

For use during Lesson 2: Reconstructing the Scene

The Case of the Candy Culprit

- Wright Now Middle School has reached out to the DSU and its Data Detectives for help identifying the culprit of some mysterious candy disappearances around campus.
- At each “crime scene,” the perpetrator leaves behind empty candy wrappers along with cryptic notes signed by “The Candy Culprit.”
- The DSU believes that these notes might provide clues about the suspect’s true identity, and has tasked your rookie squad with finding out who it is.
- Detectives are expected to retain copies of all evidence throughout the investigation and report to the DSU Captain at regular intervals.

Can you determine the identity of the Candy Culprit and bring them to justice?

For use during Lesson 2: Reconstructing the Scene

CLUE #1:

What happened next?



- The most recent missing candy incident at Wright Now Middle School was reported by a student victim.
- The student’s locker was broken into, and some **chocolate** candy was taken.
- The Candy Culprit left behind the empty candy wrapper and the following note:

WITH A LITTLE SHUFFLE AND A LITTLE SWAY,
I MADE SOME CANDY VANISH TODAY!
PERHAPS NEXT TIME, YOU’LL BE MORE AWARE,
AND LOCK UP YOUR TREATS WITH EXTRA CARE.

YOURS SWEETLY,

The Candy Culprit

For use during Lesson 5: Structuring the Evidence

CLUE #2:

What happened next?



- The Candy Culprit has struck again!
- This time, a student reported that a bag of **chocolate** was taken from their backpack during recess.
- In place of the chocolate, the Candy Culprit left behind another note:

I'M BACK AGAIN WITH MORE SLY TRICKS.
NO CANDY IS SAFE IF I'M IN THE MIX.
I'M JUST TOO SMART FOR YOU TO FIND,
MY HIGH GPA WOULD BLOW ALL YOUR MINDS.

SWEET REGARDS,

The Candy Culprit

For use during Lesson 8: Spot the Plot

CLUE #3:

What happened?



- Oh no, more candy has gone missing!
- While students attended their weekly meetings for extracurricular activities, the Candy Culprit raided the halls and took every piece of candy they could find.
- A taunting note was left behind:

WHILE YOU PLOT THE DATA YOU FIND,
I'M STILL LURKING IN THE BACK OF YOUR MIND.
YOU MAY BE BRILLIANT AT READING A CHART,
BUT YOU WON'T FIND ME IN THE CLUB FOR ART.

YOURS SWEETLY,

The Candy Culprit

For use during Lesson 10: Connecting the Dots

CLUE #4:

What happened next?



- The Candy Culprit continues to swipe treats when no one is looking.
- Students and teachers are becoming more distressed and are pressing the DSU for some answers.
- A new note was left behind:

YOU MAY HAVE NARROWED DOWN THE LIST,
BUT TO FIND ME NOW, YOU MUST PERSIST.
I AM NOT THE YOUNGEST, I HATE TO SAY,
NOR AM I THE OLDEST, SO I'LL BE ON MY WAY.

YOURS SWEETLY,

The Candy Culprit

For use during Lesson 11: The Plot Thickens

CLUE #5:

What happened?



- The librarian has had enough of students leaving candy wrappers all over the library floors and shelves, so she bans everyone from checking out books.
- The Candy Culprit is quite upset and shares a new note about it.

CANDY TRASH LEFT ON THE LIBRARY FLOORS,
WE NO LONGER MAY ENTER THROUGH ITS DOORS.
I READ A LOT, BUT TO NEITHER EXTREME.
USE A HISTOGRAM TO SEE WHAT I MEAN.
THE 'BOOK' VARIABLE IS THE ITEM TO VIEW.
TO SEE THE RIGHT BARS USE A BIN WIDTH OF TWO.

SWEET REGARDS,

The Candy Culprit

For use during Lesson 13: The Average Suspect

CLUE #6:

What happened next?



- The Student Council meeting ended in chaos. When students returned to the hallway, they found their backpacks unzipped and dumped in a pile.
- The Candy Culprit had struck again and taken all the candy they could find.
- Weirdly, the culprit organized all the library books into even piles of 3 and left another note:

I LOVE FINDING BOOKS LOST ON A SHELF.
I KEEP A SECRET TALLY JUST FOR MYSELF.
CALCULATE THE MEAN TO DECIDE WHAT'S FAIR,
YOU'LL FIND MY READING IS ABOVE THAT SHARE.

SWEET REGARDS,

The Candy Culprit

For use during Lesson 14: Getting MAD About It

CLUE #7:

What happened next?



- A strange sound echoes from the student lounge.
- This time, the modern, high-tech gaming console had been removed. In its place sat a dusty, retro 1980s arcade machine game.
- The Candy Culprit was too quick to be caught, but left behind another hint:

I'M AN OLD-SCHOOL GAMER WHO LIVES IN THE PAST,
RETRO ARCADE NIGHTS WERE ALWAYS A BLAST.
FIND THE MEAN SUSPECT AGE, AND ADD ON ONE MAD,
I'M JUST SLIGHTLY OLDER - NOW ISN'T THAT RAD?!

STAY CLASSIC,

The Candy Culprit

For use during Lesson 16: Boxing Up the Evidence

CLUE #8:

What happened next?



- The DSU detectives are closing in on the Candy Culprit!
- During a routine sweep of the faculty lounge, officers discovered that all staff records had been tampered with.
- A final note was left on one of the chairs.

BY NOW YOU KNOW I AM SOMEONE ON STAFF.
USE 'YEARS OF SERVICE' FOR MAKING A GRAPH.
NOT Q1 NOR 3, BUT SOMEWHERE BETWEEN.
INSIDE THE BOX IS WHERE I CAN BE SEEN.
WITH DATA REVEALED IN THIS NEWEST PLOT,
IS THIS THE TIME I FINALLY GET CAUGHT?

SWEET REGARDS,

The Candy Culprit

Text Versions of Clues:

Clue #1 (Lesson 2: Reconstructing the Scene)

With a little shuffle and a little sway,
I made some candy vanish today.
Perhaps next time, you'll be more aware,
And lock up your treats with extra care.

Clue #2 (Lesson 5: Structuring the Evidence)

I'm back again with more sly tricks.
No candy is safe if I'm in the mix.
I'm just too smart for you to find,
My high GPA would blow all your minds.

Clue #3 (Lesson 8: Spot the Plot)

While you plot the data you find,
I'm still lurking in the back of your mind.
You may be brilliant at reading a chart,
But you won't find me in the club for art.

Clue #4 (Lesson 10: Connecting the Dots)

You may have narrowed down the list,
But to find me now, you must persist.
I am not the youngest, I hate to say,
Nor am I the oldest, so I'll be on my way.

Clue #5 (Lesson 11: The Plot Thickens)

Candy trash left on the library floors,
We no longer may enter through its doors.
I read a lot, but to neither extreme,
Use a histogram to see what I mean.
The "book" variable is the item to view.
To see the right bars, use a bin width of two.

Clue #6 (Lesson 13: The Average Suspect)

I love finding books lost on a shelf.
I keep a secret tally just for myself.
Calculate the mean to decide what's fair,
You'll find my reading is above that share.

Clue #7 (Lesson 14: Getting MAD About It)

I'm an old-school gamer who lives in the past,
Retro arcade nights were always a blast.
Find the mean suspect age, and add on one MAD,
I'm just slightly older – now isn't that rad?!

Clue #8 (Lesson 16: Boxing Up the Evidence)

By now you know I am someone on staff.
Use 'years of service' for making a graph.
Not Q1 nor 3, but somewhere between.
Inside the box is where I can be seen.
With data revealed in this newest plot,
Is this the time I finally get caught?

Suspect Tracker ([LMR U1 L05 B Suspect Tracker](#))

