READING MYSTERY

ONCE UPON A CRIME

TEACHER TOADS

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PREPARATION

• Print and photocopy pages 4-11 (pg 4 and 11 are optional to print if you want to save paper). Staple together into booklets or put into a case file folder.
• Page 5 is a Possible Suspects list, which students will need to keep handy for eliminating characters as they discover clues throughout this reading mystery.

The worksheets must be completed in the order I have put them in.

HOW TO USE

Optional: Play the video hook before reading page 4. The video is designed to set the stage to engage; it’s intended to leave students questioning ‘what’s going on?’ Then continue to read page 4 to reveal more about the activity and state the case.

Students will need to refer back to the suspect list (pg. 5) as they investigate. By the end, they should be able to narrow the suspect list down to just one character. The last character remaining (if done correctly) is the culprit!

Each activity page has a reading component, which is followed by either some questions, tasks or puzzles to solve. The answering section requires students to fill in letters on the blank lines. Referring back to the reading text will help them with the spelling and solving the missing letters to complete responses/statements or special words. I recommend making it a requirement to read first, or set a timer for reading time before students are allowed to pick up a pencil to complete the activities. Also, instruct students to highlight the evidence in the passage text to show where the answers are found.

To crack the clue codes: the missing letters on the blank lines go into the empty boxes with the matching number underneath the line. (If you are familiar with my math mysteries, think of it as a reverse way to do this.) I’ve provided some examples for the first letter in the clues.

Page 11 is an optional way to declare who the culprit is, with an opportunity for some extra writing. Encourage your students to write their elimination reasoning with each clue. Tick the ‘Well Done’ box if the student declared the correct suspect and you are satisfied with the evidence (clues presented). Tick the ‘Oops! Try Again!’ box if they get the culprit wrong or do not have the proper clues listed. You could skip this part and just have your students present their eliminated suspect list to check if they are correct.

If your students are struggling with this activity, I recommend pausing frequently to discuss in groups or as a class. FOR CLUE 1, I recommend instructing students to highlight nouns, verbs, and adjectives that they find in the reading passage (using a color code key e.g. nouns = yellow, and adjectives = blue) before attempting the activity section to crack the code.

ANSWERS

Answers and an elimination guide are provided on pages 12 – 17.

AWARDS

On page 18 you will find a newspaper article certificate. You can give these to students who solve the case correctly and provide enough evidence of course! Keep these hidden until solved. The article certificate wraps up the story at the end.

If you need help, have any questions, or notice an error in my work please email me on JJResourceCreations@gmail.com

Thanks! ☺
On the following pages, you will be visiting locations to discover clues. As you complete each page, go over your possible suspects list to see if any information discovered eliminates a character from being responsible for the Teacher Toads!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suspect</th>
<th>Character Traits</th>
<th>Used a . .</th>
<th>Clothing colors worn</th>
<th>Is from...</th>
<th>Motive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rapunzel</td>
<td>❖ Shy</td>
<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Purple - ❖ White - ❖ Pink</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Thought that it would be a funny prank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Curious</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Cheeky</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jack ‘Beanstalk’ Spriggins</td>
<td>❖ Curious</td>
<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Green - ❖ Brown - ❖ Yellow</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Thought that it would be a funny prank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Cheeky</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Foolish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosina the Witch</td>
<td>❖ Powerful</td>
<td>Wand</td>
<td>❖ Green - ❖ Purple - ❖ Black</td>
<td>The Wishing Woods</td>
<td>Doesn’t want children to learn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Clever</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Mean</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice ‘Wonderland’ Liddel</td>
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<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Blue - ❖ White - ❖ Black</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Didn’t want homework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Shy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Polite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ron Greasley</td>
<td>❖ Powerful</td>
<td>Wand</td>
<td>❖ Black - ❖ Purple - ❖ Blue</td>
<td>Bogglehart Wizard Academy</td>
<td>Thought that it would be a funny prank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Curious</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Shy</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgie Porgie</td>
<td>❖ Messy</td>
<td>Wand</td>
<td>❖ Green - ❖ Brown</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Thought that it would be a funny prank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Cheeky</td>
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<td>❖ Foolish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Gale</td>
<td>❖ Brave</td>
<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Blue - ❖ White - ❖ Black</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Wanted to go home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Kind</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Polite</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinocchio</td>
<td>❖ Dishonest</td>
<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Red - ❖ Yellow - ❖ Brown</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Didn’t want homework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Cheeky</td>
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<td>❖ Foolish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Red</td>
<td>❖ Curious</td>
<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Red - ❖ White - ❖ Black</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Cheeky</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Adventurous</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Twist</td>
<td>❖ Dishonest</td>
<td>Wand</td>
<td>❖ Brown - ❖ White - ❖ Blue</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Didn’t want homework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Shy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Foolish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendy Darling</td>
<td>❖ Kind</td>
<td>Wand</td>
<td>❖ Blue - ❖ Pink - ❖ Purple</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
<td>Wanted to go home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Brave</td>
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<td>❖ Adventurous</td>
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<td>❖ Adventurous</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hansel Leiderhosen</td>
<td>❖ Brave</td>
<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Red - ❖ Black - ❖ White</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>❖ Adventurous</td>
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<td></td>
<td>❖ Cheeky</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldilocks</td>
<td>❖ Brave</td>
<td>Potion</td>
<td>❖ Blue - ❖ Black - ❖ White</td>
<td>Tale Town Elementary School</td>
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</table>

Solve the clues and then cross the suspects off the list until only one character remains! The last suspect remaining is responsible for the Teacher Toads!
1. VISIT LOCATION: Tale Town Elementary School

**Little Red**

“Watch out, Detective! You nearly stepped on poor Mrs. Frumpy!”

You look down and see a toad with brown curly hair, a blue dress, and large green glasses.

“...they look hilarious! Look! The principal is the one over there wearing a yellow bowtie and a spotted purple jacket.”

**Jack Spriggins**

“It stops being funny when one of them tries to eat you! They tried to chomp Thumbelina too! It’s scary for some of us tiny ones. We need to find out who the culprit behind this is, and how to help the toads turn back into teachers.”

“I’ll admit that it is becoming boring being at school since we are not learning anything new. But, I still don’t want them back to give us homework!”

**Tom Thumb**

Tom Thumb sighs, hops onto your shoulder and begins to show you around his messy classroom. You notice the following:

- There’s smelly toad slime on top and under Mrs. Frumpy’s desk
- There are five large windows
- There’s a door at the back of the classroom

**Georgie Porgie**

CLUE 1: Assign a color for nouns and adjectives, then highlight as many as you can find in the reading above. After highlighting the words, sort them into the nouns and adjectives category columns below. Reading is a MUST to check the context of how each word is used. After completing, check with your teacher to receive the clue!
2. VISIT LOCATION: The School Staff Room

Tom Thumb
“The staff room is where the teachers usually come during lunch and recess. But, as you can see, there’s no teacher in sight!”

“If it helps, Detective, I asked around the school. Everyone reported that their teacher turned into a toad on Monday, after recess.”

Little Miss Muffet
“Strange how it only happened to the teachers, though. I wonder why it didn’t happen to the students too.”

Gretel
“I call dibs on the last half brownie over there! Yum!”

Wendy
“Yuck! Gretel, that’s disgusting! It looks like someone already bit into that brownie.”

“Delicious! These brownies have an unusual flavor, though. There must be a special ingredient inside of them.”

You begin to inspect the staff room for clues.
☐ There are a few cups of cold coffee left on the dining table.
☐ There is a plate with traces of brownie crumbs left on the dining table.

“Oh no! Look, Detective, Gretel is turning into a toad, too!”

CLUE 2. Fill in the missing letters to complete the answers in the comprehension questions below. Then match the letters with the numbers into the empty boxes to reveal a clue! The first one is done for you.

Use the reading above to answer the questions below. Highlight where you find the answers in the text above as evidence.

1. When do the teachers usually visit the staff room? During l_u_n_e and r_e_c_e_s time.  
2. When did all of the teachers turn into toads? On m_o_n_d_a_y, t_h_u_r_s_d_a_y e_r_s t_e_r _c_e_s_.
3. Who eats the leftover brownie? G_r_e_t_e_l e_a_t_s t_h_e l_e_f_t_o_v_e_b_r_o_w_n_i_e_.
4. Why does Wendy think that Gretel eating the last half brownie is disgusting? Because it l_o_k_s l_i_k_e s o_m_e_b_o_d_y a_l_r_e_a_d_y b_i_t_t_o t_h_e l_e_f_t_o_v_e_b_r_o_w_n_i_e_.
5. What is left on the dining table? There are a_f_e_c_u_p_s o_f c_o_f_f_e_e a_n_d a p_l_a_t_e w_t_t_r_c_s o_f b_o_w_n_i_e _c_r_u_m_s l_e_f_t o_n t_h_e d_i_n_i_n_g t_a_b_l_e.
3. VISIT LOCATION: Mystic Pond

Tom Thumb: “Maybe Fred the Frog Prince will help us figure out who could have caused this toad situation at our school. After all, someone turned him into a frog; did you know that he used to be a human prince?”

Fred the Frog Prince: “I can hear you are talking about me, and yes, I was turned into a frog. But, unfortunately, I still don’t know who did this to me.”

You ask Fred if he ate anything before transforming into a frog.

Fred the Frog Prince: “The day I turned into a frog, I woke up and ate some breakfast, strawberry jam on toast. After that, I went horseback riding in the woods. I rode for a while until I stopped for a rest by this same pond. I had a drink of water and ate a cookie. Then, I fell asleep by the tree over there. After I woke up, my horse was gone, and I discovered that I was no longer human but a slimy green frog! Everything else is still a mystery to me. Maybe you can help figure out who did this to me one day.”

After some thought, you realize that Fred can still talk in his frog form, unlike the toads at Tale Town Elementary School. So perhaps the cause for both problems is different.

CLUE 3 – Below is a set of clue riddles or definitions to words written in the reading section above. The blank lines represent missing letters in the word. As you fill in a letter on each blank line, match that letter with the number underneath into the empty boxes to reveal a clue! The first one is already done.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A male member of a royal family</th>
<th>A small red fruit</th>
<th>A sweet treat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P_r_1 2 3 4</td>
<td>r_wb_8 9</td>
<td>i_13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sliced bread cooked on both sides</th>
<th>A person who teaches</th>
<th>What Fred discovered he no longer was after waking up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o_8 9 10 11 12 13</td>
<td>a_20 21 22 23</td>
<td>_24 25 26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A four-legged, plant-eating mammal</th>
<th>To change in form, appearance, or structure</th>
<th>A small amphibian related to a frog</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_27 28 29 30</td>
<td>ra_sfo_mi_g_31 32 33 34</td>
<td>t_a_35 36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not the same as another or each other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_37 38 39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highlight the word answers in the text above as evidence.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A small amphibian related to a frog: t_a_35 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A small red fruit: r_wb_8 9</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not the same as another or each other: _37 38 39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tom Thumb races home for supper, leaving you alone to continue the investigation. Unsure where to look next, you decide to go and visit the library to do some research on toad transformations.

"Hi, Detective! Do you need some help?"

You explain the teacher toad situation and want to know if there are any books on that topic.

"There are a few books on transformations in aisle six. However, if you are in a hurry, I recommend starting with the book Tricks, Traps, and Transformations.' I'm sure there is a chapter in that book about toads."

You ask if anyone has checked out the book recently.

"No, that book hasn't been checked out in a long time. However, now that you mention it, something odd did happen last week that might help with your investigation. On Friday morning, the library's side door was left open, and I found the book 'Tricks, Traps, and Transformations' on the floor in aisle seven near the cookbooks. There was part of a recipe ripped next to it, too. I remember that chocolate was one of the ingredients. However, other than that happening, nothing in the library was taken or damaged. That's why I didn't call you."

You open the book to check out the chapter on Toad Transformations. The cure section outlines:

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER,
POWER COMES FROM A BOOK,
JUMP ON SOME FACTS,
TO HELP A TOAD TURN BACK.

CLUE 4. Fill in the missing letters to complete the answers in the comprehension questions below. Then match the letters with the numbers into the empty boxes to reveal a clue!

Use the reading above to answer the questions below. Highlight where you find the answers in the text above as evidence.


2. When did Belle find the book left on the floor? On F__ _day ___ _r_ _ng.

3. Where in the library was the book left after the break in? On the floor in ___ _le __ _ev_ _n near the __ oo _ooks.

4. Why didn’t Belle call you about the library break in? Because __ot__ ing in the library _as _ k_ n or d_ mag_ d.

CLUE 4. Fill in the missing letters to complete the answers in the comprehension questions below. Then match the letters with the numbers into the empty boxes to reveal a clue!
CLUE 5. Fill in the missing letters to complete the answers in the comprehension questions below. Then match the letters with the numbers into the empty boxes to reveal a clue!

Use the reading above to answer the questions below. Highlight where you find the answers in the text above as evidence.

1. What happens to a student if caught playing around with magic tricks outside of Bogglehart?
   1. The students are __xp__led __mm__di__tel__.  
2. How long has Prof. Snail’s class been working on transformations? __i__ __ __ __ks.  
3. What is Prof. Snail certain about? He is __ertain t__ at his students wo__ld __teal from __is __l__ssr__om.
4. What do you find on the floor near the window? __ra__es of __g__edients t__ at are __sed in __ad __tions.  
5. What do you find on the window glass? F__ _l_tche__.
WHO turned the teachers into toads?

In the space below, write a list of the clues that you discovered during your investigation. Include a brief outline explaining how each clue helped you decide which suspects to eliminate from your list.

- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________

★ Well done!
You discovered who is responsible for the teacher toads! You take the offender to Tale Town jail.

⚠️ Oops! Try again!
No, that is not who turned the teachers into toads, go back, check your work and try again.
Little Red

“Watch out, Detective! You nearly stepped on poor Mrs. Frumpy!”

You look down and see a toad with brown curly hair, a blue dress, and large green glasses.

“You should see some other teacher toads; they look hilarious! Look! The principal is the one over there wearing a yellow bowtie and a spotted purple jacket.”

Tom Thumb

“It stops being funny when one of them tries to eat you! They tried to chomp Thumbelina too! It’s scary for some of us tiny ones. We need to find out who the culprit behind this is, and how to help the toads turn back into teachers.”

“I’ll admit that it is becoming boring being at school since we are not learning anything new. But, I still don’t want them back to give us homework!”

Tom Thumb sighs, hops onto your shoulder and begins to show you around his messy classroom. You notice the following:

▪ There’s smelly toad slime on top and under Mrs. Frumpy’s desk
▪ There are five large windows
▪ There’s a door at the back of the classroom

Cross off all suspects who are not from Tale Town Elementary School.

**NOUNS**

- hair
- homework
- dress
- glasses
- teacher
- toads

**ADJECTIVES**

- blue
- curly
- smelly
- large
- tiny
- purple
- scary
- yellow
- spotted

**CLUE 1:** You will need to read the text above to look for clues as to what the missing letters are in words listed under the nouns and adjectives categories below. Only words in the reading passage above are in the lists below. Reading is a MUST to check the context of how each word is used. Then match the letters with the numbers into the empty boxes to reveal a clue! The first one is done for you.

- Clue 1: Highlight the word answers in the text above as evidence (assign a color for nouns and adjectives).
CLUE 2. Fill in the missing letters to complete the answers in the comprehension questions below. Then match the letters with the numbers into the empty boxes to reveal a clue! The first one is done for you.

2. ANSWER KEY

Name: ____________________

Mrs J’s Resource Creations ©

Teacher Toads

Tom Thumb

“The staff room is where the teachers usually come during lunch and recess. But, as you can see, there’s no teacher in sight!”

If it helps, Detective, I asked around the school. Everyone reported that their teacher turned into a toad on Monday, after recess.”

Little Miss Muffet

“Strange how it only happened to the teachers though, I wonder why it didn’t happen to the students too.”

“I call dibs on the last half brownie over there! Yum!”

Wendy

“Yuck! Gretel, that’s disgusting! It looks like someone already bit into that brownie.”

“Delicious! These brownies have an unusual flavor though. There must be a special ingredient inside of it.”

You begin to inspect the staff room for clues.

❑ There are a few cups of cold coffee left on the dining table.
❑ There is a plate with traces of brownie crumbs left on the dining table.

Goldilocks

“Oh no! Look! Detective, Gretel is turning into a toad too!”

Cross off all suspects with ‘wand’ marked in their row.

1. When do the teachers usually visit the staff room? During lunch and recess time.
2. When did all of the teachers turn into toads? On Monday, after recess.
3. Who eats the leftover brownie? Gretel eats the leftover brownie.
4. Why does Wendy think that Gretel eating the last half brownie is disgusting? Because it looks like someone already bit into that brownie.
5. What is left on the dining table? There are a few cups of cold coffee and a plate with traces of brownie crumbs left on the dining table.

T H E R E
25 32 18 4 39
A R E
11 17 5
T R A C E S
33 40 34 2 15 6
O F A P O T I O N
21 12 10 28 8 19 38 29 37 24 26
T H E B R O W N I E
13 3 35 41 14 22 27 9 31 20
C R U M B S
30 36 1 7 23 16
Tom Thumb

“Maybe Fred the Frog Prince will help us figure out who could have caused this toad situation at our school. After all, someone turned him into a frog; did you know that he used to be a human prince?”

Fred the Frog Prince

“I can hear you are talking about me, and yes, I was turned into a frog. But, unfortunately, I still don’t know who did this to me.”

You ask Fred if he ate anything before transforming into a frog.

Fred the Frog Prince

“The day I turned into a frog, I woke up and ate some breakfast, strawberry jam on toast. After that, I went horseback riding in the woods. I rode for a while until I stopped for a rest by this same pond. I had a drink of water and ate a cookie. Then, I fell asleep by the tree over there. After I woke up, my horse was gone, and I discovered that I was no longer human but a slimy green frog! Everything else is still a mystery to me. Maybe you can help figure out who did this to me one day.”

After some thought, you realize that Fred can still talk in his frog form, unlike the toads at Tale Town Elementary School. So perhaps the cause for both problems is different.

Cross off all suspects without the ‘cheeky’ trait.

A male member of a royal family  P_r_i_n_c_e

A small red fruit  s_t_r_w_b_e_r_r_y

Sliced bread cooked on both sides  t_o_a_s_t

A sweet treat  c_o_o_k_i_e

A person who teaches  t_e_a_c_h_e_r

What Fred discovered he no longer was after waking up  h_u_m_a_n

A four-legged, plant-eating mammal  h_o_r_se

To change in form, appearance, or structure  t_r_a_n_s_f_o_r_m_i_n_g

A small amphibian related to a frog  t_o_a_d

Not the same as another or each other  d_i_f_f_e_r_e_n_t

S O M E O N E

C H E E K Y

T U R N E D

I N T O

T O A D S
Tom Thumb races home for supper; leaving you alone to continue the investigation. Unsure where to look next, you decide to go and visit the library to do some research on toad transformations.

**Belle**

"Hi, Detective! Do you need some help?"

You explain the teacher toad situation and want to know if there are any books on that topic.

"There are a few books on transformations in aisle six. However, if you are in a hurry, I recommend starting with the book 'Tricks, Traps, and Transformations.' I’m sure there is a chapter in that book about toads."

You ask if anyone has checked out the book recently?

"No, that book hasn’t been checked out in a long time. However, now that you mention it, something odd did happen last week that might help with your investigation. On Friday morning, the library's side door was left open, and I found the book 'Tricks, Traps, and Transformations' on the floor in aisle seven near the cookbooks. There was part of a recipe ripped next to it, too. I remember that chocolate was one of the ingredients. However, other than that happening, nothing in the library was taken or damaged. That's why I didn't call you."

You open the book to check out the chapter on Toad Transformations. The cure section outlines:

- **Knowledge is power.**
- **Power comes from a book.**
- **Jump on some facts, to help a toad turn back.**

Keep all of the suspects with the motive ‘Thought that it would be a funny prank’ and cross out other suspects with a different motive.


2. **When** did Belle find the book left on the floor? On *Friday* morning.

3. **Where** in the library was the book left after the break in? On the floor in aisle *seven* near the cookbooks.

4. **Why** didn’t Belle call you about the library break in? Because nothing in the library was taken or damaged.

---

**CLUE 4. Fill in the missing letters to complete the answers in the comprehension questions below. Then match the letters with the numbers into the empty boxes to reveal a clue!**

**T H I S C R I M E W A S**


   - **_t_**rick*, _t_**r**aps*, and _t_r**a**nsform**a**tions*

2. **When** did Belle find the book left on the floor? On *F_r_iday* m**o_r_n**ing.

3. **Where** in the library was the book left after the break in? On the floor in a**i**le **e**ven near the cookbooks.

4. **Why** didn’t Belle call you about the library break in? Because nothing in the library was taken or damaged.

   - **w_a_s t**aken or d**a**mage d.

   - **M_E_A_N_T** TO **B_E** A **P_R_A_N**K
5. VISIT LOCATION: Bogglehart Wizard Academy

Bumblebore: "I had a feeling that you would stop by, Detective. I recently heard about the teacher toads and figured you would suspect someone from here. Let me begin by saying that our academy has a strict policy about causing problems such as this. Students will be expelled immediately from the academy if caught playing with such magic tricks outside Bogglehart."

"I'll admit that my class has been working on transformations for the past five weeks, including toad spells. But, surely it isn't one of my students who caused this teacher toad trouble."

"Now, Professor Snail, we both know that sometimes you can be sluggish to catch the sneaky little ones."

"Professor, I'm still going to show the Detective your classroom, just in case. In the meantime, could you please work on a cure for the teacher toads?"

Bumblebore shows you inside Professor Snail's classroom. You notice the following:
- You find traces of ingredients that are used in toad potions on the floor near the window.
- The window is open. There are some finger blotches on the window glass.
- There are vines outside the window that go all the way to the ground.

Keep all of the suspects with brown in the clothing colors column. Cross out the rest without.

1. What happens to a student if caught playing around with magic tricks outside of Bogglehart? The students are **e x p e l l e d i m m e d i a t e l y**.

2. How long has Prof. Snail's class been working on transformations? **f i v e w e e k s**.

3. What is Prof. Snail certain about? He is **c e r t a i n t h a t h i s s t u d e n t s w o u l d n ' t s t e a l** from his **c l a s s r o o m**.

4. What do you find on the floor near the window? **T r a c e s o f i n g r e d i e n t s t h a t a r e u s e d i n t o a d p o t i o n s**.

5. What do you find on the window glass? **F i n g e r b l o t c h e s**.

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Mystery Answer: Jack ‘Beanstalk’ Spriggins
Date:___________________

**Thanks to the amazing detective work of ____________________________,**

**The Teacher Toads have been restored to their former selves!**

With students finding themselves suddenly lost at school, some couldn’t handle sitting around all day doing nothing. Many started to complain that their brains were beginning to turn to mush, as they craved a challenge.

This Teacher Toad situation was indeed a tricky one for Detective ______________________ to solve. Fortunately, Detective ______________________’s skills were no match for the culprit to cover his tracks. Reportedly, Jack ‘Beanstalk’ Spriggins is the criminal behind tainting the brownies in the teacher’s staff room with a toad transformation potion. Although he has no magic, he figured out a way to perform this crime by also committing two other crimes!

Sheriff Star gave the following statement, “Jack is going to be given lots of jail time not only for the teacher toad situation, but also for breaking and entering Tale Town library, and for stealing supplies from Bogglehart Wizard Academy. Even if he thought this was all meant to be some sort of funny prank, he took it too far. There is never a reasonable excuse to steal either.”

We interviewed Jack in his jail cell, where he only made the following comments, “Can’t anyone take a joke? This was all meant to be funny! Ok so I couldn’t turn the toads back to teachers, but I figured that the potion would wear off eventually.”

Unfortunately, Jack was wrong about the potion wearing off. The teachers were stuck as toads. Luckily, Detective ______________________ did some research and found the cure in an old book. At first it was difficult to interpret, even Bumblebore, the great wizard, wasn’t sure what to do, but the detective had a brilliant idea. Detective ______________________ rounded up all of the teacher toads into a school bus and drove them to Tale Town Library. There, all of the toads were allowed inside the library and spent the night sleeping on books. By the morning, all of the toads had turned back into a bunch of very confused teachers.

Everyone is grateful for the hard work done by Detective __________________________ to resolve this case, even the ones who weren’t so keen on having homework. If there is something to learn from all of this, it’s that knowledge is powerful in so many ways!