

Teacher Activity Guide: The Popcorn Burglar

Reading Objectives

Students will:

- Identify story elements.
- Make predictions using text evidence.
- Practice sequencing.
- Develop vocabulary.
- Use the scientific method.
- Strengthen reading comprehension.
- Connect science with everyday life.



Before Reading

1. Picture Walk

Look at the cover.

Discuss:

- What do you notice?
- Who might be the main character?
- What clues tell you this is a mystery?
- What science tools do you see?

2. Predict!

I think this story will be about:

I think the mystery will be:

Vocabulary Detective

Directions: As you read, listen for these words. Write down what you think each one means.

Then look up the actual definition. Did you guess correctly?

Words:

burglar

solve

ingredient

suspect

blueprint

Reading Comprehension

Multiple Choice

1. Why did the triplets investigate the mystery?
 - ☐ They were bored.
 - ☐ They wanted to help.
 - ☐ They were told to.
 - ☐ They wanted a prize.

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2. What helped solve the mystery?
 - ☐ Guessing
 - ☐ Magic
 - ☐ Careful observation
 - ☐ Luck

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3. What lesson did the characters learn?

Sequence the Story

Number these events from 1–5.

___ They noticed something unusual.

___ They gathered clues.

___ They tested an idea.

___ They solved the mystery.

___ They explained what happened.

STEM Challenge

Design Your Own Mystery

Problem:

Clues:

1.

2.

3.

Hypothesis:

How will you test it?

Conclusion:

Creative Writing

Imagine you are Silvee.

Write about a new mystery in the kitchen. Include the following:

1. Three clues
2. One science experiment
3. An illustrated solution
4. A recipe connected to the story

Art

Design a cover for a Silvee Spoon Cookbook

Draw a scene from the book other than the scenes already illustrated

S.T.E.A.M.

Design a Chef's Tool

Ideas:

- Spill-proof bowl
- Cookie decorator
- Pancake flipper
- Fruit slicer

Draw a picture of it. Label parts and explain how it works.

Teacher Discussion Prompts

- What clues changed the characters' thinking?
- How did they know their hypothesis was correct?
- What mistakes helped them learn?
- Why is teamwork important in science?
- Which character do you relate to most?

Assessment Checklist

Student can:

- ☐ Retell important events.
- ☐ Identify characters.
- ☐ Explain the mystery.
- ☐ Identify clues.
- ☐ Describe the scientific method.

Make predictions.

- ☐ Support answers with evidence.
- ☐ Participate in discussions.
- ☐ Complete written responses.
- ☐ Demonstrate understanding through art or STEM.

