

CONTEXT CLUE DETECTIVES

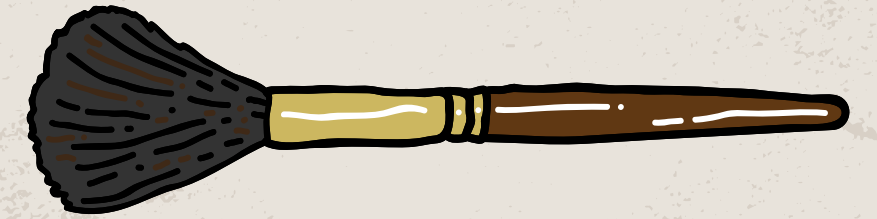
CASE #3.3B – THE MYSTERY OF THE HIDDEN MEANING

- 🔍 Solving unknown vocabulary with
context clues





TEKS & ELPS



TEKS

(3) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking—vocabulary.

The student uses newly acquired vocabulary expressively. The student is expected to:

B use context within and beyond a sentence to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words and multiple-meaning words;

ELPS

ELPS 1.E – Use academic language in meaningful ways.

ELPS 4.F.vii – Use peer & teacher support to confirm understanding.

OBJECTIVE

Students will use clues in text to infer vocabulary meaning, then decode a final mystery word.

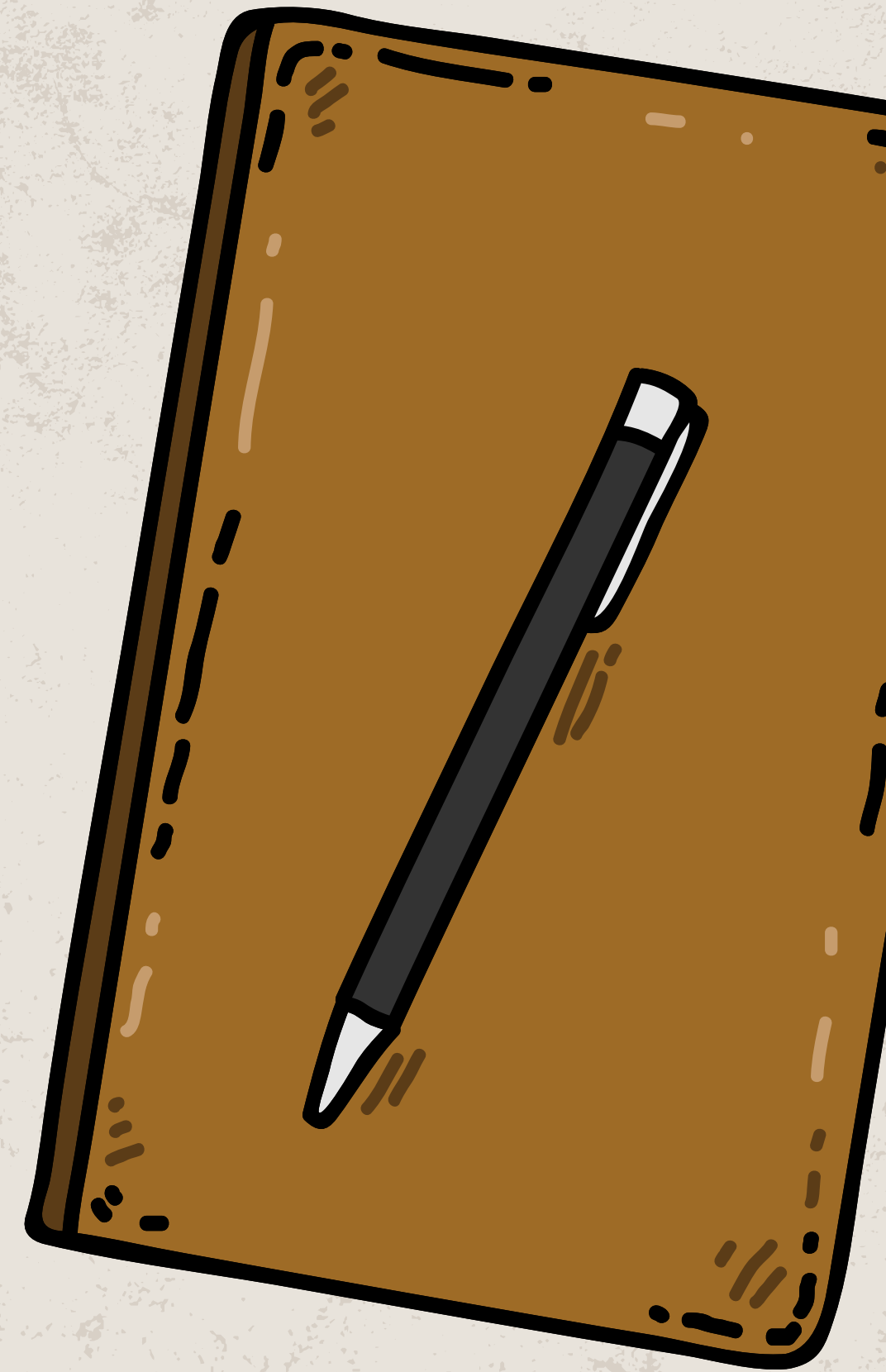
I Can...

-  *use context clues to figure out the meaning of unfamiliar words*
-   *explain which clues helped me*
-  *solve a coded message using word clues*



TODAY'S DETECTIVE AGENDA

-   Mission Briefing
-  Toolbox Training
-  Guided Clue Work
-  Partner Detectives
-  Independent Case File
-  Cipher Reveal
-  Case Closed Reward





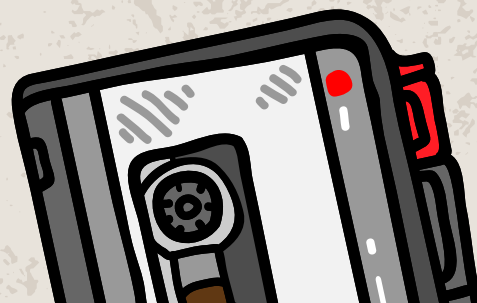
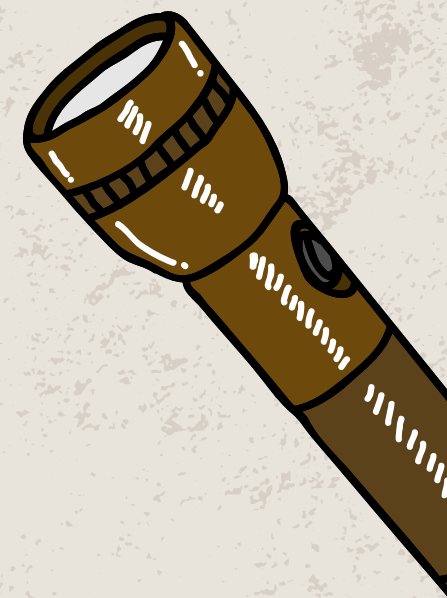
WHAT ARE CONTEXT CLUES?

*Context clues = hints around a word
that help us solve the meaning.*

★ LOOK BEFORE

★ LOOK AFTER

★ LOOK AROUND the word



DETECTIVE TOOLBOX

5 Types of Clues:

- Definition
- Synonym
- Antonym
- Example
- Inference

CONTEXT CLUES

Context clues are hints around a word that help you discover the meaning of an unknown word.

Context clues to look for:

Examples

She communicates by texting, calling, and e-mailing.

Definitions

The company was established, or started, in 1925.

Synonyms

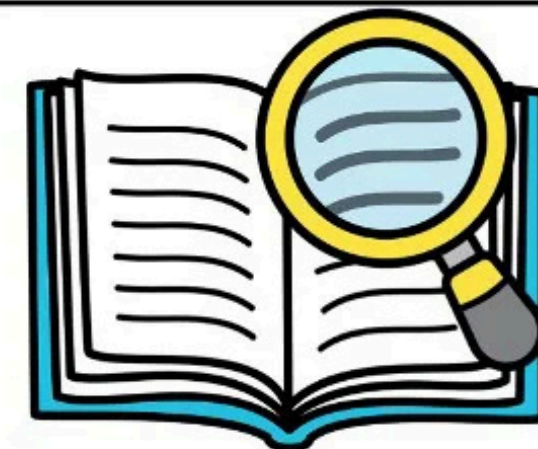
The petite kitten was the smallest one she had ever seen.

Antonyms

It was frigid inside, but outside it was very hot.

Inferences

They were persistent, as they hiked through rain and mud.



GUIDED PRACTICE

First 3 clues → We do
together

Last 2 clues → Partner
Detectives

Rules:

- Whisper voices
- Share clues, not guesses
- Use text evidence



Guided Practice

CONTEXT CLUE DETECTIVES



DIRECTIONS

Follow along with your teacher for the FIRST THREE words. Then work with your partner to solve the LAST TWO. Match each vocabulary word to the correct definition by DRAWING the symbol. Then write the type of context clue (**definition, synonym, antonym, example, inference**).

Detective Luna stepped into the **dim** storage room, where only a sliver of sunlight slipped under the door. On the top shelf, a strange object sat partly **obscured** by dusty folders, making it difficult to see clearly. As she moved the folders aside, the object's surface looked **distorted**, almost *twisted* compared to the smooth shape she expected. Suddenly, a tiny blue light **emerged**, blinking on like the indicator lights she'd seen on walkie-talkies. She picked it up and noticed it felt surprisingly **hollow**, the opposite of *solid* or heavy. Beside it rested a **bundle** of papers tied neatly with string.

Symbol	Definition
■	Low lighting; shadowy
★	Hidden from clear view
▲	Twisted or warped in appearance
■	Came into view suddenly
◆	Opposite of solid; empty inside
◆	A group of items tied together

Vocabulary Word	Draw Symbol Here	Type of Context Clue Used
dim	_____	_____
obscured	_____	_____
distorted	_____	_____
emerged	_____	_____
hollow	_____	_____
bundle	_____	_____

CASE FILE 3.3B

Your Mission:

- Read carefully
- Match each word → correct symbol
- Identify clue type



DIRECTIONS

Read the paragraph. Match each vocabulary word to the correct definition by DRAWING the symbol. Then write the type of context clue used (definition, synonym, antonym, example, inference).

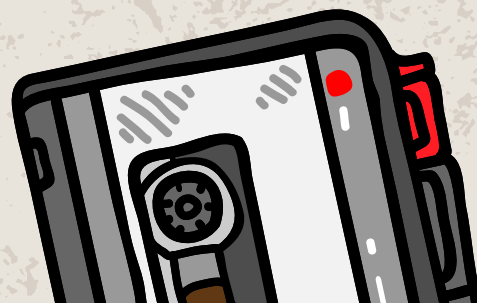
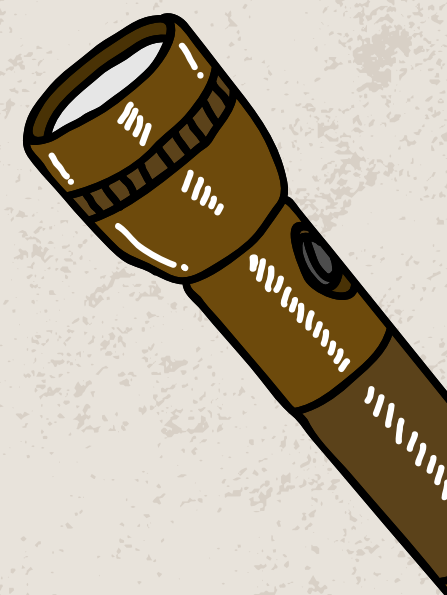
Detective Luna walked through a long **passageway**, a narrow hallway that echoed softly with each step. The building was unusually **hushed** that morning—the opposite of the usual chatter and squeaking sneakers. A **gleaming** flash of bright light flickered across a locker door. Something was **concealed**, or hidden, beneath a crooked bulletin board. Beneath it, an envelope was **nestled**, placed snugly like a bird in a nest between two bricks. Papers were **scattered** across the floor—spread in different directions instead of neatly stacked. A folder rested **adjacent** to the envelope, positioned right next to it as if part of the same clue.

Symbol	Definition
■	Bright and sparkling
★	Placed snugly in a protected spot
▲	A narrow hallway someone can walk through
■	Hidden from view
✦	Spread in different directions; not organized
◆	Next to or beside something
*	The opposite of loud

Vocabulary Word	Draw Symbol Here	Type of Context Clue Used
passageway	_____	_____
hushed	_____	_____
gleaming	_____	_____
concealed	_____	_____
nestled	_____	_____
scattered	_____	_____
adjacent	_____	_____



DECODED CIPHER REVEAL



CASE CLOSED,
DETECTIVES!

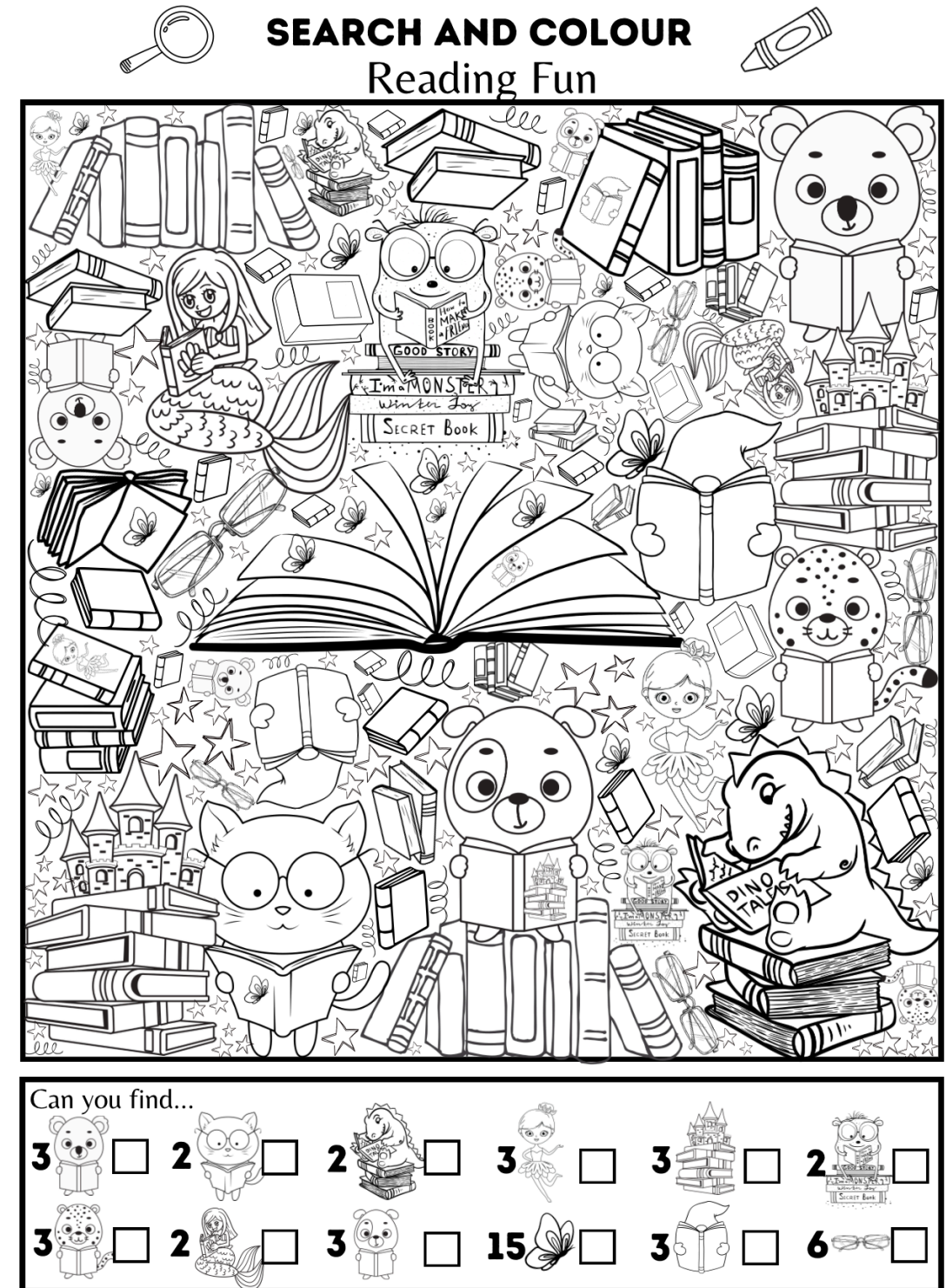
YOU SOLVED EVERY CLUE,
CRACKED THE CIPHER, AND
FOUND THE TREASURE.



✨ DETECTIVE REWARD — SEARCH & COLOUR ISPY! ✨

How to Play:

- Use your mini magnifying glass
- Search for each picture in the scene
- Colour as you find them
- Check the box when you spot one
- Work quietly like real detectives





Guided Practice CONTEXT CLUE DETECTIVES



DIRECTIONS

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Independent Practice

CONTEXT CLUE DETECTIVES



DIRECTIONS

Read the paragraph. Match each vocabulary word to the correct definition by **DRAWING** the symbol. Then write the type of context clue used (**definition, synonym, antonym, example, inference**).

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