Name _____ Date _____

Clue detectives

A clue + what you know = an inference.

1 Learn



Stories don't tell us everything! A story detective puts a **clue** together with what they **already know** to work out the rest. That's called an **inference**.



Clue
Dad's umbrella is dripping wet.

+



What I know
Umbrellas get wet in the rain.

=



Inference
It is raining outside!

Leo came in. His boots were covered in mud. He left brown footprints on the floor.

Where has Leo been?

1. **Clues:** mud on his boots, brown footprints.
2. **I know:** mud is outside, in parks and fields.
3. **Inference:** Leo has been somewhere muddy outside, like the park.

Flip's tip: always ask, "**How do I know?**" Then point to the clue.

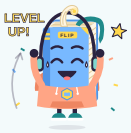
Warm up: Mia's plate is empty. There are crumbs on her chin. What has Mia done? Draw a ring round it.

gone swimming **eaten a biscuit** **been asleep**

Grown-ups: read the stories aloud. After each answer, ask "How do you know?" A good answer points to a clue: "because there are crumbs on her chin".

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2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Clue trail

You need: three everyday things to use as clues (a coat by the door, crumbs on a plate, a teddy tucked up in bed, an open book) and a pencil.

1. Your grown-up sets out **3 clues** around the room while you hide your eyes.
2. Find a clue. Look at it carefully.
3. Say what you can **work out**, and **how you know**.
4. Your grown-up writes it in the table (or you can). Then find the next clue.

The clue	What I know	What I worked out

Grown-ups: for a teddy tucked up in bed, your child might say "Teddy is having a sleep, because he's in bed with the covers on." Then swap: your child sets the clues for you!

3 Practise

A. Look at each clue. Draw a line to what you can work out.







Someone is going on a trip.	It is someone's birthday.	The sun is making it warm.

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B. Read each story. Draw a ring round the best answer.

1. Sam put on his coat, hat, scarf and gloves. His breath made little clouds in the air.
What is the weather like?

hot **cold** **rainy**

2. Ava's tummy rumbled. She looked at the clock. "Is it lunch time yet?" she asked.
How does Ava feel?

sleepy **hungry** **cross**

3. The dog wagged its tail and ran to the front door. Then keys jingled in the lock.
What is happening?

The dog wants its dinner. **Someone is coming home.** **The dog is scared.**

C. Mia's cheeks were red and she was puffing. She dropped her football on the grass. Did the story **tell** us (T), or did we **work it out** (W)?

☐ Mia's cheeks were red.

☐ Mia has been running about playing football.

☐ Mia dropped her football.

D. Draw a clue that shows it is **bedtime**.

Challenge

Grandpa's glasses were on his head. He looked under every cushion. Ava says, "Grandpa is looking for the cat." Is she right? What do you think he is looking for?

I can... Tick when you can.

☐ find a clue in a story ☐ use what I know to work something out ☐ say how I know