

Archive Stamp Mystery

HOST ONLY - preparation and story

Includes answers. Keep these pages with an adult.

An archive stamp is missing its drawer label. A coded note, three clerk assignments and a misleading word strip are the only paper evidence. Collect five named badge digits and use the final sheet. Every clue is on the table; ask the host for one hint at a time.

1. Print one player pack and two record sheets per team. Keep the host answers and all three hint levels with the adult.
2. Keep every clue as a full sheet at one table. Put the final sheet face down until all five results are recorded. Nothing needs cutting, folding or hiding.
3. Give each child a pencil. Choose a reader, recorder and checker, and swap jobs after each clue. Use one team for 2-4 children or two teams for 5-6.

Players: 4; teams: 1. Print one player and prop set per team. Invitations and certificates: 4 each.

Paper and pencils are enough. Keep whole sheets at one table; nothing needs cutting, folding or hiding.

Archive Stamp Mystery

HOST ONLY - solution guide

1. Note: 1

The decoded word is FILE; its row gives 1.

2. Clerk: 4

Uma has Stamp; Ivo has Seal; Lin has Tag. Ivo's item gives 4.

3. Word: 7

Only row 3 has FILE followed immediately by 7. Other rows have changed or reversed letters.

4. Entry: 3

The only order is Read record > Check stamp > Find drawer > File note. Position 2 carries 3.

5. Drawer: 4

D1, A3, B1, C2 reads FILE. The conversion table gives 4.

6. Final: 44713

E1 > B1 > C1 > A1 > D1

Archive Stamp Mystery

HOST ONLY - timeline and paper check

3 minutes: Read the story, show the badge record and choose roles.

4 minutes: Solve Note. Offer one hint level at a time if wanted.

6 minutes: Solve Clerk. Offer one hint level at a time if wanted.

undefined minutes: Solve Word. Offer one hint level at a time if wanted.

5 minutes: Solve Entry. Offer one hint level at a time if wanted.

5 minutes: Solve Drawer. Offer one hint level at a time if wanted.

5 minutes: Use the five results on the final sheet.

2 minutes: Read the ending and thank each teammate.

Paper completion: check each badge against the solution guide, then check the final code. No device is required.

The stamp is returned to its drawer. The archive record is complete. Thank your team for checking the evidence together. Confirmed final control code: 44713.

Duration and ages are estimates. Adjust pace and offer help for your group.