

WHAT IS THIS?



Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that start with sh-.
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

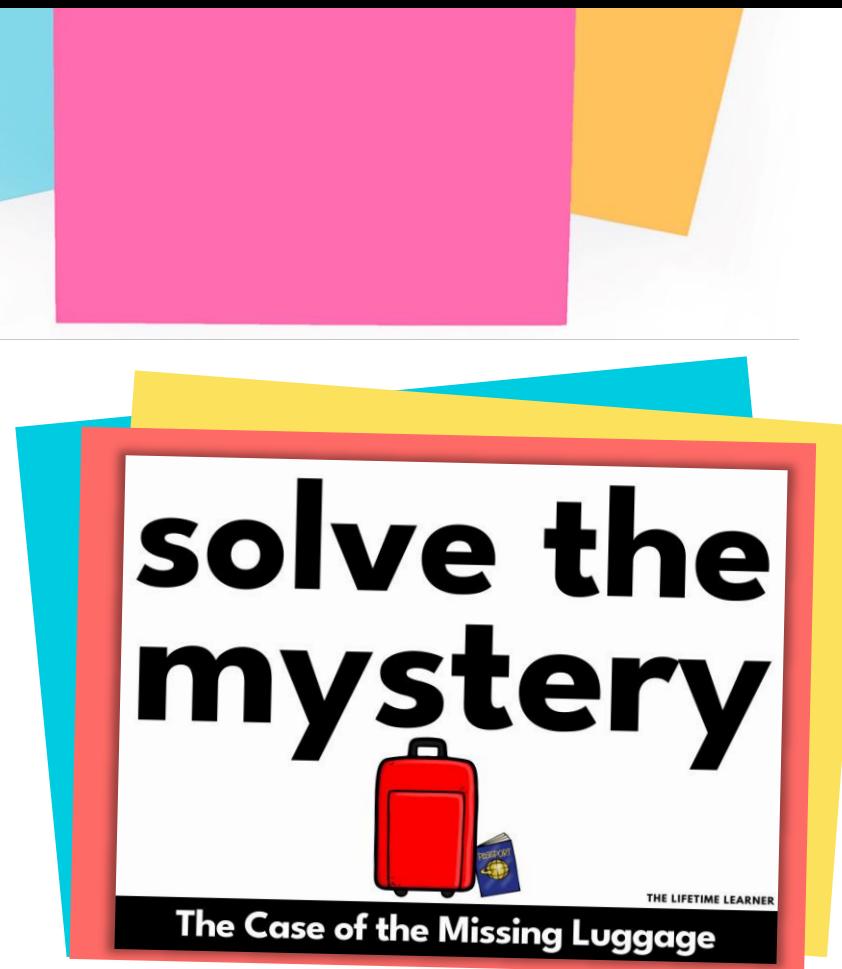
Clue #2: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each passport on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

Clue #3: Sorting Suitcases
Color the suitcases the same color as the plane they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

Clue #4: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

Clue #5: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.
chip shot chick
whisk shat shad
In shed
H shed
1 Correct 2 Correct 3 Correct 4 Correct
Cross out these pictures:
What word is left? Write it on the line.

You left your suitcase so you could go _____.

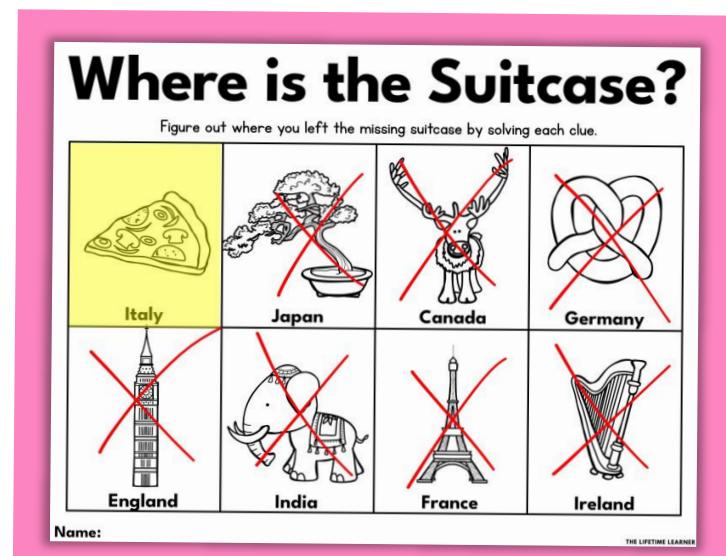


solve the mystery

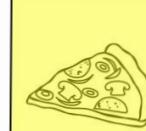
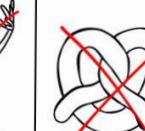


THE LIFETIME LEARNER

The Case of the Missing Luggage



Where is the Suitcase?
Figure out where you left the missing suitcase by solving each clue.

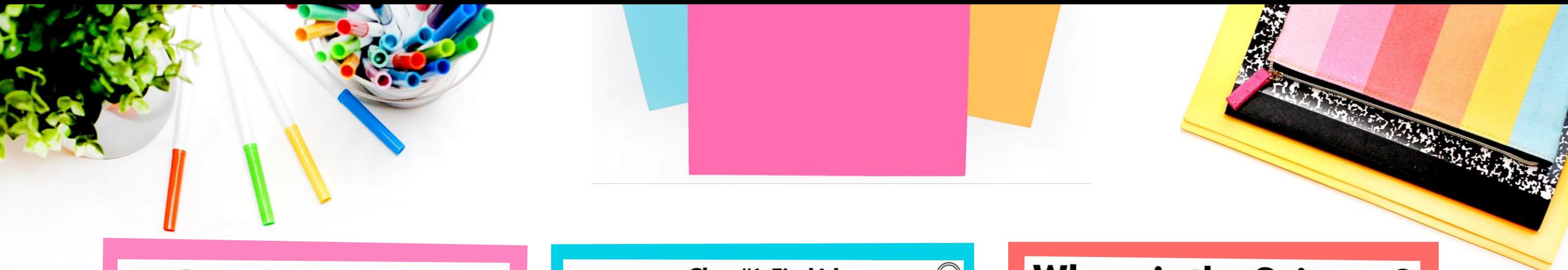
 Italy	 Japan	 Canada	 Germany
 England	 India	 France	 Ireland

Name: _____

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

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

You were so excited to be on vacation that you accidentally left your suitcase somewhere! Now, you have no idea where it is. Solve the clues to figure out which country your suitcase is in.

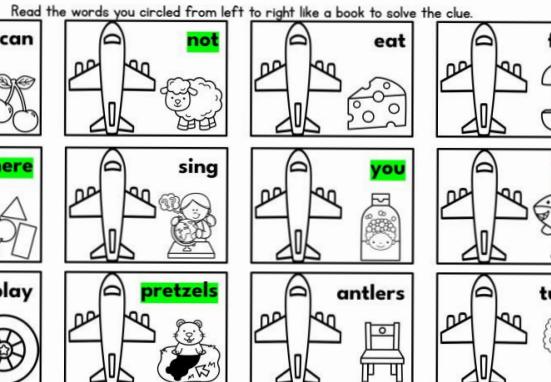
1. Take a list of countries and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where your suitcase is.
3. Cross out wrong countries each time you find out new information. Good luck!



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Clue #1: Find It!

Circle the boxes that start with sh-.



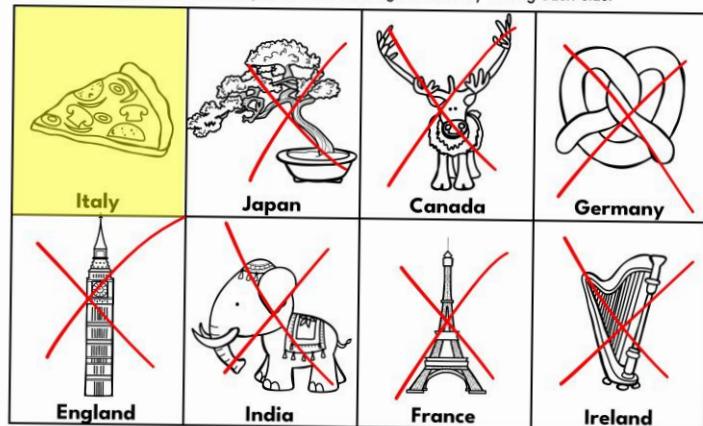
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

not where you eat pretzels



Where is the Suitcase?

Figure out where you left the missing suitcase by solving each clue.



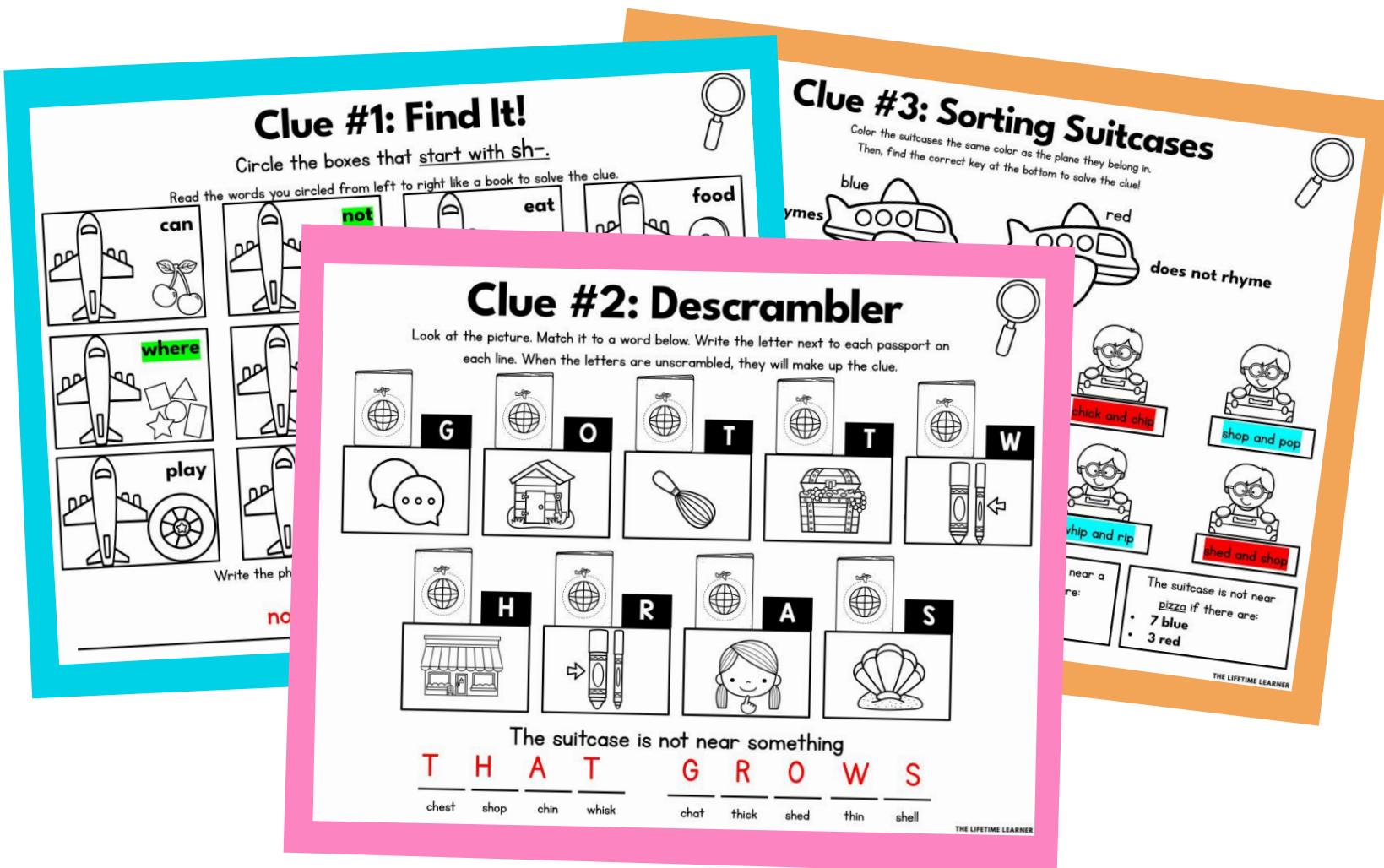
Name:

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

When all clues are completed, the mystery of the missing suitcase be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE

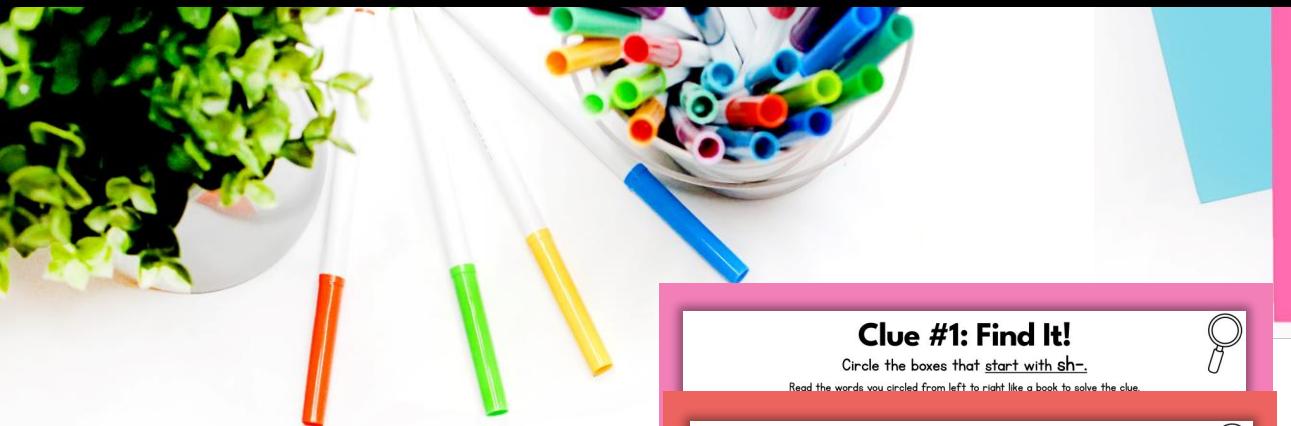


Beginning Digraphs Review:

- CH, SH, WH, TH
- Reading Beginning Digraphs
- Blending Words
- SH Words in Isolation
- Rhyming Beginning Digraphs
- Error Analysis
- Matching Picture to Word

All clues focus on reviewing beginning digraphs!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



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3 Clue Version

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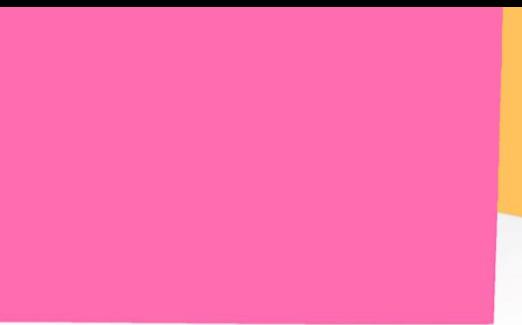
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Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

Clue #5: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.
DEPARTURES →
chip shot shack whisk
chip shot shack chick
chip shot shack ship
chip shot shack eat

5 Clue Version



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #5: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.
DEPARTURES →
shot shack whisk
chip shot shack chick
chip shot shack ship
chip shot shack eat

Cross out these pictures:
What word is left? Write it on the line.
You left your suitcase so you could go eat.

Clue #5: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.
DEPARTURES →
shot shack whisk
chip shot shack chick
chip shot shack ship
chip shot shack eat

Cross out these pictures:
What word is left? Write it on the line.
You left your suitcase so you could go eat.

Short & Long Options

CVC OPTION AVAILABLE



Where is the Suitcase?

Figure out where you left the missing suitcase by solving each clue.

Italy	Japan	Canada	Germany
England	India	France	Ireland

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that have a short I sound.
Read the words you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each passport on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

Clue #3: Sorting Suitcases
Color the suitcases the same color as the plane they belong in. Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

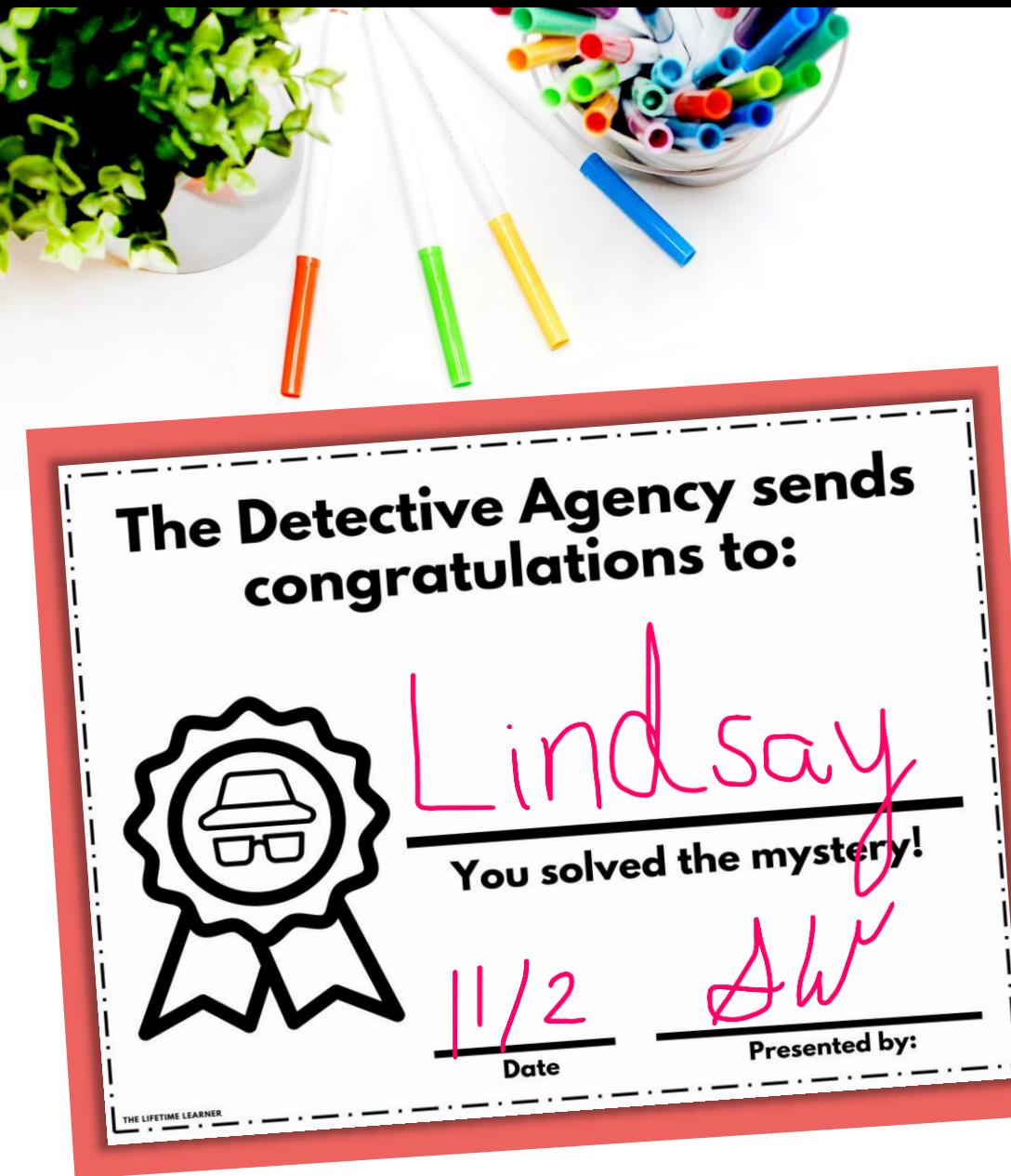
Clue #4: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

Clue #5: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

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: Right or Wrong

Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

	chop		whack		chess
	that		chick		shot
	shin		check		shut

In each box, color a thumbs up or a thumbs down to show if the picture is correct.

How many pictures were correct? The answer will help you know what to keep.

1 Correct = The country starts with letter E.
2 Correct = The country starts with letter M.
3 Correct = The country starts with letter P.
4 Correct = The country starts with letter J.

5 Correct = The country starts with letter I.
6 Correct = The country starts with letter F.
7 Correct = The country starts with letter C.
8 Correct = The country starts with letter G.

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!

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Clue #3: Sorting Suitcases
Color the suitcases the same color as the plane they belong in.
Then, find the correct key at the bottom to solve the clue!

blue red

Clue #4: Right or Wrong
Does the picture match the word? Color the thumb in to show if you agree.

chop whack chess

Clue #5: Word Hunt

Read the box at the bottom.

chip shot whisk chick ship

eat

Cross out these pictures:

What word is left? Write it on the line.
You left your suitcase so you could go eat.

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

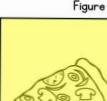
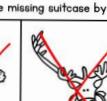
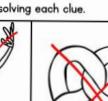
11/2 SW

Date Presented by:

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Where is the Suitcase?

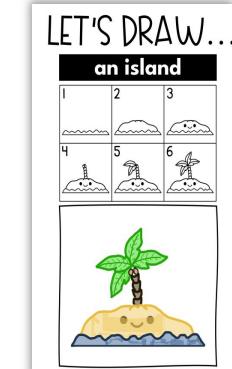
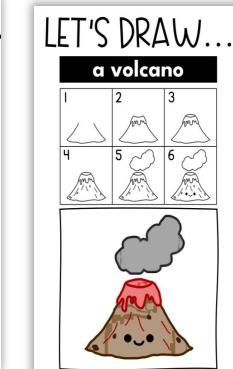
Figure out where you left the missing suitcase by solving each clue.

 Italy	 Japan	 Canada	 Germany
 England	 India	 France	 Ireland

solve the mystery

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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: Find It!
Circle the boxes that start with sh-.

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

can	not	eat	food
sheep	she	she	she
sing	you	eat	3
she	you	eat	she
play	pretzels	antlers	tusks
she	pretzels	she	she

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

not where you eat pretzels

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1 Graph

Count the food. Then, graph it.

10		
9		●
8		●
7	●	●
6	●	●
5	●	●
4	●	●
3	●	●
2	●	●
1	●	●

7 9

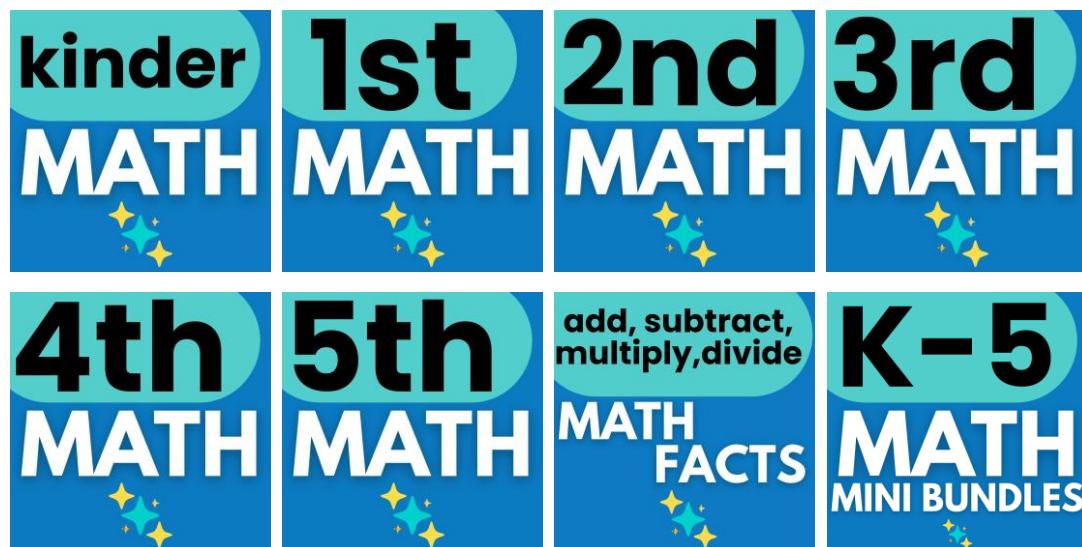
How many pizzas are there?  How many pretzels are there? 

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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!

