



Outdoor Investigation! The Boxcar Children are great at solving mysteries. Now it's your turn!

With an adult, head outside and see what you can find. Treat each item that you see like a clue and do your best to deduce everything you can! For example, maybe you find a single shoe. Who do you think could have left it there? Based on the appearance, how long do you think it's been outside? Use your imagination and write below about the evidence you've uncovered.



Fingerprint Forensics

Fingerprints can be a big clue in any case as no two are the same.

Follow the experiment below to analyze your own fingerprints

and compare with friends.

Instructions: With a parent's permission, start by dipping your index finger in a drop of washable paint. Press your finger into the box below to create a fingerprint. You may need to press your finger several times to get a clear image. Repeat this for as many fingers as you would like.

Compare your prints with a friend or caregiver and notice the differences!

What you'll need

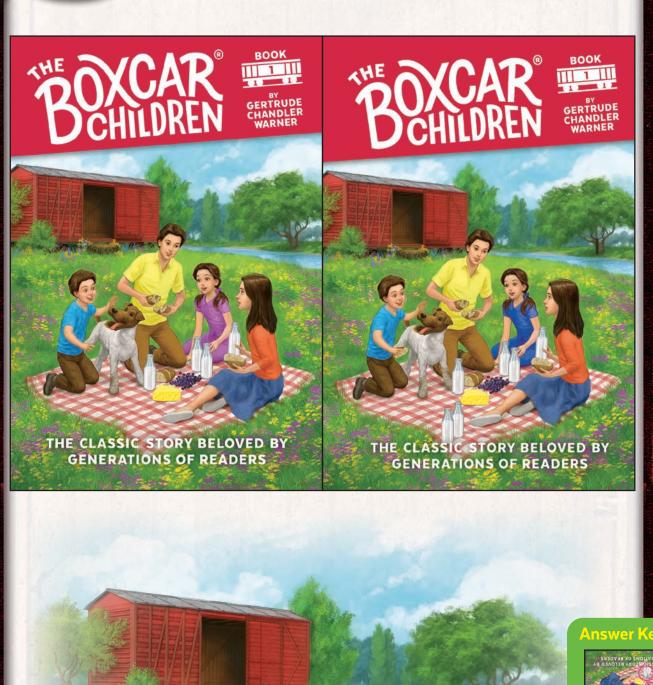
• Washable paint





Spot the Difference

Part of solving any mystery is attention to detail. Circle the five differences in the covers below to practice collecting clues.





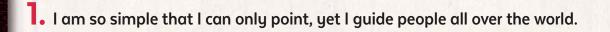




Puzzling Riddles

Put your mind to the test with these five brain teasers.

These can help you exercise your mystery-solving muscles so you can join the Boxcar Children on their next adventure!



- 2. What is always in front of you but can't be seen?
- 3. I can run but not walk, and you often follow me around. What am I?
- 4. I go around the world, but never leave the corner. What am I?
- **5.** What kind of band never plays music?



Answer Key

5. A rubber ban

4. A stamp

2. The future



Mystery Maze

Find your way out of the maze below to reveal the answer to the riddle.

After you find the way out, write down each of the letters to

unlock the secret code!



Identify the Suspect

Gather a friend and pick someone you both know to write about. Once you have filled in your clues, take turns reading them aloud so your friend can try to guess which person you are describing! Make sure to keep your choice a secret until the end!

My person's name is _____

- What is their hair color? _____
- 2. How tall are they? _____
- 3. Where do they live? _____
- 4. What are their hobbies? _____



If your friend is still stumped, have them continue to ask their own questions about your mystery person until the correct identity has been revealed!



Secret Word Search

Help Henry, Jessie, Violet, and Benny on their very first adventure to the boxcar in the woods by circling the words below.

Blueberries J F C E X

Brook DEZIELOXIPHWYEI

Clothesline M T R A H D V X H H S W X H C

Farmhouse DMEDSFRTPTLEORH

Handkerchief JOUKRWECKRZQUXS

Moon HAHKAKRETKNIXBI

Teapot B E M L W D B Z Q X R A N V N

RIRIAEGKNQENHQE

Treasure O F A K O Z A K Q M H M O B M

KRBLEKVNUFUSUMM



Answer Key