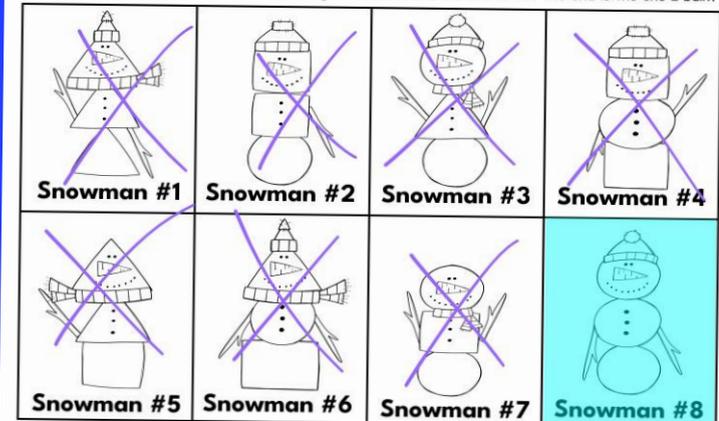
Word:	Word:	Word:
job  The	hat  made	run  two
cut  snowman	bat  does	fox  stick
mat  I	rag  have	pig  arms

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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

## Which Snowman is Mine?

As you solve each clue, cross out the wrong answers. The snowman left at the end is the one I built!



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

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what snowman to cross out.

When all clues are completed, the mystery of the winter snowman 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: Fill in the Blank**

up	does	stick	two	six	four
made	hat	leg	arms	snowman	arms

Read each word below. Find the correct word?

job **The**

cut **snowman**

mat **I**

When you are done, read the words.

**Clue #3: Winter Animals**

If the bunny has more, cross out the top row.  
If the bird has more, cross out the bottom row.

mug

rib

mug

gem

**Clue #2: Word Hunt**

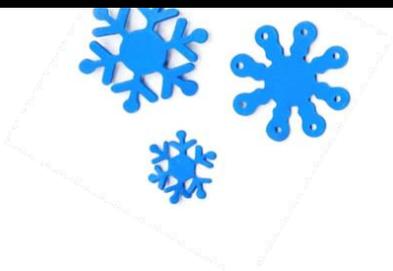
Cross out the following pictures:

<input type="checkbox"/> hot	<input type="checkbox"/> van
<input type="checkbox"/> wet	<input type="checkbox"/> rug
<input type="checkbox"/> pan	<input type="checkbox"/> hat
<input type="checkbox"/> mug	<input type="checkbox"/> pet
<input type="checkbox"/> log	<input type="checkbox"/> zip

The snowman is not made up of all **triangles**.

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

# MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

**Clue #1: Fill in the Blank**  
up does stick two six four

**Clue #2: Word Hunt**

**Clue #3: Winter Animals**  
Which animal has the correct word? Circle it.  
If the bunny has more, cross out the top row.  
If the bird has more, cross out the bottom row.

pot	pat	hug	mug
hen	pen	bib	rib
nap	lap	gum	mug
can	cap	jug	gem

**3 Clue Version**

**Clue #1: Fill in the Blank**  
up does stick two six four

**Clue #2: Word Hunt**

**Clue #3: Winter Animals**  
Which animal has the correct word? Circle it.  
If the bunny has more, cross out the top row.  
If the bird has more, cross out the bottom row.

**Clue #4: Error Analysis**  
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> arm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> snowman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cob	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tug
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> smile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> head	

**Clue #5: Read It Like a Book**  
Color the boxes that are true. Cross out the boxes that are not true.  
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"/> dog	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> wag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> met
---	---	---	---

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong snowman off your list.  
THE SNOWMAN HAS A ROUND HEAD

**5 Clue Version**

**Clue #3: Winter Animals**  
Which animal has the correct word? Circle it.  
If the bunny has more, cross out the top row.  
If the bird has more, cross out the bottom row.

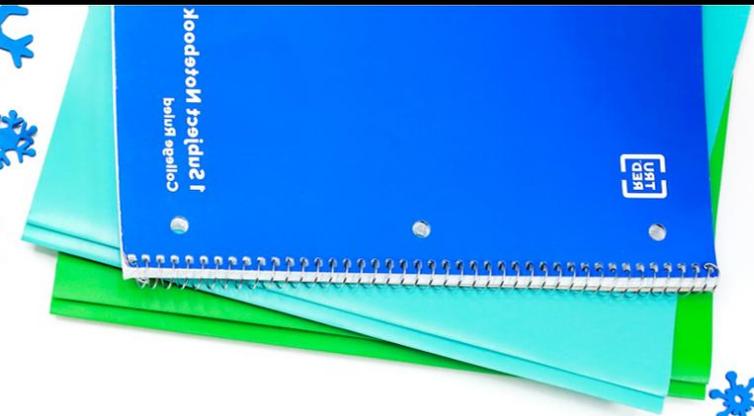
pot	pat	hug	mug
hen	pen	bib	rib
nap	lap	gum	mug
can	cap	jug	gem

**Clue #3: Winter Animals**  
Which animal has the correct word? Circle it.  
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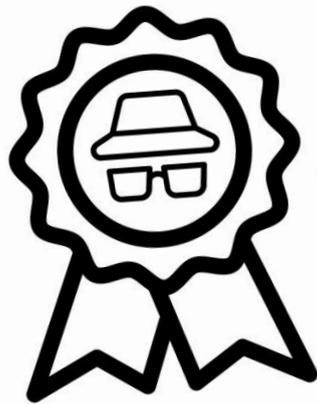
pot	pat	hug	mug
hen	pen	bib	rib
nap	lap	gum	mug
can	cap	jug	gem

Short & Long Options

# FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:



Lindsay

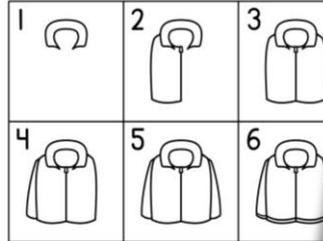
You solved the mystery!

11/2  
Date

AW  
Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...

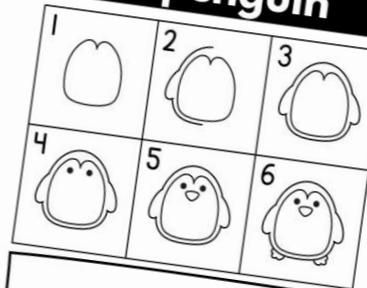
a jacket



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

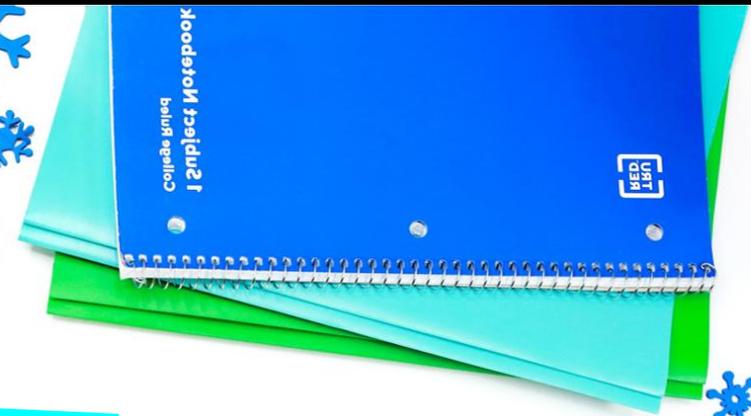
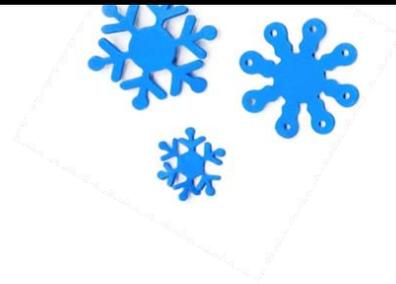
a penguin



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 snowman with the most correct answers. Cross one snowman out.

Clue	Picture	Answers
The snowman has a <u>scarf</u> .		 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bit
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fog
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> rot
The snowman is <u>short</u> .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fin
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> nap
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tan
The snowman is <u>tall</u> .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fun
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bus
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> rip

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: Fill in the Blank**

up does stick two six four

**Clue #2: Word Hunt**

**Clue #3: Winter Animals**

Which animal has the correct word? Circle it.

If the bunny has more, cross out the top row.  
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**Clue #5: Read It Like a Book**

Color the boxes that are true. Cross out the boxes that are not true.  
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> arm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> snowman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cob	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tug
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> stick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> smile
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> dip	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> win	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> six	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scarf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> round	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> big	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> head
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> dog	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> wag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> met

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

THE SNOWMAN HAS A ROUND HEAD

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

**Lindsay**

You solved the mystery!

11/2 Date AW Presented by:

LET'S DRAW... a jacket

1 2 3

4 5 6

LET'S DRAW... a penguin

1 2 3

4 5 6

**Which Snowman is Mine?**

As you solve each clue, cross out the wrong answers. The snowman left at the end is the one I built!

<del>Snowman #1</del>	<del>Snowman #2</del>	<del>Snowman #3</del>	<del>Snowman #4</del>
<del>Snowman #5</del>	<del>Snowman #6</del>	<del>Snowman #7</del>	Snowman #8

Name:

**solve the mystery**

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

The Case of the Winter Snowman

# 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: Fill in the Blank

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

Word:	Word:
hat	run
cut	fox
mat	pig

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

Example of Clue 1

Math

### Clue #1: Descrambler

Solve each question. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

$7 + \_ = 12$ 5	$\_ - 5 = 2$ 7	$\_ + 5 = 18$ 13
$\_ = 9$ C	$4 + \_ = 15$ 11	$\_ - 2 = 6$ 8

Place the correct letter on top of each matching answer.

My snowman's body has at least one:

C	I	R	C	L	E
8	11	7	2	5	13

# 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!**

