# 📘 BONUS SCRIPT STARTER: 'The Great Summer Mystery!'

This simple 10-minute play is perfect for a backyard or living room performance. It includes 6–10 flexible roles and can be adapted based on your group. Designed for junior high students and young performers to rehearse and stage independently.

## 🎭 Characters

- Alex: The energetic leader with wild ideas  
- Sam: The calm one who solves problems  
- Taylor: Always hungry  
- Riley: Thinks they're a spy  
- Morgan: Loves drama and costumes  
- Casey: Takes notes and acts as the narrator  
- Optional: Neighbors 1–3 for extra roles and comic moments

## 📍 Setting

A neighborhood backyard, one sunny summer afternoon.

## 🧃 Plot Summary

When Alex's sandwich goes missing from the picnic table, the whole group turns into amateur detectives. Was it the neighbor? The dog? A prank? Or something even more mysterious? As each friend makes wild accusations, they all learn about teamwork, forgiveness, and the power of theatre to solve any mystery—even a missing sandwich.

## 🎬 Sample Opening Scene

CASEY (to audience):  
It was a hot summer day, and everything was perfect—until it wasn’t. This is the story of… The Great Summer Mystery.  
  
ALEX (running in):  
Somebody ate my sandwich! This is war!  
  
SAM:  
Maybe it fell off the table?  
  
TAYLOR (licking fingers):  
Are we sure it was here to begin with?  
  
RILEY (whispering dramatically):  
I saw footprints… muddy ones… behind the lemonade stand.  
  
MORGAN (putting on a cape):  
Fear not! Detective Drama is on the case!

## 🎨 Creative Extensions

- Turn the mystery into a musical with made-up songs  
- Record each scene as a video and create your own series  
- Write a new ending where everyone is guilty… or no one is!

## 📝 Notes

Use this as a starting point. Let students add lines, change characters’ names, and invent fun scenes. The more creative and silly, the better!

**Notes**