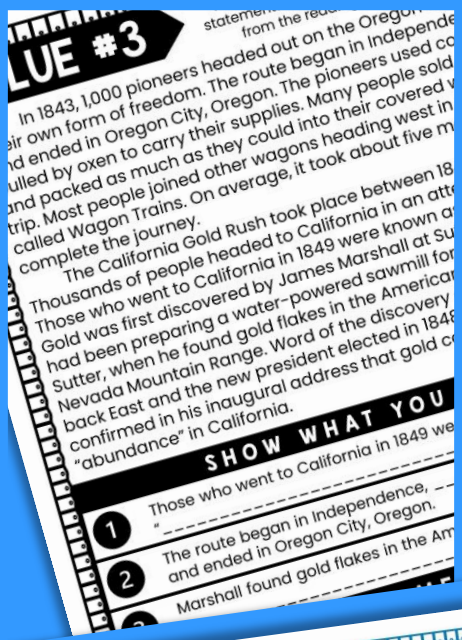
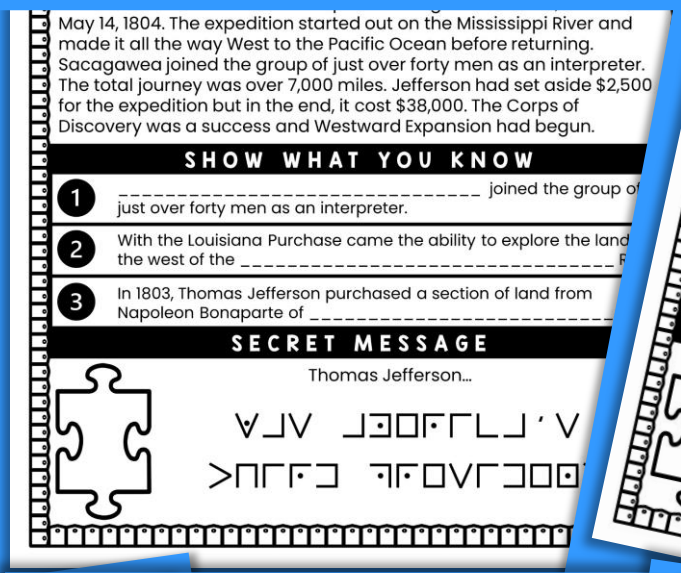
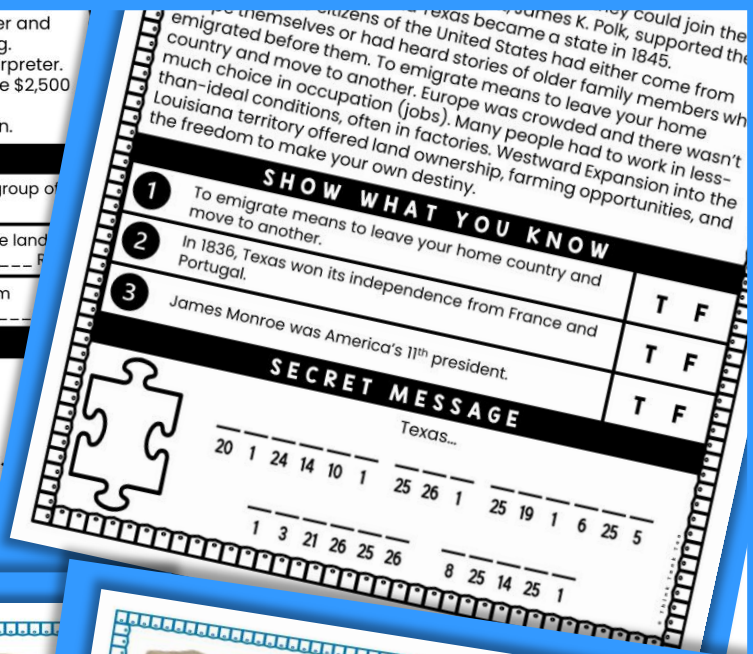
WESTWARD EXPANSION

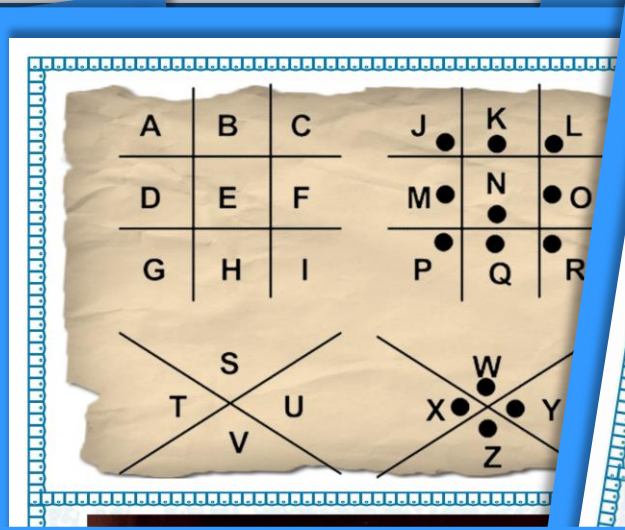
ESCAPE ROOM

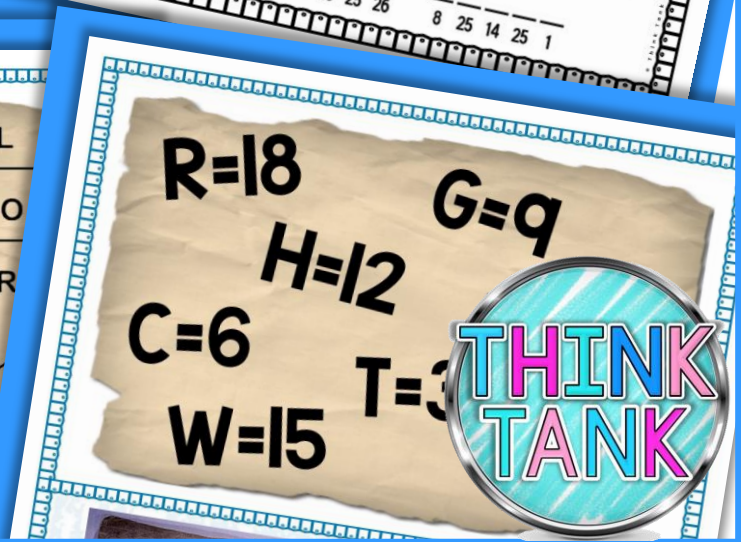








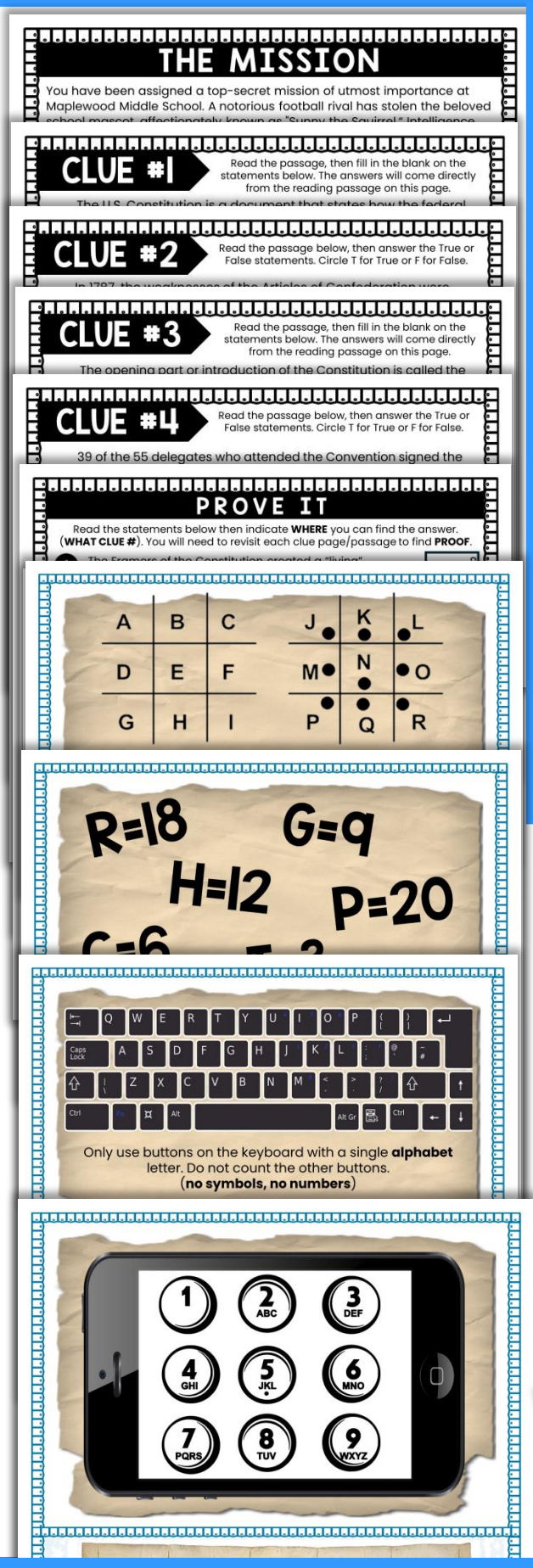


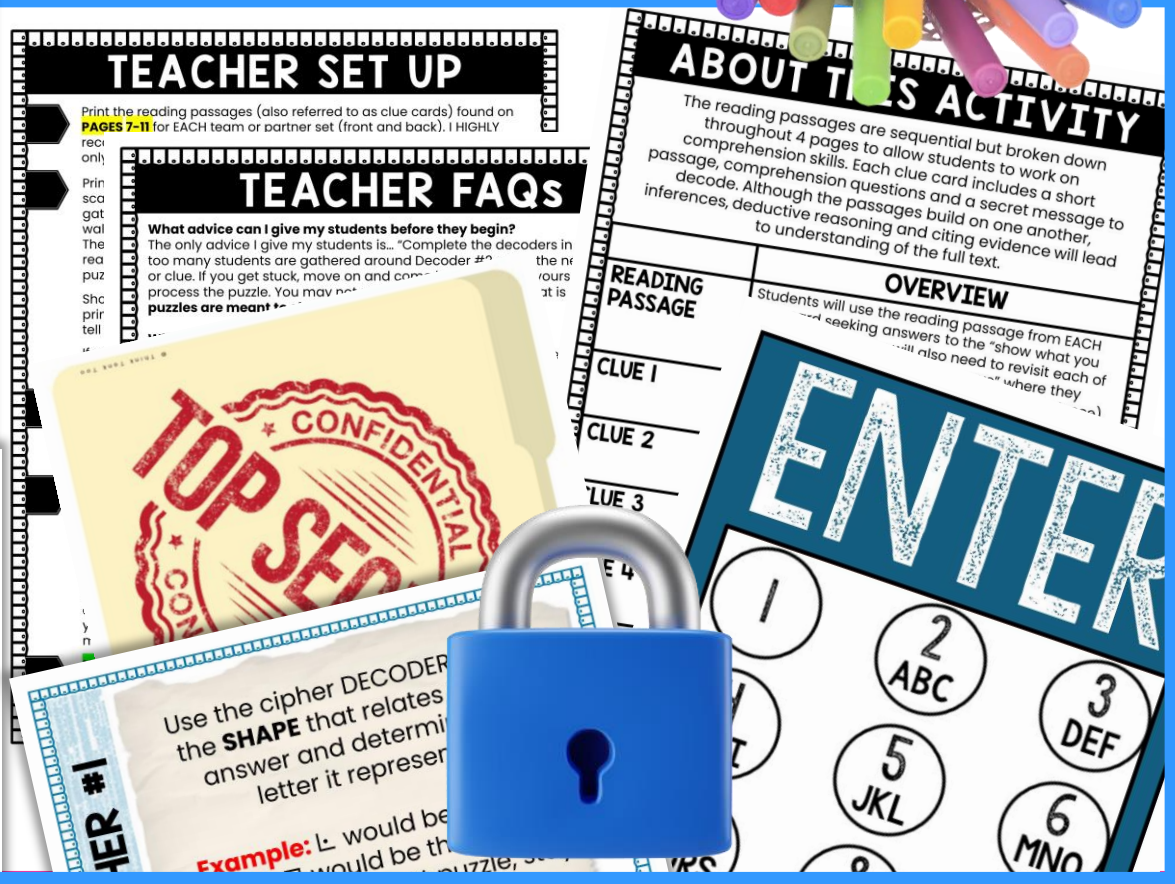


WHAT'S INCLUDED?

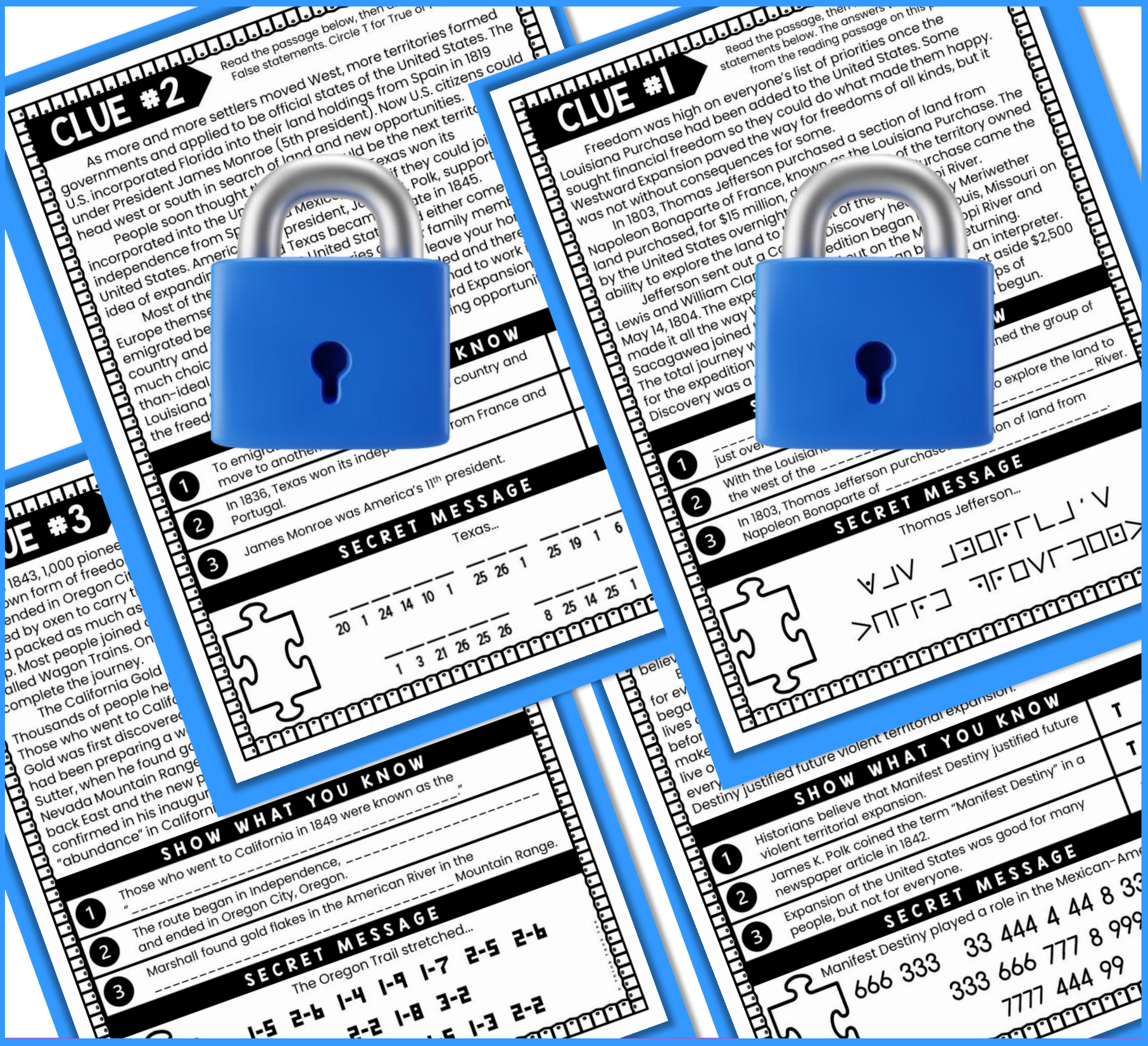
- 4 SHORT READING PASSAGES
- 4 PUZZLE DECODERS (UNLABELED)
- 4 PUZZLE DECODERS (LABELED)
- 18 COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS
- TEACHER SET UP
- STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- HINT CARDS
- FAQS
- ANSWER KEY
- PROP SIGNS



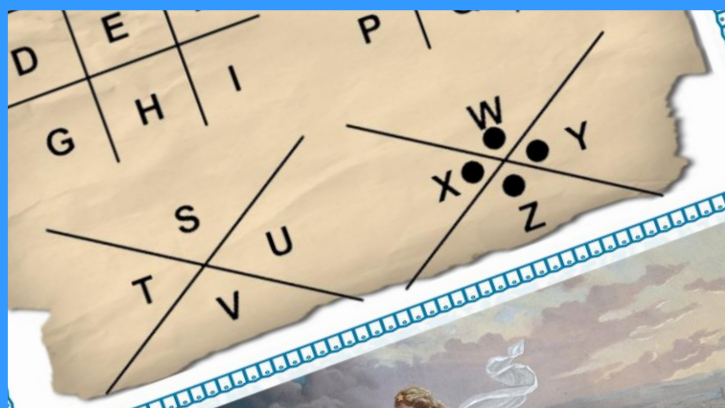




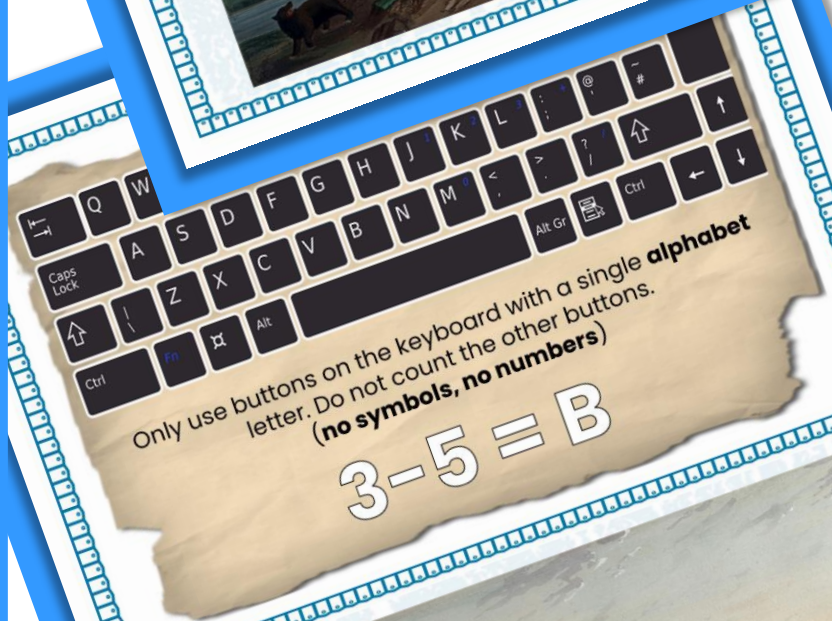
4 CLUE CARDS


CLUE #2
Read the passage below, then
False statements. Circle T for True
As more and more settlers moved West, more territories formed
governments and applied to be official states of the United States. The
U.S. incorporated Florida into their land holdings from Spain in 1819
under President James Monroe (5th president). Now U.S. citizens could
head west or south in search of land and new opportunities.
People soon thought
incorporated into the
independence from
United States. Americ
idea of expandi
Most of the
Europe themse
emigrated be
country and
much choic
than-ideal
Louisiana
the freed
KNOW
country and
rom France and
1 To emigr
move to another
2 In 1836, Texas won its indep
Portugal.
3 James Monroe was America's 11th president.
SECRET MESSAGE
Texas...
20 1 24 14 10 1 25 26 1 25 19 1 6
1 3 21 26 25 26 8 25 14 25 1
CLUE #1
Read the passage, then
statements below. The answers
from the reading passage on this
Freedom was high on everyone's list of priorities once the
Louisiana Purchase had been added to the United States. Some
sought financial freedom so they could do what made them happy.
Westward Expansion paved the way for freedoms of all kinds, but it
was not without consequences for some.
In 1803, Thomas Jefferson purchased a section of land from
Napoleon Bonaparte of France, known as the Louisiana Purchase. The
land purchased, for $15 million, of the territory owned
by the United States overnight
ability to explore the land to
Jefferson sent out a
Lewis and William
May 14, 1804. The
made it all the way
Sacagawea joined
The total journey
for the expedition
Discovery was a
Discovery he
edition began
ut on the M
an interpreter.
et aside $2,500
ps of
begun.
W
ned the group of
o explore the land to
River.
on of land from
just over
With the Louisiana
the west of the
2 In 1803, Thomas Jefferson purchase
Napoleon Bonaparte of
3
SECRET MESSAGE
Thomas Jefferson...
UE #3
1843, 1,000 pionee
own form of freedo
ended in Oregon Ci
ed by oxen to carry t
d packed as much as
p. Most people joined
alled Wagon Trains. On
complete the journey.
The California Gold
Thousands of people he
Those who went to Calif
Gold was first discovered
had been preparing a w
Sutter, when he found go
Nevada Mountain Range
back East and the new p
confirmed in his inaugur
"abundance" in Californ
SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW
1 Those who went to California in 1849 were known as the
"_____".
2 The route began in Independence, _____ and ended in Oregon City, Oregon.
3 Marshall found gold flakes in the American River in the _____ Mountain Range.
SECRET MESSAGE
The Oregon Trail stretched...
1-5 2-6 1-4 1-9 1-7 2-5 2-6
2-2 1-8 3-2
1-5 1-3 2-2
believ
for ev
bega
lives
befor
make
live o
every
Destiny justified future violent territorial expansion.
SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW
1 Historians believe that Manifest Destiny justified future violent territorial expansion. T
2 James K. Polk coined the term "Manifest Destiny" in a newspaper article in 1842. T
3 Expansion of the United States was good for many people, but not for everyone.
SECRET MESSAGE
Manifest Destiny played a role in the Mexican-Ame
666 333 33 444 4 44 8 33
333 666 777 8 999
7777 444 99

4 DECODERS

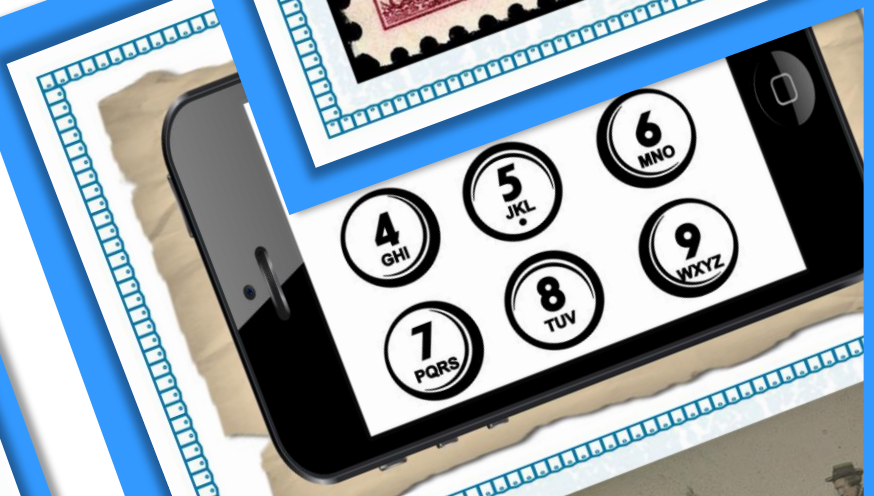

D
E
G
H
I
P
W
Y
X
Z
S
T
U
V




Only use buttons on the keyboard with a single **alphabet** letter. Do not count the other buttons.
(**no symbols, no numbers**)
3-5 = B

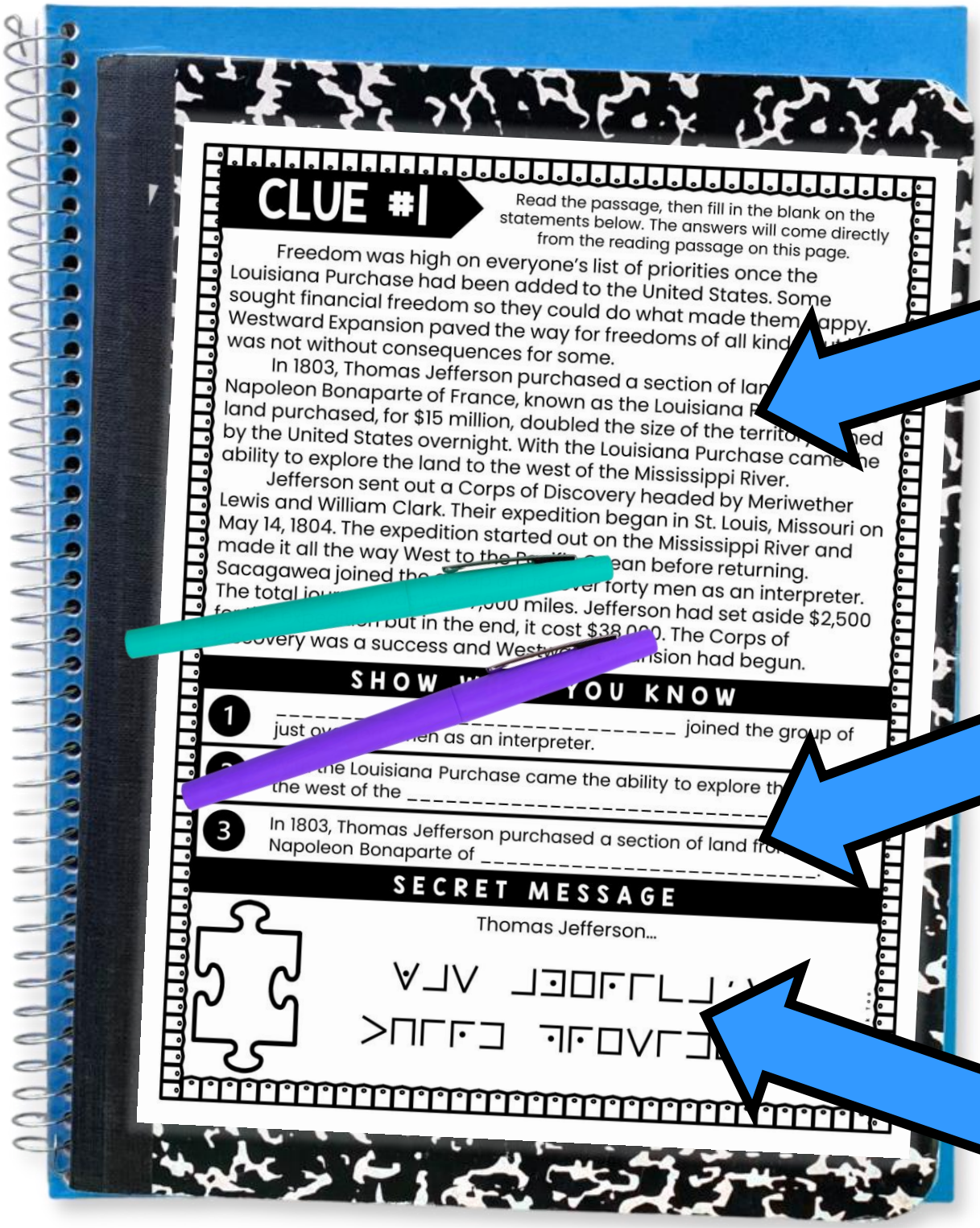



N=6 C=24
G=21 I=3 W=19
EXPEDITION
1954
LEWIS AND CLARK
1804
UNITED STATES POSTAG


4 GHI
5 JKL
6 MNO
7 PQRS
8 TUV
9 WXYZ



READ & THINK



READ THE PASSAGE

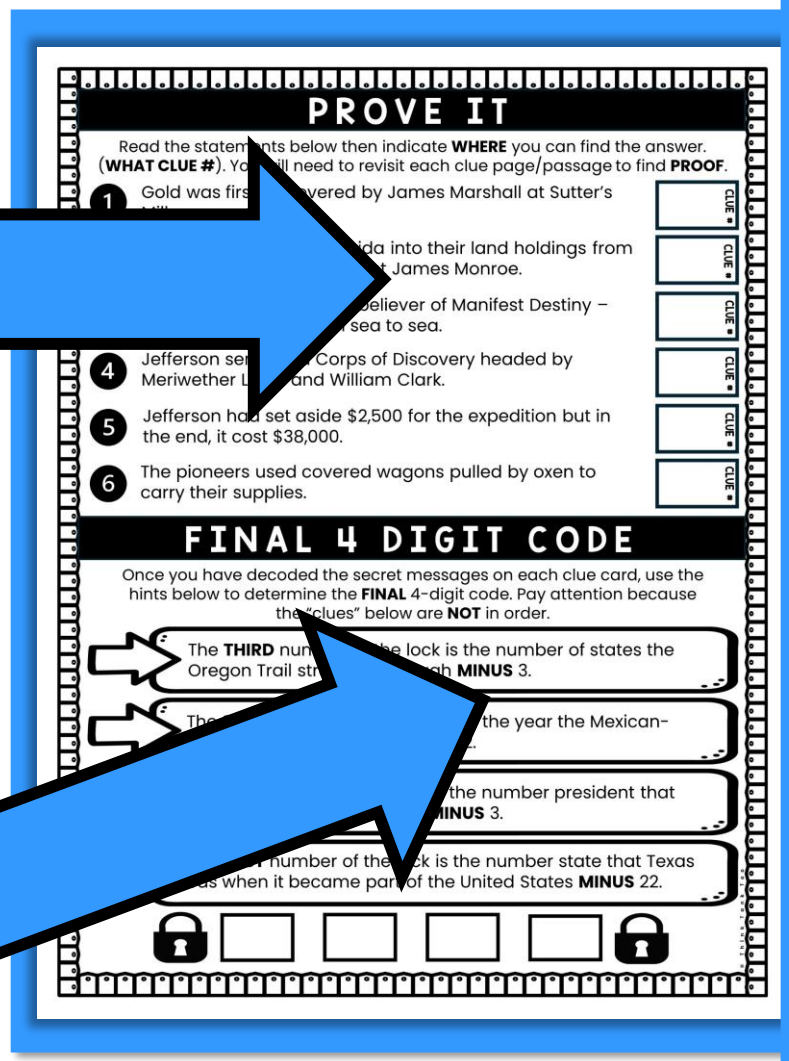
SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

DECODE THE MESSAGE

FINAL CODE

CITING TEXT EVIDENCE

Students will read the final code statements then PROVE WHERE they found the answer (CLUE #). This will ensure that students read and revisit the reading passages multiple times seeking text evidence.



CRITICAL THINKING

Students will use critical thinking skills to decode the secret messages. They will then use the information revealed in the message to determine the final 4-digit code.



HOW IT WORKS







ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

1. There are 4 clue cards and 4 puzzle decoders. Each clue card includes a short reading passage, questions to check for understanding, and a secret message to decode.

2. Students will work in pairs (or individually) and race to complete all 4 clue cards. A friendly competition always increases engagement. As students progress through the escape room, they will earn "clues" to determine the final 4-digit code. The final code is also a puzzle!



PRINT & GO



ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

The reading passages are sequential but broken down throughout 4 pages to allow students to work on comprehension skills. Each clue card includes a short passage, comprehension questions and a secret message to decode. Although the passages build on one another, inferences, deductive reasoning and citing evidence will lead to understanding of the full text.

	OVERVIEW
READING PASSAGE	Students will use the reading passage from EACH clue card seeking answers to the "show what you know" portion. They will also need to revisit each of the 4 clue card passages to "prove" where they found the answer for the final code (text evidence)
CLUE 1	Students will read the passage, answer 3 fill in the blank questions, and reveal a secret message using a puzzle decoder.
CLUE 2	Students will read the passage, answer 3 True False questions, and reveal a secret message using a puzzle decoder.
CLUE 3	Students will read the passage, answer 3 fill in the blank questions, and reveal a secret message using a puzzle decoder.
CLUE 4	Students will read the passage, answer 3 True or False questions, and reveal a secret message using a puzzle decoder.
FINAL CODE	As students progress through the escape room, they will decode "clues" to determine the final 4-digit code. The final code is also a puzzle! In order to "escape" students must present correct answers for EVERY question as well as the decoded secret messages and final 4-digit code.

© Think Tank Too

BENEFITS

- ✅ PRINT & GO
- ✅ CLOSE READING
- ✅ COMPREHENSION SKILLS
- ✅ SECRET CODES
- ✅ CITING EVIDENCE
- ✅ CRITICAL THINKING
- ✅ MOVEMENT
- ✅ ACTIVE LEARNING
- ✅ CROSS-CURRICULAR
- ✅ HIGHLY ENGAGING
- ✅ NO LOCKS NEEDED
- ✅ NO ENVELOPES TO STUFF
- ✅ NO ODD SHAPES TO CUT

Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!



USE FOR



ANTICIPATORY SETS

UNIT REVIEW

EARLY FINISHERS

STATIONS

REWARD ACTIVITY

SUB PLANS

COLLABORATION

ENRICHMENT

GALLERY WALK

