FREE PRINTABLE

MINI DETECTIVES

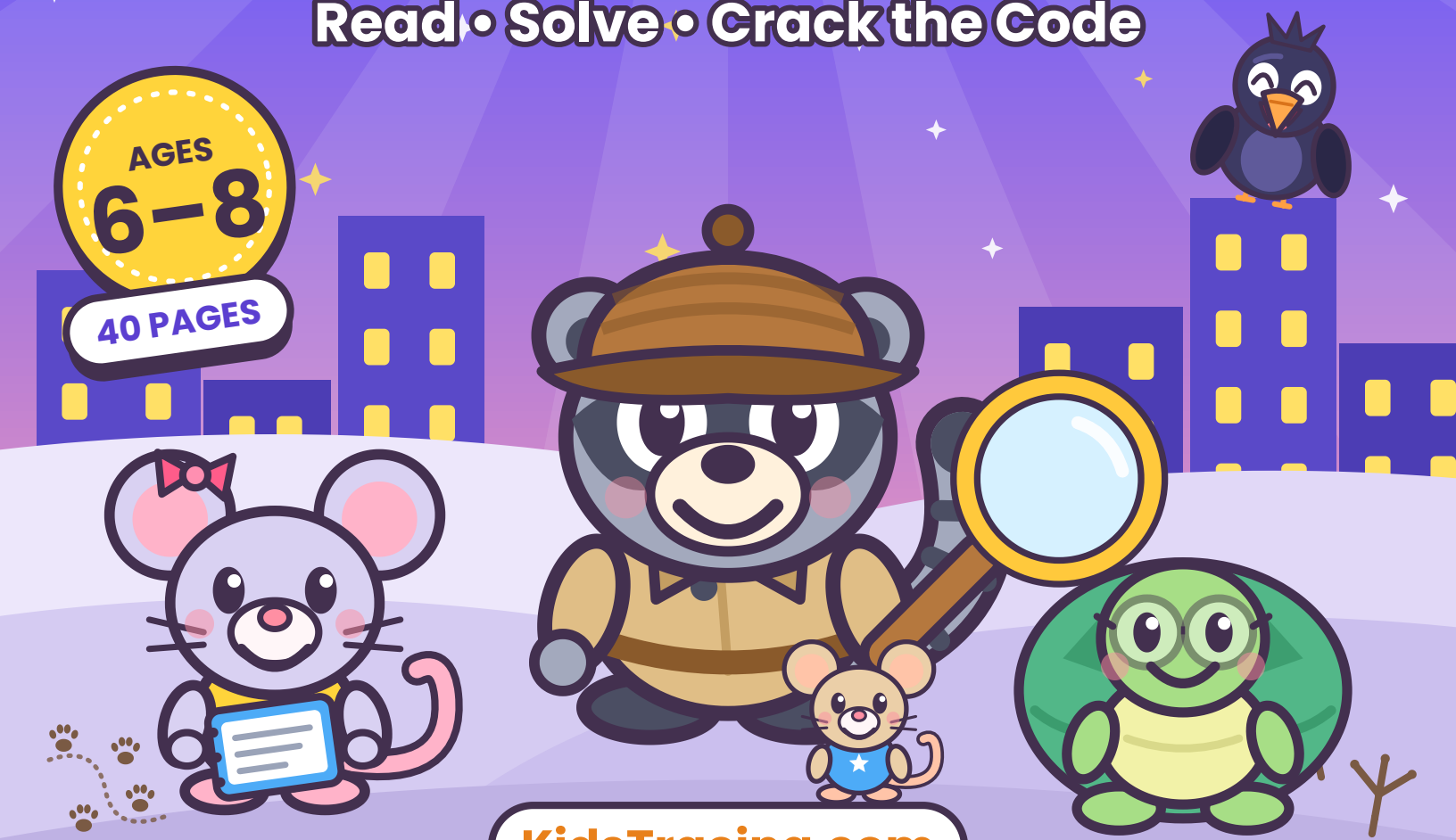
COMIC BOOK

4 Mystery Stories + Puzzles and Codes for Kids

Read • Solve • Crack the Code

AGES 6–8

40 PAGES



KidsTracing.com

This Case File Belongs To

Fill in your detective ID card. Then you are ready for the first case!

DETECTIVE ID CARD

Draw your face!

Name: .....

Age: .....

Date: .....

Code name: .....

My favorite clue: .....



Detective Promise

- I will look closely.
- I will think carefully.
- I will never give up!

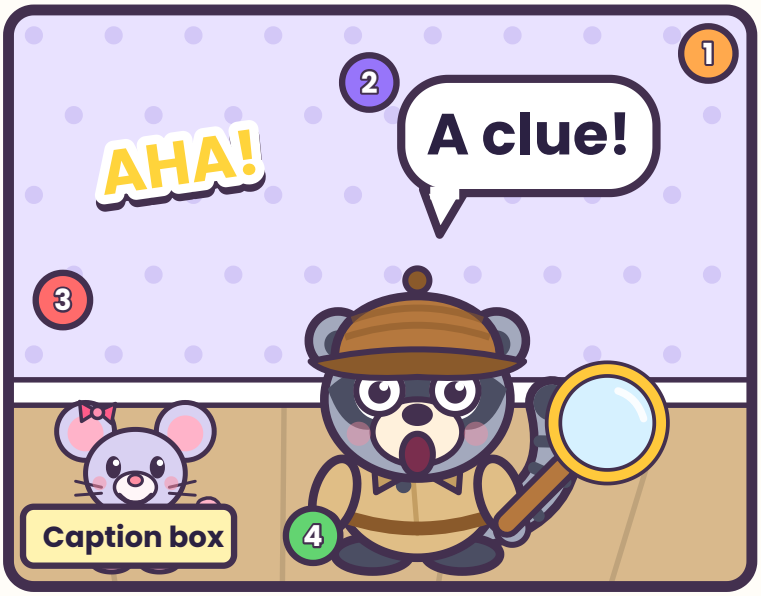
Sign: .....



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

How to Read a Comic

Comics tell stories with pictures. Detectives read them very closely!



1 Panel
A picture box in the story.

2 Speech bubble
Shows what a character says.

3 Sound word
BIG letters. Say it loud!

4 Caption
Tells you where or when.

How a Detective Thinks

1 LOOK
Look at every picture.

2 FIND
Find the clues.

3 THINK
Which clue fits?

4 SOLVE
Solve the mystery!

Tips for Parents and Teachers

- Read the bubbles aloud, then stop at each clue and ask: What do you notice?
- Ask: Who might have done it? How do you know? Let your child explain.

Please Note

This comic is FREE for personal, home and classroom use only. Not for sale or resale.
© KidsTracing.com. More free printables at KidsTracing.com

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Meet the Mini Detectives

Three detectives and four helpers live in Maple Town. Say each name out loud!



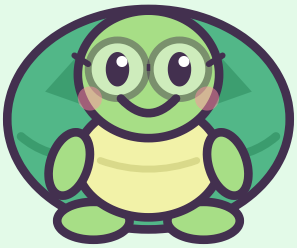
Pip Raccoon

The team leader. Follows every clue with his magnifying glass.



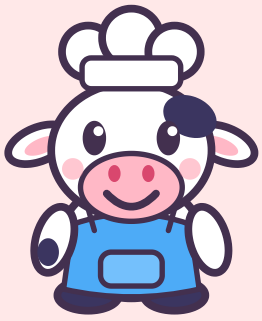
Mia Mouse

Writes every clue in her notebook. She never forgets.



Tilly Turtle

Slow and careful. She never misses a tiny clue.



Mrs. Moo

The baker. Her cookies are the best in town!



Milo

Mia's little brother. He is always hungry.



Kai

A clever crow. He loves anything shiny.



Luna

A curious kitten. She loves to play with yarn.

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Detective Words

Read each word. Trace it, then copy it on the line.



CLUE CLUE

A hint that helps you solve a mystery.

Write it: . . . . . .



CASE CASE

A mystery that detectives work on.

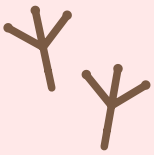
Write it: . . . . . .



SUSPECT SUSPECT

Someone who might have done it.

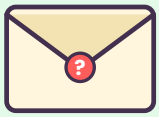
Write it: . . . . . .



EVIDENCE EVIDENCE

Proof you can find, like a footprint.

Write it: . . . . . .



MYSTERY MYSTERY

Something strange that needs an answer.

Write it: . . . . . .

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Detective Tools

Read each job. Draw a line from the tool to the job it does.



Magnifying glass



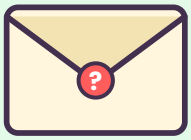
Notebook



Flashlight



Key



Secret letter

Open a locked box or chest.

Look very closely at tiny clues.

Hides a message to be decoded.

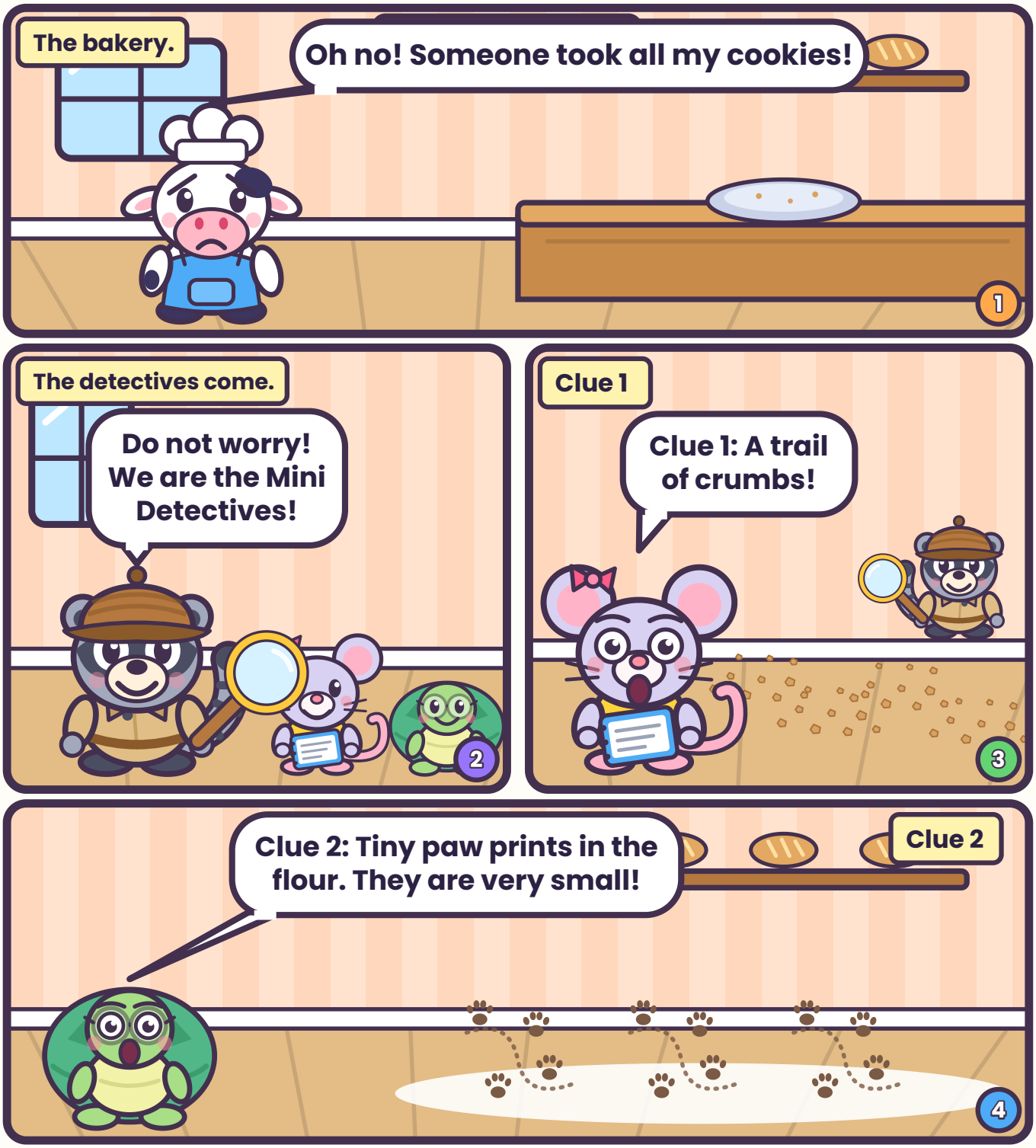
Write down every clue you find.

See in dark places.

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 1: The Missing Cookies

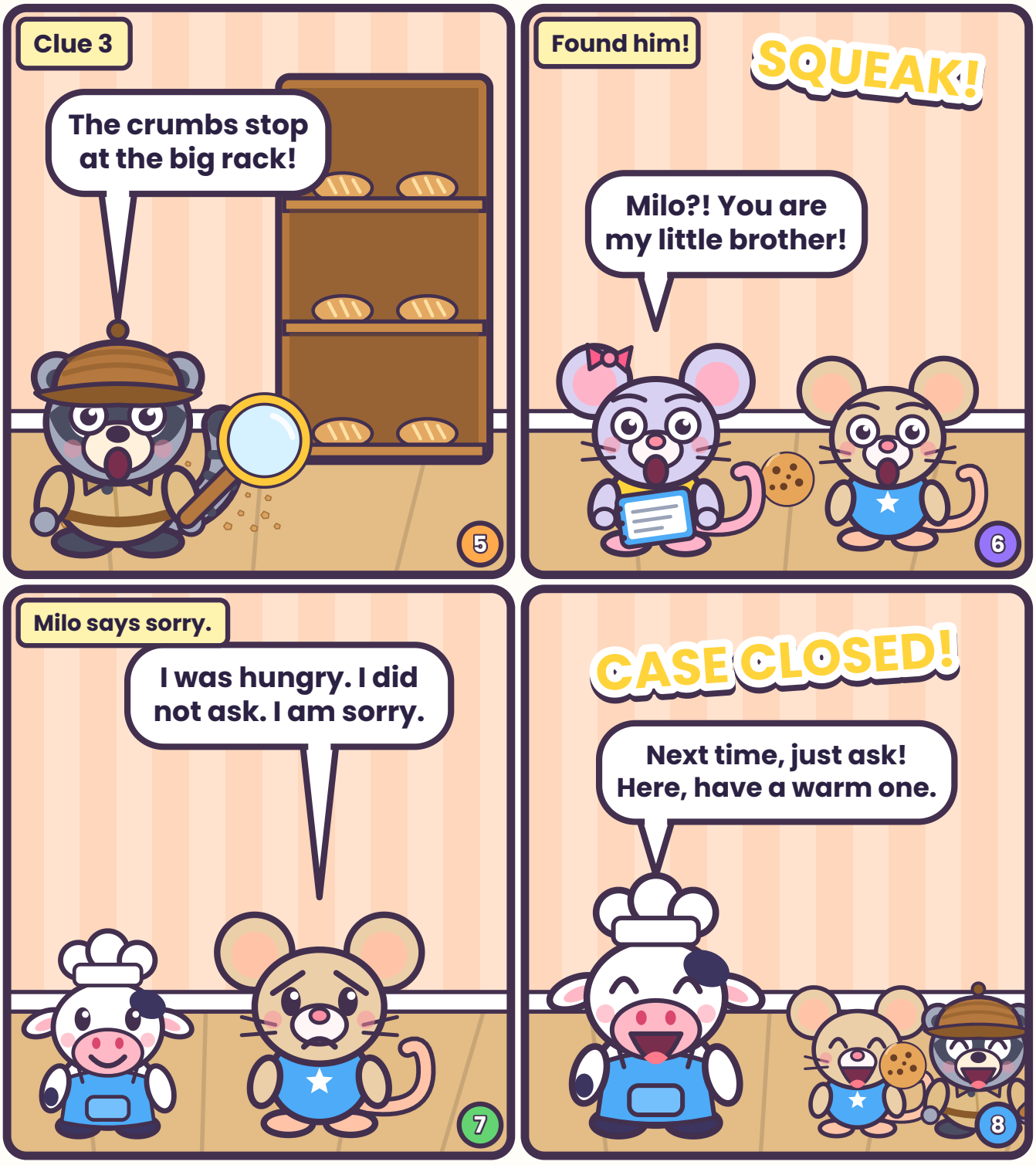
Read the pictures. Look for clues in every panel!



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 1: The Missing Cookies

Keep reading! What happens next?



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 1 Reading Check

Think about The Missing Cookies. Circle the right answer.

1 What did Mrs. Moo lose?

- A Her cakes
- B Her cookies
- C Her bread

2 What was Clue 2?

- A Big boot prints
- B A black feather
- C Tiny paw prints in flour

3 Where did the trail of crumbs stop?

- A At the big rack
- B At the front door
- C At the window

4 Who took the cookies?

- A Pip
- B Milo
- C Tilly

5 What did Mrs. Moo do at the end?

- A She was very angry
- B She closed the bakery
- C She gave Milo a warm cookie

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Whose Footprints Are These?

Look at each set of prints. Draw a line to the animal that made them.



Tiny paw prints



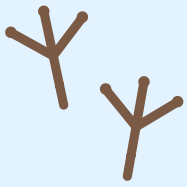
Kai the crow



Soft paw prints



Pip the raccoon



Three long toes



Milo the mouse



Wide flat prints



Tilly the turtle



Hand-like prints



Luna the kitten

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 2: The Shiny Trophy

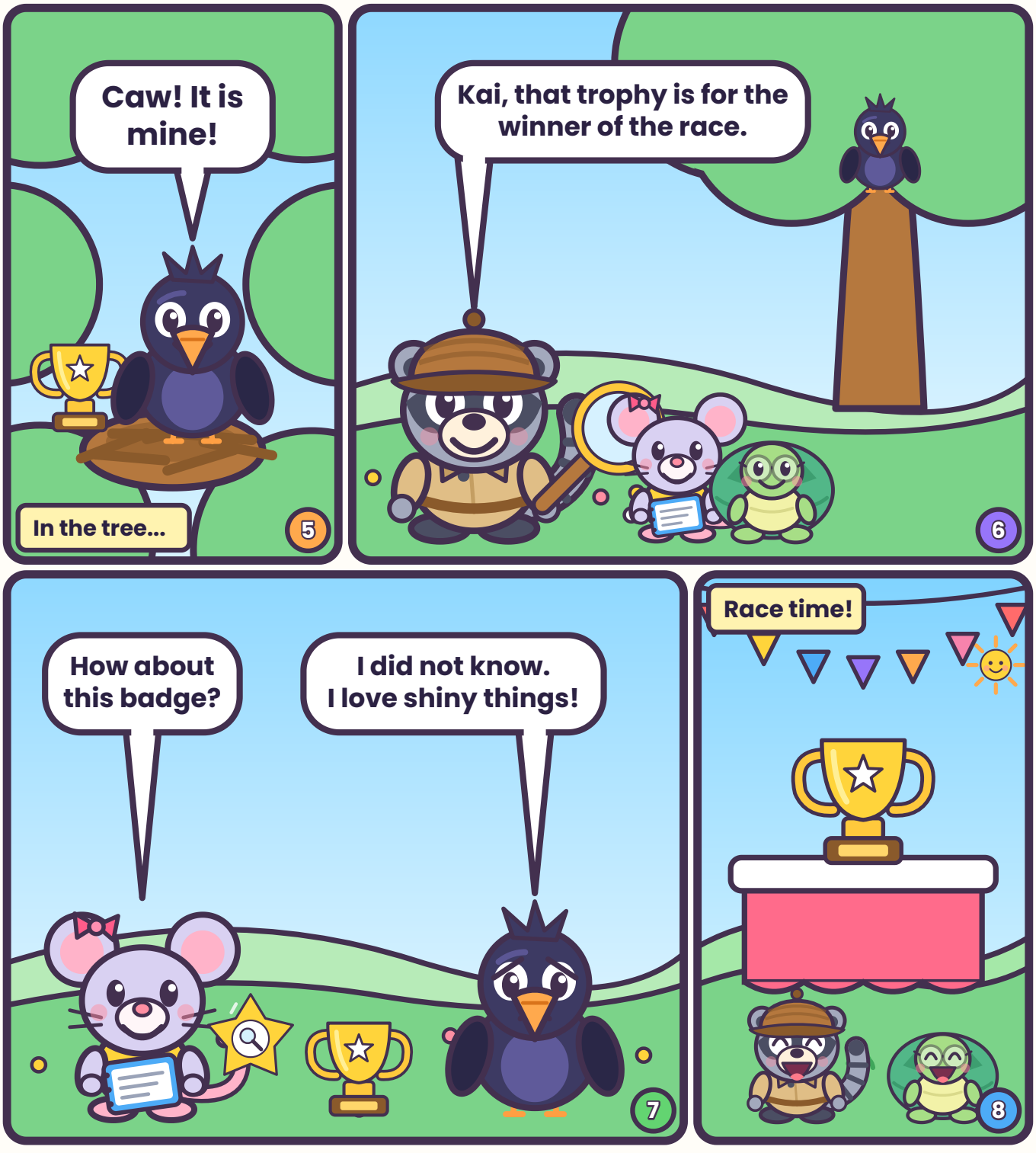
Read the pictures. Look for clues in every panel!



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 2: The Shiny Trophy

Keep reading! What happens next?



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Detective Word Search

Find all 10 words from the stories. Circle each one.

C	O	D	E	B	F	V	Y	E	V	B
T	F	E	A	T	H	E	R	R	U	H
L	B	D	S	T	R	O	P	H	Y	K
L	S	O	W	G	R	G	H	P	O	B
I	D	E	T	E	C	T	I	V	E	A
B	R	K	C	B	H	C	L	U	E	D
R	O	I	P	R	H	W	O	G	R	G
A	G	T	B	B	E	I	I	H	S	E
R	G	T	H	O	I	T	E	L	B	L
Y	U	E	D	U	C	O	O	K	I	E
N	W	N	W	B	R	N	C	O	G	U

Find these words

DETECTIVE
FEATHER
LIBRARY
TROPHY
COOKIE
KITTEN
SECRET
BADGE
CLUE
CODE

Words go across, down, or diagonally downhill (↘).

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Learn the Secret Code

In this code, A is 1, B is 2 and Z is 26. Use the key to write and read secret words!

The Secret Code Key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	**O**	**P**	**Q**	**R**	**S**	**T**	**U**	**V**	**W**	**X**	**Y**	**Z**
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Write the code: letters to numbers

PIP P I P ☐ ☐ ☐

MIA M I A ☐ ☐ ☐

KAI K A I ☐ ☐ ☐

A = 1, B = 2, C = 3 ... use the key above!

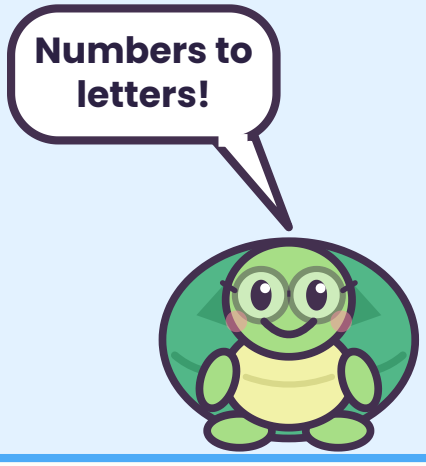


Read the code: numbers to letters

3 12 21 5 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

3 1 19 5 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

13 9 12 15 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 3: The Secret Code

Read the pictures. Look for clues in every panel!



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 3: The Secret Code

Keep reading! What happens next?



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Crack the Code

Each number is a letter. Write the secret words in the boxes.

Puzzle 1: The note from Story 3

4 9 7 2 25 20 8 5 2 9 7

20 18 5 5

Puzzle 2: A message for Mia

13 9 12 15 12 15 22 5 19

3 15 15 11 9 5 19

Puzzle 3: The final secret

23 5 12 12 4 15 14 5

4 5 20 5 3 20 9 22 5



Tip: if you get stuck, go back to the key on page 14.



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Logic Puzzles

Use the clues. Cross out what cannot be true until only one answer is left!

Puzzle A: Who has which tool?



Pip



Mia



Tilly







Clues

1. Pip does not have the notebook.
2. Mia does not have the flashlight.
3. Tilly does not have the notebook or the magnifying glass.

Put an X for no and a check for yes.

Puzzle B: Who sits where?

1. Tilly sits in seat 1.
2. Mia sits right next to Tilly.
3. Pip does not sit in seat 4.

Seat 1	Seat 2	Seat 3	Seat 4
. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .

Write the names: Tilly, Mia, Pip, Milo.

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 4: The Midnight Library

Read the pictures. Look for clues in every panel!



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Story 4: The Midnight Library

Keep reading! What happens next?



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Stories 2, 3 and 4 Reading Check

Think about the other cases. Circle the right answer.

1 In Story 2, who took the shiny trophy?

- A Luna
- B Kai
- C Milo

2 What was the clue with three long toes?

- A Muddy bird prints
- B A paw print
- C A shoe print

3 In Story 3, what kind of secret note was it?

- A A map
- B A note in numbers
- C A drawing

4 In Story 4, who came in through the open window?

- A Luna the kitten
- B Kai the crow
- C Milo the mouse

5 What was the key clue in Story 4?

- A A loud thump
- B The open window
- C A black feather

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Unscramble the Clue Words

The letters are mixed up! Write each word correctly in the boxes.



E L C U

Hint: What a detective looks for.



H E F T R E A

Hint: Kai left one behind in Story 2.



O K O I C E

Hint: Milo took them in Story 1.



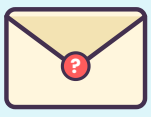
H O P T Y R

Hint: The prize for the big race.



T E K T I N

Hint: She came in through the window.



R E C E S T

Hint: A code hides a ____ message.

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Put Story 2 in Order

Read the pictures. Write 1, 2, 3, 4 to show the order of the story.



Write 1 to 4



Write 1 to 4



Write 1 to 4

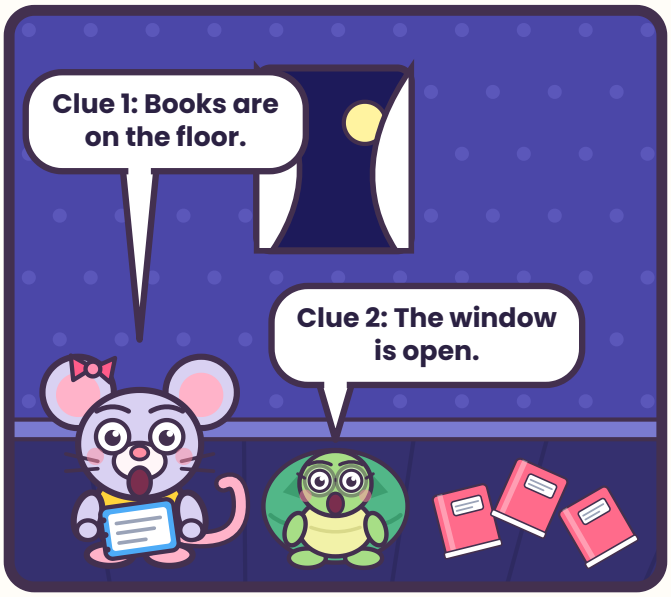


Write 1 to 4

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Put Story 4 in Order

Read the pictures. Write 1, 2, 3, 4 to show the order of the story.



Write 1 to 4



Write 1 to 4



Write 1 to 4



Write 1 to 4

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Spot 6 Differences

Look at Picture A and Picture B. Find 6 things that are different and circle them in Picture B.





© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Who Is the Thief?

Use each clue to cross out suspects. The one left is the thief!

The Case of the Missing Key

Someone took the shiny key from the clubhouse! Read the clues and cross out each suspect who cannot be the thief.



Mrs. Moo



Tilly



Milo



Luna



Kai

1 Clue 1

The thief is not wearing a hat.

Crossed out: ☐

2 Clue 2

The thief does not wear glasses.

Crossed out: ☐

3 Clue 3

The thief has feathers.

Crossed out: ☐

The thief is .....



I know because .....

.....

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

My Detective Notebook

Pick one of the four cases. Write what you found in your notebook.

CASE FILE



Case name: .....

Where did it happen? .....

What went wrong?

.....

.....

Clues I found:

1. .....
2. .....
3. .....

Draw the best clue

Suspects: .....

Who did it? .....

How did the clues show you?

.....

.....

Detective: .....

CASE CLOSED

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Detective Maze

Start at the first picture. Find the way to the finish.

START



Help Pip follow the trail to the treasure chest!

FINISH

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Pattern Detective

Find the rule. Write or draw what comes next, then write the rule.

2	4	6	8	10	?

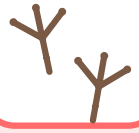
Rule: .....

5	10	15	20	25	?

Rule: .....

30	27	24	21	18	?

Rule: .....

					?

Rule: .....

Challenge!

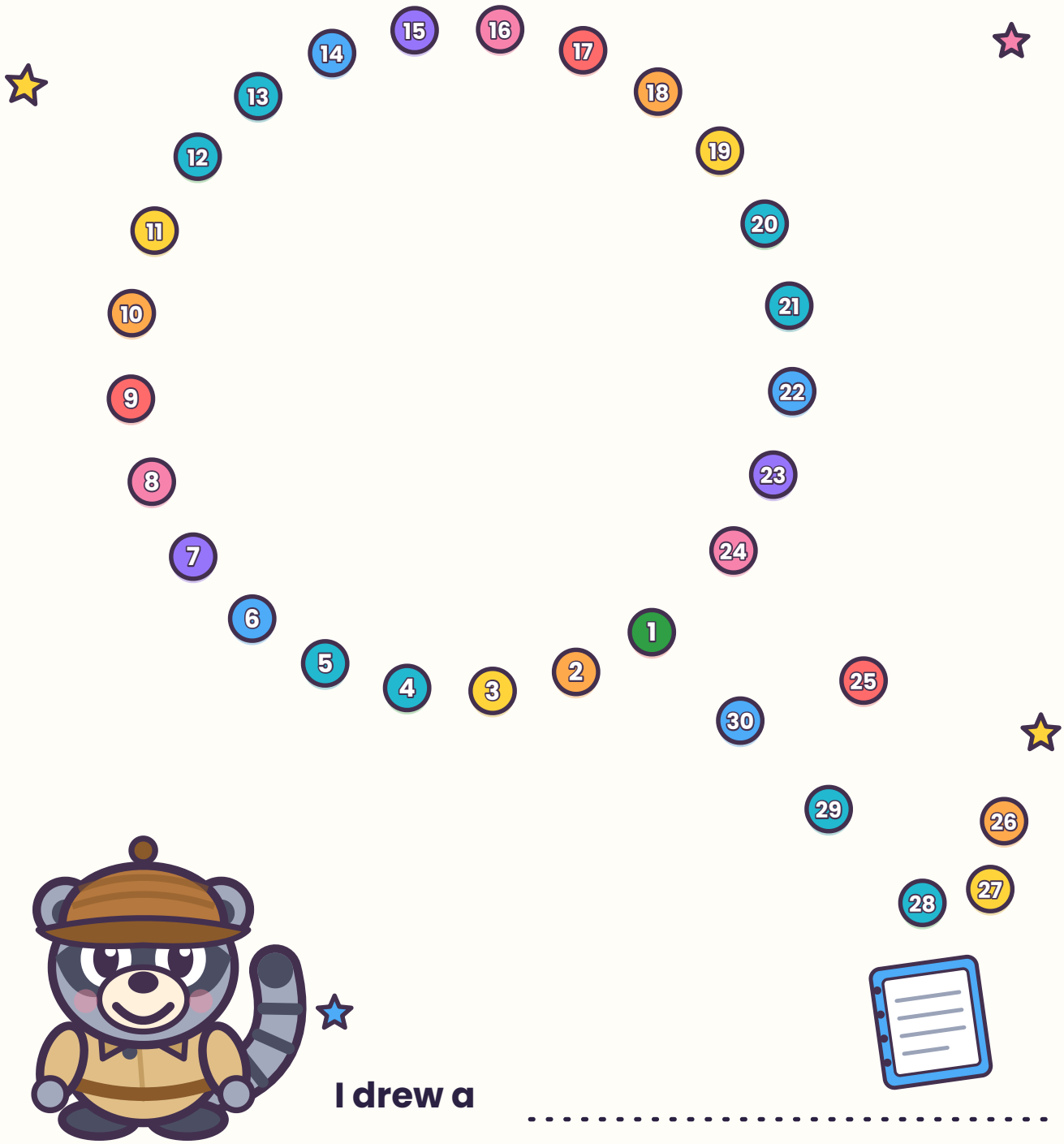
1	2	4	7	11	?

Rule: .....

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Dot to Dot: Detective Tool

Join the dots from 1 to 30. Start at the green dot. What tool do you see?

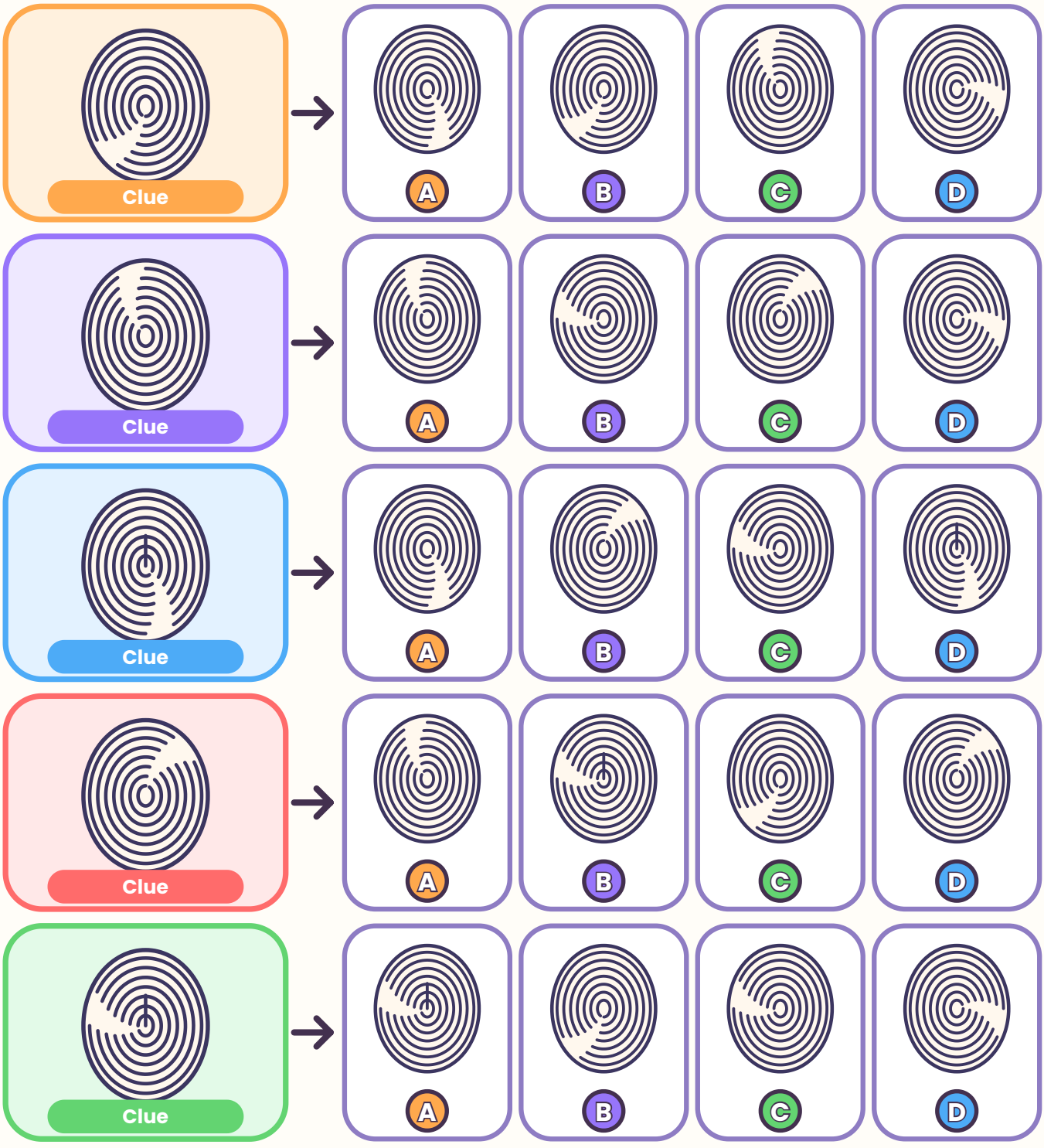


I drew a _____

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Match the Fingerprint

Look at the clue print. Circle the one print that matches exactly.



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Shift Code Challenge

A new code! In this one A becomes B, B becomes C, and so on. Z becomes A.

The Shift Code: move one step on

A ↓ B	B ↓ C	C ↓ D	D ↓ E	E ↓ F	F ↓ G	G ↓ H	H ↓ I	I ↓ J	J ↓ K	K ↓ L	L ↓ M	M ↓ N
N ↓ O	O ↓ P	P ↓ Q	Q ↓ R	R ↓ S	S ↓ T	T ↓ U	U ↓ V	V ↓ W	W ↓ X	X ↓ Y	Y ↓ Z	Z ↓ A

Decode: every letter is one step too far

D M V F

Q J Q J T I F S F

U I F D B T F J T T P M W F E

Hint: B in the code is really A. C is really B.

Your turn: write a secret message

My message: . . . . . .

In shift code: . . . . . .

Give it to a friend. Can they crack it?

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Make Your Own Mystery Comic

Draw your own mystery in four boxes. Detective, mystery, clue and ending!

Who is the detective?

Draw your detective here.



1

What is the mystery?

Draw what is missing or strange.



2

Find a clue!

Draw the clue you find.



3

Case closed!

Draw how it ends.



4

My mystery is called _____

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Six Box Mystery Comic

Draw a picture in each box. Then fill the bubbles with words or pictures!

1

2

3

4

5

6

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Plan Your Own Mystery

Fill in the six steps. Then turn your plan into a comic!

1. **Title of my mystery** .....

2. **Where does it happen?** .....

3. **What is missing or strange?** .....

4. **Three suspects**

.....

.....

.....

5. **Three clues**

.....

.....

.....

6. **Who did it, and why?**

.....

.....



Now draw it as a comic on page 34!



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Wanted: Draw the Suspect

Invent a funny suspect. Draw the face and write what they look like!

WANTED

Have you seen this suspect?

Draw the suspect here!

Name: .....

Looks like: .....

Last seen: .....

REWARD
One warm cookie!

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

Design Your Detective Badge

Every detective needs a badge. Draw yourself in the middle and write your name!



My detective name: . . . . . .

My special skill: . . . . . .

My secret code name: . . . . . .

Color your badge any colors you like!

© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

My Detective Progress

Check the box. Color one star for each time you did it!

- ☐ I can read a comic story. ☆☆☆☆☆
- ☐ I can find and follow clues. ☆☆☆☆☆
- ☐ I can crack a secret code. ☆☆☆☆☆
- ☐ I can solve a logic puzzle. ☆☆☆☆☆
- ☐ I can make my own mystery. ☆☆☆☆☆



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

The End!

Thank you for reading. Now go and solve a mystery of your own!



© KidsTracing.com • Free for personal & classroom use • Not for sale or resale

HOORAY DETECTIVE

Certificate

OF COMPLETION





SUPER DETECTIVE!

This certificate proudly belongs to





for completing the

Mini Detectives Comic Book

after solving 4 mysteries and finishing every page!

Date

Parent or Teacher





WELL DONE!

KidsTracing.com





Free for personal and classroom use. Not for sale or resale.