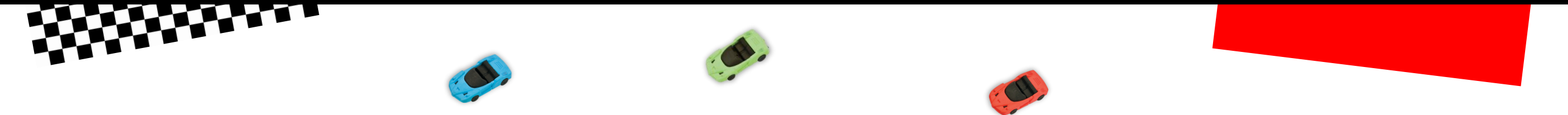


WHAT IS THIS?



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!

Clue #3: Error Analysis
Do the words rhyme? 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 last letter of each word.

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

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

solve the mystery

The Case of the Big Race

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.

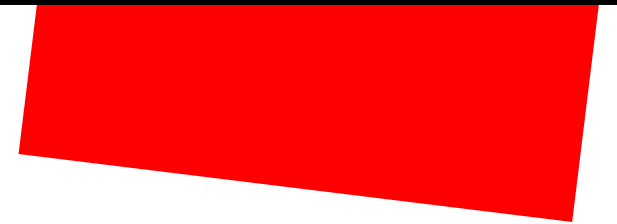
My car is red. My car is green. My car is pink. My car is black.

Leo Jada Eve Nobu

Name: _____

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.

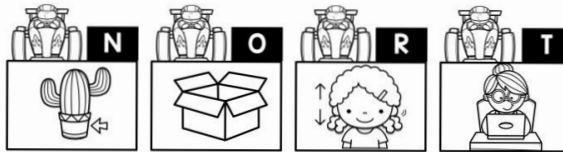
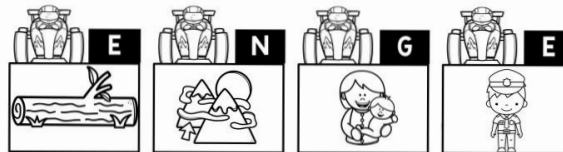
1. Take a list of racers and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering who won the race.
3. Cross out wrong race cars each time you find out new information. Good luck!



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.



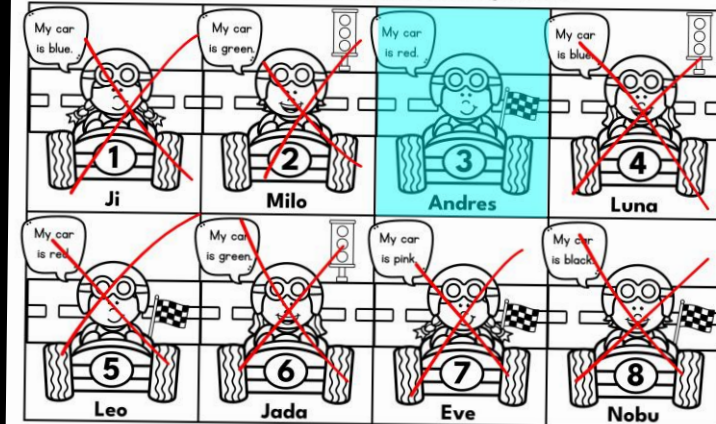
The winner's car is:

N O T G R E E N
fog box job mom nod log cop pot

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

CVC Short O Review:

- Blending Short O Words
- Beginning Sounds
- Onset and Rime
- Sorting CVC Short O Words
- Rhyming Short O Words

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
words rhyme? Put a check or an X next to each answer. the hint from the car with the most correct answers.

The winner's name has more than 3 letters.

dog and fog
dot and hot
log and hog

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

All clues focus on reviewing short O 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 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

Do the words rhyme? Put a check or an X next to each answer. Read the hint from the car with the most correct answers.

3 Clue Version

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

Do the words rhyme? Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Fill in the last letter of each word.

Clue #5: Fill in the Blank

5 Clue Version

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!

-op **-ox** **-ot** **-ob**

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

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!

-op **-ox** **-ot** **-ob**

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

Short & Long Options

CVC OPTION AVAILABLE



Who Won the Race?

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

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

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

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.

 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lid	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fix	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fox
---	---	---

Clue #4: Word Hunt

Fill in the last letter of each word.

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

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

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

The winner was not a **girl**.

Clue #5: Fill in the Blank

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

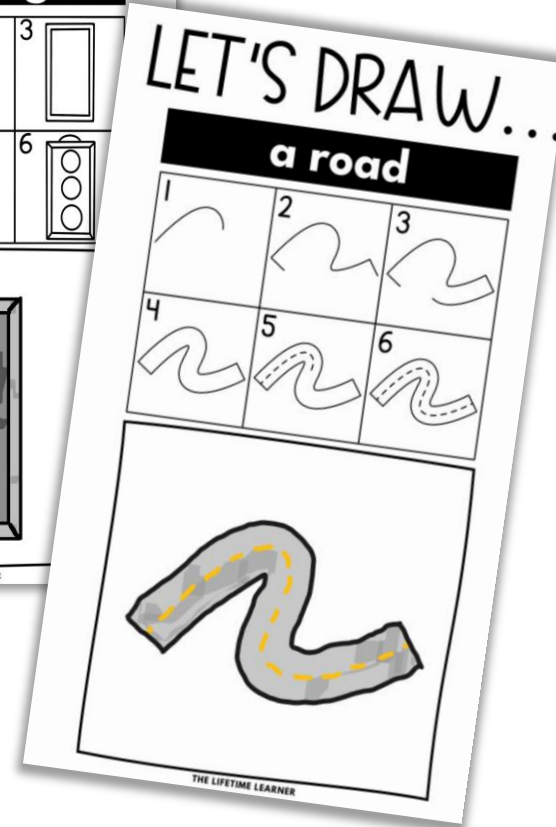
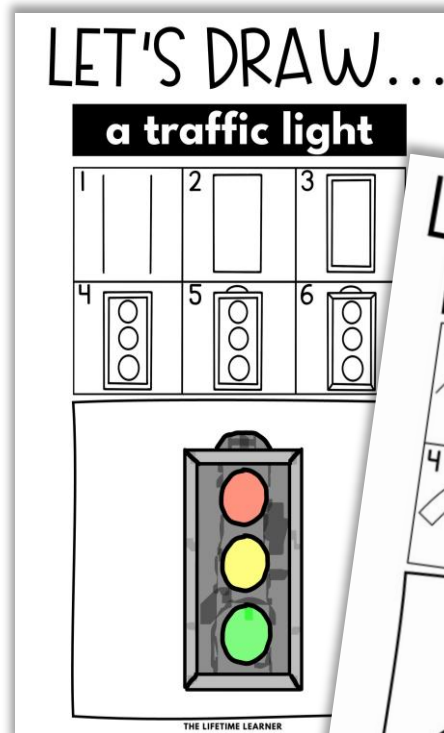
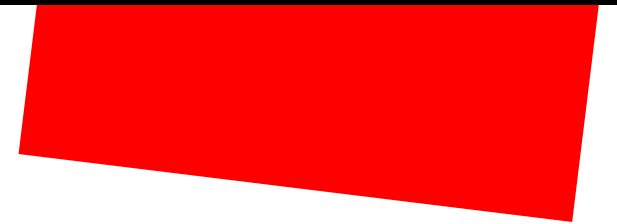
Word: bun	Word: net	Word: kit
Word: jug	Word: wig	Word: mad
Word: rat	Word: nut	Word: pig

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



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
- 2 Versions: Phonics Review OR CVC Words. You can even mix/match clues to combine the 2 skills together.

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

ro b co p bo x

lo g ho p to p mo m mo p

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

• T = boy	• B = red color
• P = girl	• X = black color

The winner was not a girl

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

In K-I, 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: 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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Clue #3: Error Analysis
Do the words rhyme? 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 last letter of each word.

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

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:
Lindsay
You solved the mystery!
11/2
Date
Presented by: SW

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

solve the mystery

The Case of the Big Race

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.

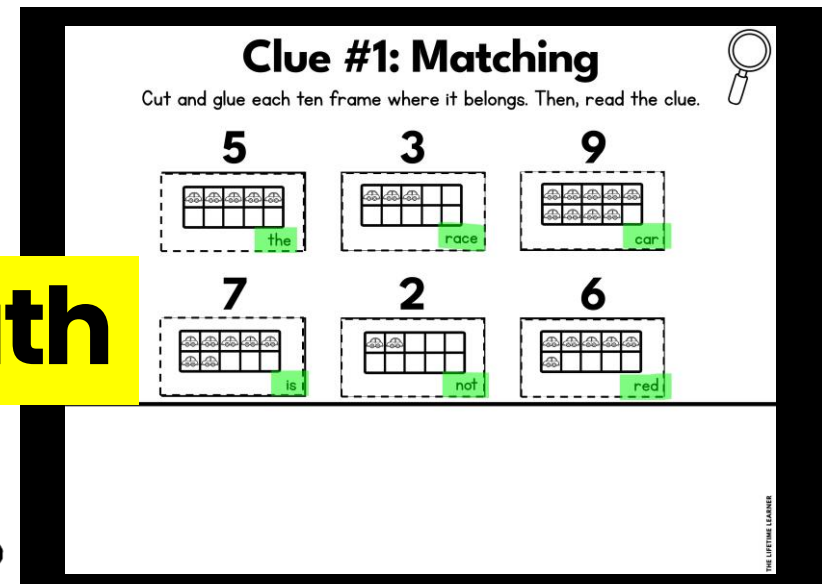
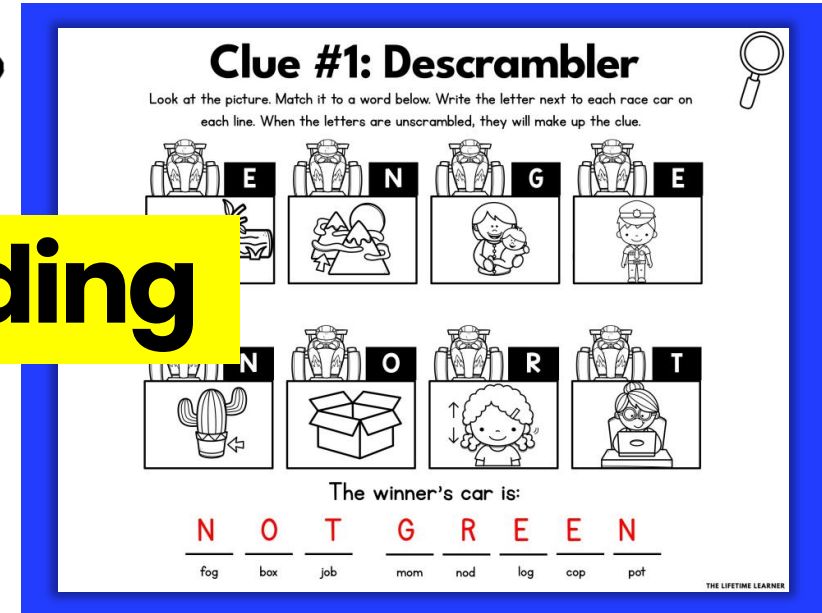
The only thing that stays the same is the list of suspects students start with!

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

Reading

Example
of Clue 1

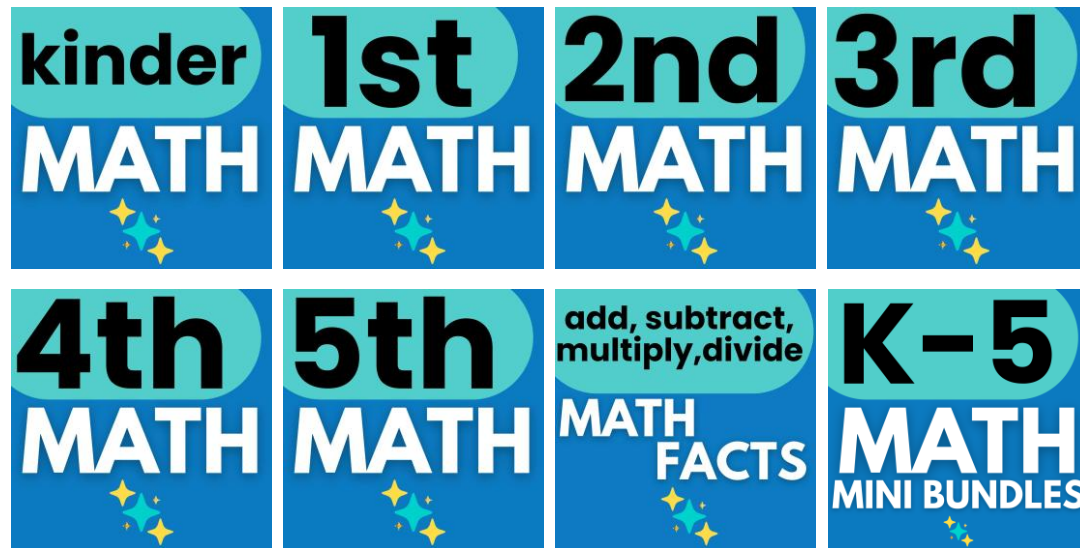
Math



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!**

