



INFERENCE MYSTERY BOX



≡ Make inferences. Solve the mystery! ≡

≡ WHAT'S INCLUDED: ≡



EXAMPLE



DIRECTIONS



TEMPLATE



Teacher Directions

Inference Mystery Box



Objective:

Students will practice making inferences by using clues from the text and their background knowledge to figure out what is in the mystery box.

Materials:

- Mystery box (shoe box or similar)
- Templates to place inside the box
- Reading passage or story
- Pencil

Prep:

Print the templates and have students cut and glue them inside the mystery box as shown in the example.

Directions:

1. **Introduce the mystery box.**
Show students the closed box and ask them to predict what might be inside.
2. **Read the passage.**
Students read the text carefully and look for clues that might help them figure out what is inside the box.
3. **Fill out the templates.**
Students write:
 - Clues from the text
 - What they already know
 - Their inference (what they think is inside)
 - Evidence to support their inference
4. **Share and discuss.**
Have students share their inferences and the evidence that supports their thinking.



Tips:

- ★ Model using a passage with the class first.
- ★ Remind students that different inferences can be correct if they are supported by evidence.
- ★ Encourage students to use details from the text, not just guesses!

Extension Ideas :

- Have students bring in small objects (school-appropriate) for classmates to figure out.
- Use with a partner or in small groups for discussion.



I am an
inference
expert!



What could
be inside?



CLUES FROM THE TEXT



The boy is in
his bed when
the doorbell
rings.

MY INFERENCE



The boy in
the story
may just
be having a
bad dream.

WHAT I ALREADY KNOW



When the
doorbell rings
at night, it
can be unex-
pected or unset-
tling.

EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT MY INFERENCE

The text says the doorbell rang late at
night while the boy was in bed. The
boy became worried about who could be
at the door.



**CLUES FROM
THE TEXT**



**MY
INFERENCE**



**WHAT I
ALREADY KNOW**



What could
be inside?



I am an
inference
expert!



EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT MY INFERENCE



Directions: Print, cut, and glue these pieces inside the mystery box.