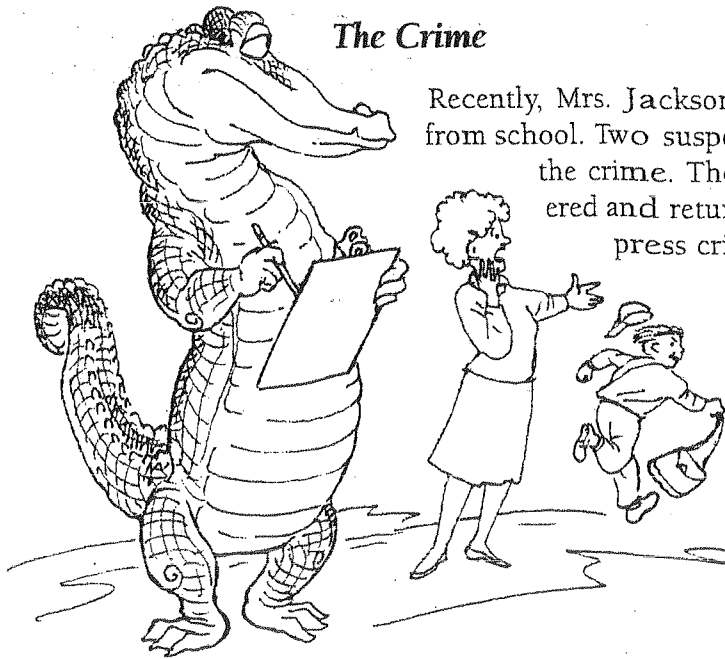


Name _____ Date _____

DISORGANIZED DATA

Student Investigator Page

The Crime



Recently, Mrs. Jackson's gold coin collection was stolen from school. Two suspects, Mary and Sue, were accused of the crime. The gold coins were eventually recovered and returned to Mrs. Jackson, so she did not press criminal charges.

To teach a lesson to all the students, the principal decided that a schoolwide trial should be conducted. A trial date was set and students were given such jobs as defense attorney, prosecuting attorney, judge, and jury. Sally was appointed to take statements from individuals involved in the theft. She prepared these statements on her computer.

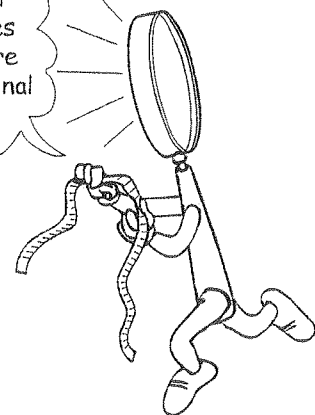
On the morning of the trial, Sally made a terrible error. Before she had a chance to save her work on the computer, she accidentally hit the wrong key and scrambled all the facts. Sally has only one hour to straighten out this mess.

Use your powers of logic and reason to help Sally put the facts in order. If you cannot help her, a year of hard work will be lost for everyone. Sue and Mary will be declared innocent due to lack of evidence.

Procedure

1. Use scissors to cut apart each of the 25 clues on the "Disorganized Data Worksheet."
2. Read each clue, then arrange them in a logical order. Remember that sequencing is very important in this case.
3. Once you determine the order, tape the clues in the correct sequence from the top to the bottom of the paper, then number them.

Details about specific times and places are vital to criminal cases.



Conclusion Questions

1. Explain why it is important to have information about a crime organized in logical order.


2. How many days did the information in this investigation cover?

3. Would this have been more difficult if some dates and times had not been given? Explain your answer.

4. Name two possible times during January 14 when the gold coins could have been stolen.

5. If you were the jury reading this information after it was organized, would you think Sue and Mary were innocent or guilty? Write a conclusion to this story in which you describe who you think committed the crime and why. If you think it was Sue and Mary, indicate what data helped you decide.

Disorganized Data Worksheet

- * The bell sounds and class is dismissed at 3:02 P.M.
- * Mrs. Taft locks the classroom door.
- * Mrs. Taft turns off the lights in the classroom.
- * Mrs. Jackson clocks in at 7:45 A.M. on January 14.
- * Mrs. Taft steps across the hall to Mr. Roden's classroom to see if he has a key that she can use to lock the door.
- * On the afternoon of January 15, Mary, Sue, their parents, the principal, and Mrs. Jackson have a conference about the gold coin theft.
- * Mrs. Jackson arrives at school and parks her Isuzu Rodeo in space 34 on January 14. The time is about 7:37 A.M.
- * Mrs. Taft comes back to Mrs. Jackson's room with the door key and notices that Mary and Sue are gone.
- * Mrs. Jackson enters her room, opens the top desk drawer, and sees that her gold coin collection is missing.
- * Mrs. Jackson parks her car in space 34 on January 15. The time is about 7:25 A.M.
- * Sue and Mary stay after school on January 14 to help Mrs. Taft clean up.
- * Sue and Mary are called to the principal's office at 9:00 A.M. on January 15.
- * Mrs. Taft clocks out for the day. The time clock reads 3:45 P.M.
- * 
- * Mrs. Taft clocks in on January 14 at 12:10 P.M.
- * Mr. Roden opens Mrs. Jackson's classroom with his key five minutes before students return from lunch.
- * Mrs. Jackson begins to feel very nauseated this morning.
- * Mr. Zimmer calls Mrs. Taft and asks her if she can come in immediately to sub for Mrs. Jackson.
- * Mrs. Taft teaches Mrs. Jackson's last two science classes of the day.
- * Mr. Roden is not in his room when Mrs. Taft peeks in his classroom door to look for a key.
- * The principal finds Mrs. Jackson's gold coin collection in the gym locker room. It is in a locker that Sue and Mary share.
- * Mrs. Taft is thrilled to see the classroom door is already unlocked for her after lunch.
- * A little before noon Mrs. Jackson tells the principal, Mr. Zimmer, that she is sick and needs to go home.
- * Mrs. Taft walks to the principal's office and gets a key to the room.
- * Mrs. Taft reviews Mrs. Jackson's lesson plans.

