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# CELEBRATE BASIC STUDY & RESEARCH SKILLS

Basic does not mean boring! There certainly is nothing dull about. . . .

- . . . trailing along with clever detectives as they follow devious suspects
- . . . visiting the Super Sleuth Detective Academy to learn about interesting clients
- . . . investigating curious cases such as the Disappearance of the Magician, the Case of the Missing Bagels, the Piggy Bank Robbery, or the Mystery of the Misplaced Art
- . . . getting good advice from the latest edition of the Handbook for Clever Sleuths
- . . . using resources and reference materials to find out about such mysteries as mummies, UFOs, Bigfoot, and the Loch Ness Monster
- . . . tracking down Viva, the vile art thief, and identifying her once she's caught
- . . . sleuthing around encyclopedias to figure out great mysteries of the universe
- . . . following a mysterious map to retrieve a giant ruby that's been missing for a century

The idea of celebrating the basics is just what it sounds like—enjoying and getting good at the basic study, information and research skills. The pages that follow are full of exercises for students that will help to review and strengthen specific skills in the content area of English. This is not just any ordinary fill-in-the-blanks way to learn. These activities are interesting, surprising and useful. Students visit a training academy for would-be detectives and follow them around on intriguing cases as they practise and apply key study and research skills.

The pages in this book can be used in many ways:

- for individual students to sharpen or practise a skill
- with a small group needing to re-learn or sharpen a skill
- as an instructional tool for teaching a skill to any size group
- by students working on their own, or under the direction of a teacher or parent.



**Each page may be used to introduce a new skill, reinforce a skill, or assess a student's ability to perform a skill.** There's more than just the great student activity pages. You will also find an appendix of resources for students and teachers—including a ready-to-use test for assessing study and research skills.

However students use these pages, as they take on the challenges of these curious adventures with study skills, you'll see that they are growing in their abilities to find and use information, and having a great time while they're doing it. And as you watch them check off the basic skills they've sharpened, you can celebrate with them!

## **The Skills Test**

Use the skills test beginning on page 50 as a pre-test and/or a post-test. This will help you check the students' knowledge about resource materials, skills for finding information, and skills for studying. At the same time, it can help to prepare them for success on achievement tests.

# MEET THE SNOOPS

Welcome to the Super Sleuth Academy, one of the best detective schools in the world. It's the first day of school for a new group of detectives-in-training. OOPS! The class list is out of order!

Write the list again in alphabetical order. Don't forget to include the four new students in the picture, because they are not on the original list.

Scoop, D.J.  
 Fidget, Inspector  
 Peruse, Polly  
 Findit, Dr I  
 Look, Frieda  
 Sloth, Sloopy  
 Ghastly, Dr G  
 Snoop, O.U.  
 Snitch, Sandy  
 SpooF, Super  
 Snoop, Y. Lee  
 Look, Freddy  
 Sleuth, Suzy  
 Snoop, Sam  
 Itout, Scope  
 SpooF, Sonya  
 Tective, Dee D.



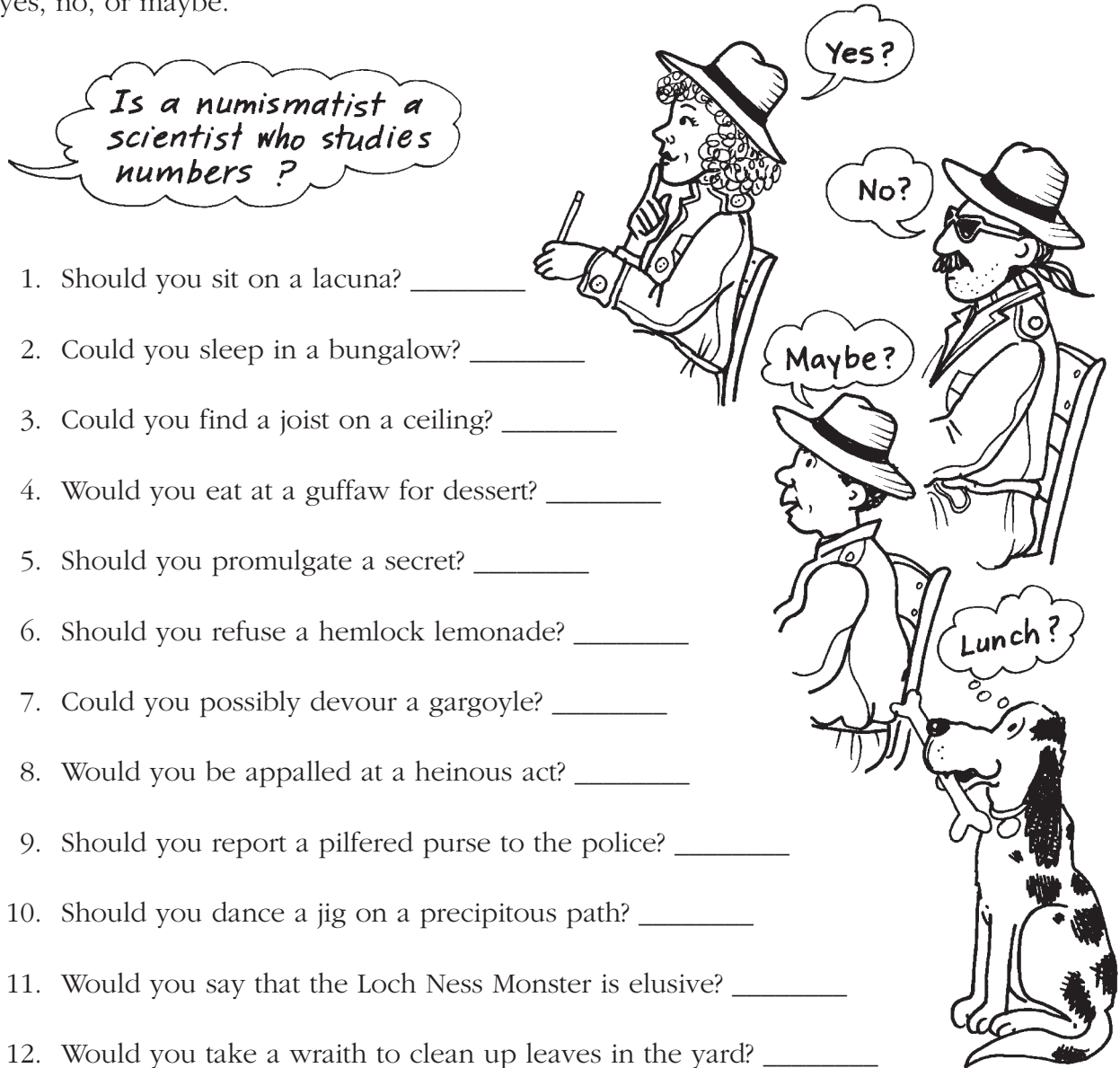
**Super Sleuth Academy  
Class List**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_
21. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# COULD YOU? WOULD YOU? SHOULD YOU?

Every day in class, the student detectives are asked some challenging questions. The dictionary can help you answer these puzzling questions. Find the meaning of each bold word. After you understand the word, decide whether to answer the question yes, no, or maybe.



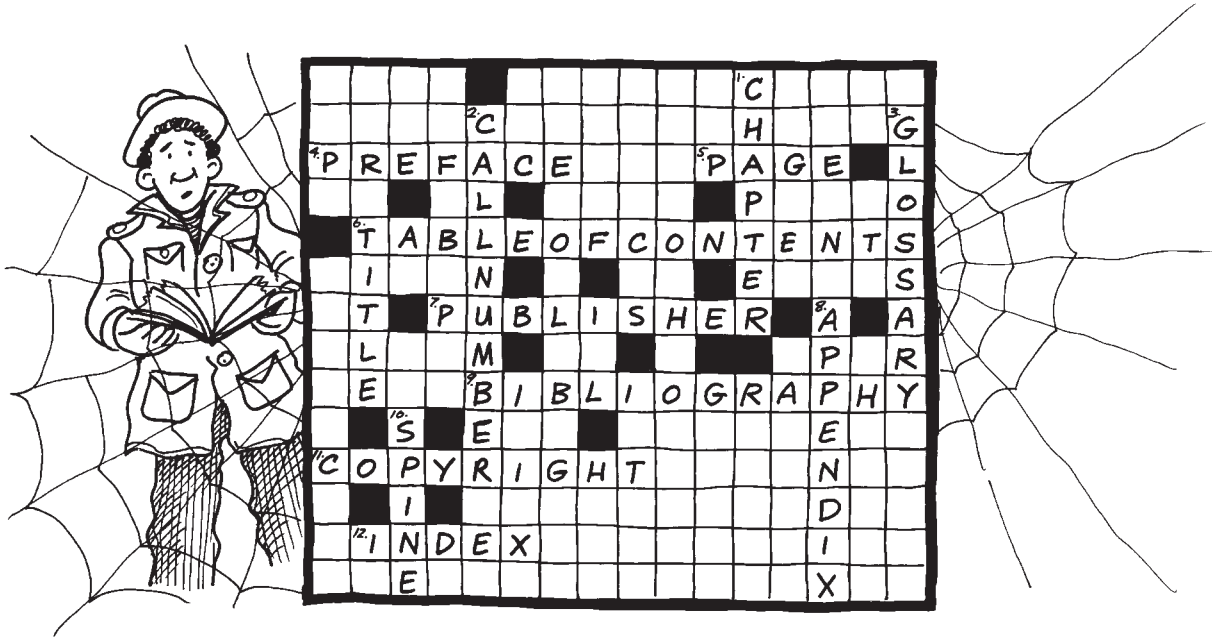
1. Should you sit on a lacuna? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Could you sleep in a bungalow? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Could you find a joist on a ceiling? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Would you eat at a guffaw for dessert? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Should you promulgate a secret? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Should you refuse a hemlock lemonade? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Could you possibly devour a gargoyle? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Would you be appalled at a heinous act? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Should you report a pilfered purse to the police? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Should you dance a jig on a precipitous path? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Would you say that the Loch Ness Monster is elusive? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Would you take a wraith to clean up leaves in the yard? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Should you be lackadaisical when you are in a race? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Could you share a repast with a friend in a restaurant? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Could you assume a poltergeist is very quiet, with gentle manners? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# BACKWARD BOOK PUZZLER

Student Detective Gary Gumshoe found this suspicious crossword puzzle in a dusty old library! He's sure that the finished puzzle will help him crack a case about the parts of books, but all the clues are missing!

Work backwards and write a clue for each word in the puzzle.  
Each clue will be a part of a book.



Across

Down

- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_