

Pocket Detective Club

HOST ONLY - preparation and story

Includes answers. Keep these pages with an adult.

Six shelves have badge-box records. One box was put on the wrong shelf. Compare the prints, match the clerks and repair the moving log; all five pieces of evidence identify its shelf. 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.

Pocket Detective Club

HOST ONLY - solution guide

1. Print: 4

Different positions are 2, 5, 7, 8. There are 4 differences.

2. Clerk: 9

Ivy has Key; Rob has Note; Ada has Tag. Ivy's item gives 9.

3. Address: 3

C1, D2, A1, B2 reads CASE. The conversion table gives 3.

4. Moving: 6

Known stock: $12 + 4 - 1 = 15$. Closing stock 21 minus 15 gives the missing return 6. Cancelled +7 never arrived.

5. Weight: 9

Remove 1 from 37; share 36 among 4 parcels to get 9. Check $2 \times 9 + 3 = 21$.

6. Final: 01427

Only Shelf C matches all five columns. Copy its printed code 01427.

Pocket Detective Club

HOST ONLY - timeline and paper check

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

3 minutes: Solve Print. Offer one hint level at a time if wanted.

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

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

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

5 minutes: Solve Weight. 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 misplaced badge box is recovered from the matching shelf. Thank your team for checking the evidence together. Confirmed: Shelf C, code 01427.

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

Pocket Detective Club

Player clue 1: Print | Team 1

Six shelves have badge-box records. One box was put on the wrong shelf.
Compare the prints, match the clerks and repair the moving log; all five pieces of evidence identify its shelf. Find five badge digits, then use the final sheet. Help each other and ask for hints.

Print desk: Compare the two records at matching numbered positions. Count different pairs once each; ignore box outlines.

Compare matching numbered positions.

A

















1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

B

















1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Do not count title, labels, or boxes as differences.

Print badge: _____

Pocket Detective Club

Player clue 2: Clerk | Team 1

Clerk desk: Each person has ONE different item. Use all four NOT rules. Find Ivy's item and copy its digit.

Key digit 9	Tag digit 2	Note digit 5
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People: Ivy, Rob, Ada

- Ivy does NOT have Note.
- Rob does NOT have Key.
- Rob does NOT have Tag.
- Ada does NOT have Key.

Find Ivy's item. Each item is used once.

Clerk badge: _____

Pocket Detective Club

Player clue 3: Address | Team 1

Address desk: Read the letter at each coordinate, in order. Letter = column; number = row. Convert the complete word using the printed table.

Columns: A, B, C, D. Rows: 1, 2, 3.

1	S	T	C	Z
2	V	E	B	A
3	A	D	G	K

CASE = 3
VASE = 6
BOOK = 9

READ COORDINATES IN ORDER:
C1 > D2 > A1 > B2

Address badge: _____

Pocket Detective Club

Player clue 4: Moving | Team 1

Moving desk: A return entry lost its amount. Use the opening and closing stock to find the missing return. Apply DONE entries; ignore the CANCELLED plan.

Opening stock: 12. Closing stock: 21.

Received: +4 DONE
Planned: +7 CANCELLED
Issued: -1 DONE
Returned: ? DONE

Missing return = ? units. Ignore cancelled plans.

Moving badge: _____

Pocket Detective Club

Player clue 5: Weight | Team 1

Weight desk: Every parcel has the same whole-number weight. Remove loose units, find ONE parcel and check the second rule.

4 parcels + 1 loose units = 37 units



2 parcels + 3 loose units = 21 units

One parcel = ? units. Whole numbers 1-9.

All parcels have equal weight.

Weight badge: _____

Pocket Detective Club

Player clue 6: Final | Team 1

Compare each record with ALL five badge results. Find the one record matching every column. Copy its complete code, including the first zero.

C1=Print / C2=Clerk / C3=Address
C4=Moving / C5=Weight

Shelf A: 01407 C1=5 C2=9 C3=3 C4=6 C5=9	Shelf B: 01417 C1=4 C2=0 C3=3 C4=6 C5=9
Shelf C: 01427 C1=4 C2=9 C3=3 C4=6 C5=9	Shelf D: 01437 C1=4 C2=9 C3=4 C4=6 C5=9
Shelf E: 01447 C1=4 C2=9 C3=3 C4=7 C5=9	Shelf F: 01457 C1=4 C2=9 C3=3 C4=6 C5=0

Final badge: _____

Need help? Ask your host for one hint at a time.

Pocket Detective Club

Hint cards - level 1 (spoilers; keep with host)

1. Print

Compare position 1 with position 1, not with a nearby matching shape.

2. Clerk

No item can belong to two people. Cross out each forbidden pairing.

3. Address

Columns A-D run left to right. Rows 1-3 run top to bottom.

4. Moving

The missing amount is a return into stock. The cancelled delivery never happened.

5. Weight

Loose units are not parcels. Every parcel has equal weight.

6. Final

Keep all five named badge results beside this sheet.

Pocket Detective Club

Hint cards - level 2 (spoilers; keep with host)

1. Print

Position 2 is one difference: hexagon in A, square in B. Mark it once.

2. Clerk

Rob cannot have two items, so Rob must have Note.

3. Address

The first coordinate C1 means column C, row 1. Its letter is C.

4. Moving

Start with 12. Apply +4 then -1. Ignore the cancelled +7.

5. Weight

Remove 1 loose units from 37. That leaves 36 for the equal parcels.

6. Final

Use C1=Print, C2=Clerk, C3=Address, C4=Moving, C5=Weight.

Pocket Detective Club

Hint cards - level 3 (spoilers; keep with host)

1. Print

Compare the remaining numbered pairs one by one. Add one mark for each unequal pair, then count all your marks.

2. Clerk

Cross Note off for the other two people. Apply the last NOT rule, then find Ivy's item.

3. Address

Begin with C, then read D2, A1, B2 in order. Use the complete word's conversion row.

4. Moving

The known entries leave 15. How much must return to reach the closing stock of 21?

5. Weight

Share 36 equally among 4 parcels. Substitute one parcel's weight into the second rule.

6. Final

Each wrong record differs in just one column. Cross out all five wrong records, then copy the complete remaining code.

Pocket Detective Club

Team 1 badge record (no cutting needed)

Write a digit beside each badge as you solve its clue.

Print: _____

Clerk: _____

Address: _____

Moving: _____

Weight: _____

Reader: reads the clue. Recorder: writes the digit. Path finder: traces routes. Swap roles every clue.

Pocket Detective Club

Team 1 paper unlock card

Our five badges are ready. We used the final sheet to find this code:

Host: compare this with your solution guide. When it matches, read the ending and celebrate.

No physical lock or prize is required. You may draw a celebration star on this card.

Pocket Detective Club

You're invited to a birthday mystery!

Join Birthday Explorer for Pocket Detective Club.

Find which shelf holds the misplaced badge box.

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

Bring your curiosity. Paper and pencils are provided. Work together, share ideas and solve six clues.

Designed for ages 8-10. Estimated 30-45 minutes.

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Pocket Detective Club

Birthday Mystery Explorer

Presented to Birthday Explorer

Team member: _____

For completing Pocket Detective Club with curiosity,
teamwork and kindness.

The misplaced badge box is recovered from the matching shelf.
Thank your team for checking the evidence together. Confirmed:
Shelf C, code 01427.

Date: _____

Host signature: _____

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