

Lesson | Deciphering Clues

Encourage teamwork and critical thinking in your classroom by challenging students to solve a mystery, like Mira does!



Objective

Students will work together to interpret clues and uncover the solution to mysterious riddles.

Standards

CCSS ELA

SL.K.1 Have collaborative conversations
SL.K.3 Ask questions to get information
SL.K.6 Express ideas clearly

SEL

Listen, communicate, cooperate
Identify problems and solutions

Time

30 minutes

Materials

- Cardboard box
- Mystery object (e.g., musical instrument, magnifying glass)
- Solve the Mystery! activity sheet
- Fun Family Scavenger Hunt! family activity sheet
- Can You Find It? family activity sheet at [scholastic.com/mira](https://www.scholastic.com/mira)

Find more activities online at [scholastic.com/mira](https://www.scholastic.com/mira).

Priya and Mira



1 Display a box containing a mystery object. Challenge the class to figure out what is inside by asking questions and moving the box around. Encourage them to ask questions about how the object is used, who uses it, what it feels like (texture), etc. Once students have solved the mystery, congratulate them on their detective work.

2 Talk about a detective's job. Explain that a detective uses clues to solve a mystery.

3 Introduce students to the concept of figuring out clues with a simple exercise. Describe something they can easily see in the classroom, and ask them to point that thing out (e.g., a blue chair, a plant, a yellow block, etc.).

4 Divide the class into small groups and give each group a Solve the Mystery! activity sheet, which contains five pictures that are the answers to the five riddles below and in the next column. Explain that, in groups, students will do detective work to find the answers to the riddles that you will read out loud:

- What is shaped like a rectangle and lets you see right through a wall? (window)
- What goes down but never up? (rain)

- What is orange and rhymes with *parrot*? (carrot)
- What is full of holes but still holds water? (sponge)
- What has four legs but does not walk? (table)

Prompt students to explain how their answers fit the riddles. Help them “think about their thinking”—*how* did they find the answer? (e.g., looking at each picture and checking if it fits *both* parts of the riddle or not).

5 Invite students to gather around the Be a Detective! poster. Explain that they will now be detectives in their classroom and find the colors, shapes, and numbers on the poster.

6 Wrap up with reflection. Ask: *How did it feel to work together and solve a case?*

Bring the Learning Home

To extend the lesson, send home the “Fun Family Scavenger Hunt!” and “Can You Find It?” family activity sheets. Find them at [scholastic.com/mira](https://www.scholastic.com/mira).

Mikku and Chikku (Mongooses)



About the Show Set in the India-inspired land of Jalpur, the series follows the brave and resourceful Mira, a commoner who is appointed to the role of Royal Detective by the Queen. Mira travels throughout her kingdom to help royals and commoners alike. Each episode centers on a mystery-solving adventure.

Lesson | Happy to Help

Celebrate helpfulness by inspiring students to look for ways to lend a hand in class.

Objective

Students will reflect on a time that they were helpful and act out scenarios that highlight helpful choices.

Standards

CCSS ELA

SL.K.1 Participate in collaborative conversations

W.K.3 Use drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate an event

SEL

Offer help when needed
Consider the well-being of others

Time

25 minutes

Materials

- Draw the Helper activity sheet
- Helping Hands activity sheet
- Crayons or markers



Mikku and
Chikku
(Mongooses)



1 Tell a story about a child being helpful. For example: *I remember a time when a new boy joined my class in the middle of the school year. When he arrived in my classroom, he didn't know any of the other children. One student walked right up to him with a big smile. "I'm Mira," she said. "Can I show you where to put your backpack?"*

2 Ask questions to encourage students to put themselves in each child's shoes.

- *How do you think the boy felt when he first walked in?*
- *What thoughts might have been going through his mind?*
- *How do you think Mira felt when she helped?*

3 Hand out the Draw the Helper activity sheet. Read the brief birthday party story at the top of the sheet aloud to the class. Then have students show their understanding by drawing how Priya helped Mira.

4 Next, have students **reflect** on how they help others, and create a classroom banner of helping hands.

- Pass out the Helping Hands activity sheet. Have each student trace an outline of their hand on the right side of the page. (Or have students work in pairs, with each child tracing an outline of the other child's hand.)

- Explain that these are their "helping hands." Inside their handprint, tell students to write an uppercase *H* and a lowercase *h*.
- Next, ask students to think of a time when they helped someone else. Prompt them to think about how they help at home, at school, or on the go. Invite them to draw their responses in the space below their handprint.
- Hang up students' drawings in the classroom as a reminder of the many ways that students in the class lend their helping hands.

5 Have students engage in **dramatic play** or **act out** skits about helping others, drawing on situations they have experienced or the story from step 3. Assign roles of giving or receiving help to each child within pairs or groups.

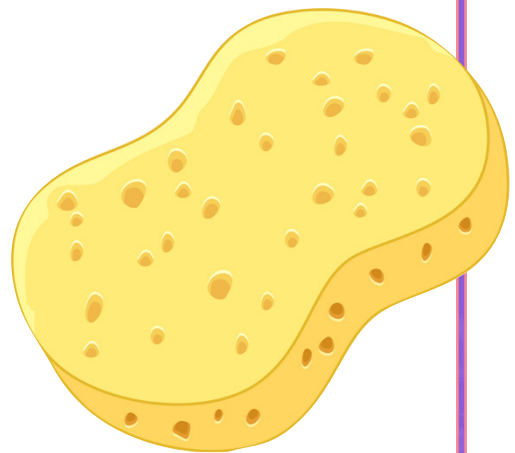
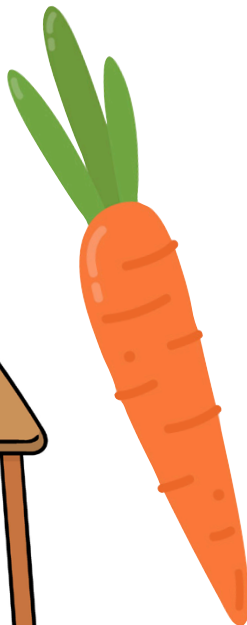
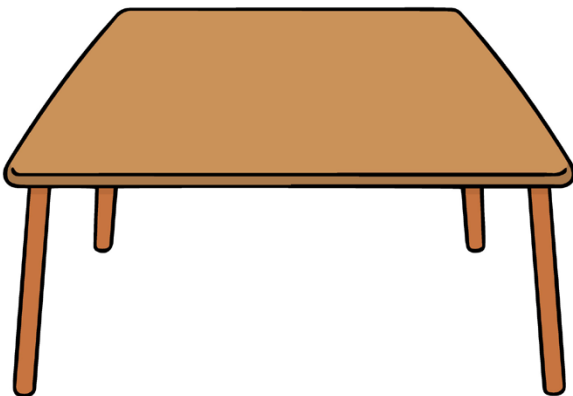
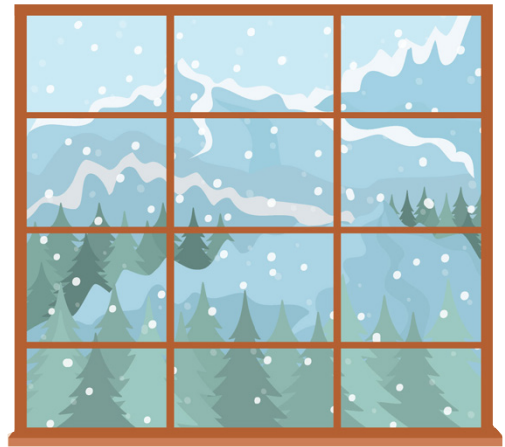


Priya and Mira



Solve the Mystery!

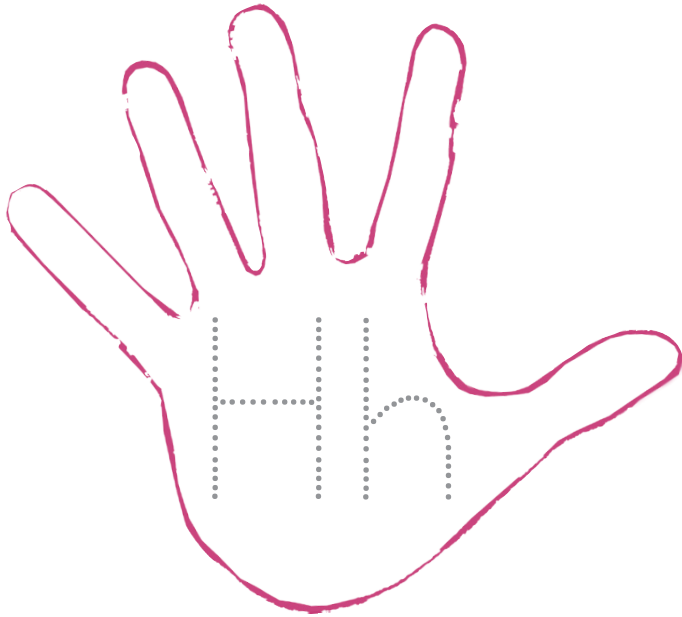
Teachers: Read students the riddles in Step 4 of the Deciphering Clues lesson, and have them point to the picture of the correct answer below.





Helping Hands

1. **Trace** the letters below.
2. Make an **outline** of your hand.
3. **Write** an uppercase *H* and a lowercase *h* inside.



4. In the space below, **draw** a picture of how you help.





Name _____

Draw the Helper

Teachers: Read this story to your students, then have them draw Priya helping Mira.

Mira and her friend Priya were walking to a birthday party. "Oh no, I forgot to bring the present!" Mira said. She felt sad. Priya told Mira she would help. Priya ran as fast as she could to Mira's house and got the present. "Thank you for helping me," Mira said. "You're a good friend!" When Priya and Mira got to the party, they had fun, and Mira's friend loved the gift.



Fun Family Scavenger Hunt!

In class, your child has been learning to think like a detective. Encourage creative problem-solving by going on a family scavenger hunt inspired by Mira. Work with your child to find each item on the checklist below.

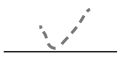
Tip: If there's an item your child can't find, challenge them to think creatively. No triangles in sight? Make a family triangle! Can't find the number 5? Line up five blocks.



Mira, Royal Detective, with Mikku



red



1

blue



2

yellow



3

green



4

purple



Hint: Find numbers on a clock, on a toy, or in a book!



Chikku



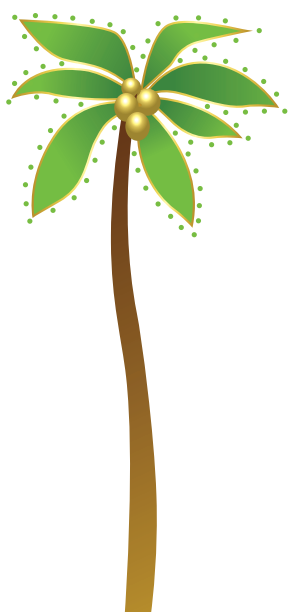
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Can You Find It?

Mira the Royal Detective uses her observation skills to follow clues and solve a case. Practice critical thinking with your child by reading the following clues aloud and working together to find the correct answers.

1. Find something that **feels soft** and comes from a bird.
2. Find two similar things that have **leaves** and **branches**.
3. Find an animal that has **four legs** and is **too big** to fit in a house.
4. Find something that detectives **hold** and **look through** to see better.
5. Find an animal that is **furry** and **has whiskers**. (Answer: a mongoose.)



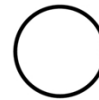
BE A DETECTIVE!

What can you find?

Can you find
these colors?



Can you find
these shapes?



Can you find
these numbers?

1

2

3

4

5



All New! Watch on **Disney Junior**