Ages 3–5 15–20 minutes · 1 child or a whole class

Clover's Missing Mitten

Clover the bunny has lost one of her star mittens. Go back through her snow day and find it!

Clover went sledding, baked cookies with Nana Bear and built a snowman. Now one mitten is gone. Your child retraces her day in three short stops: matching mittens on the sled hill, picking what comes next in the cookie baking, and spotting what changed on the snowman. Each stop gives a letter, and the three letters spell what Clover gives the snowman at the end. Then your child colors and glues mittens of his own onto the snowman and gets a certificate. It's all snow, cookies and mittens, so it suits any home in winter, or a classroom.

Skills: matching pairs · telling things apart · putting steps in order · spotting differences · counting · letter recognition · coloring · scissor practice (straight lines) · gluing · following directions

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What you need

- Crayons or markers
- A pencil
- Child-safe scissors and a glue stick
- Plain printer paper

How to play

1. Nothing to set up: print and go. Keep page 8, the answers and hints, for yourself.
2. Read each page out loud and point to the pictures. Your child doesn't need to read.
3. Take the stops in order. Each one ends with a letter for its box: write it in for your child, or let them copy it.
4. Stuck? Page 8 has three hints for every stop, from a small nudge to nearly the answer. Give one hint at a time. Guessing the word early is part of the fun.
5. On page 6, copy the three letters and say the word together. Then color the two mittens, cut them out and glue them on the snowman's twig hands. For a three-year-old, cut them out yourself and let them glue.
6. Finish with the certificate. Everyone who plays is a Mitten Finder.

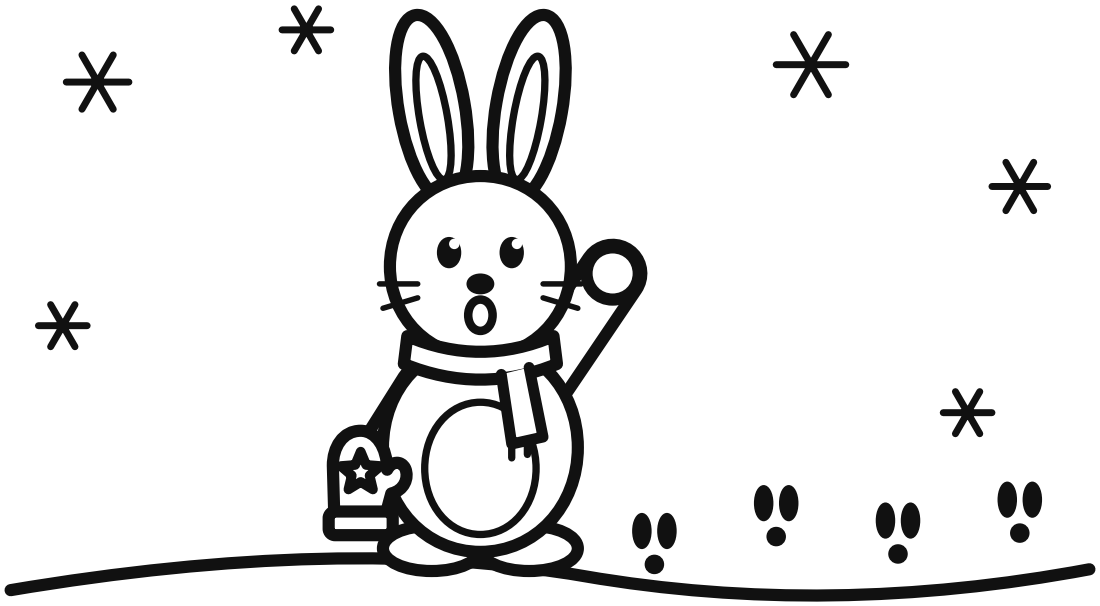
If a player can't easily see the pictures or uses a screen reader, page 9 tells you what to describe at each stop.

In a classroom

Free for home and classroom use. Copy pages 2–7 once per child. The three stops fit a 20-minute center; the mitten craft can wait for another day. Thick outlines and no big black areas keep it easy on toner.

Clover's Missing Mitten

Clover the bunny had a big snow day. She went sledding. She baked cookies with Nana Bear. She built a snowman.



Oh no! One star mitten is missing.

Go back the way Clover went, and find it!

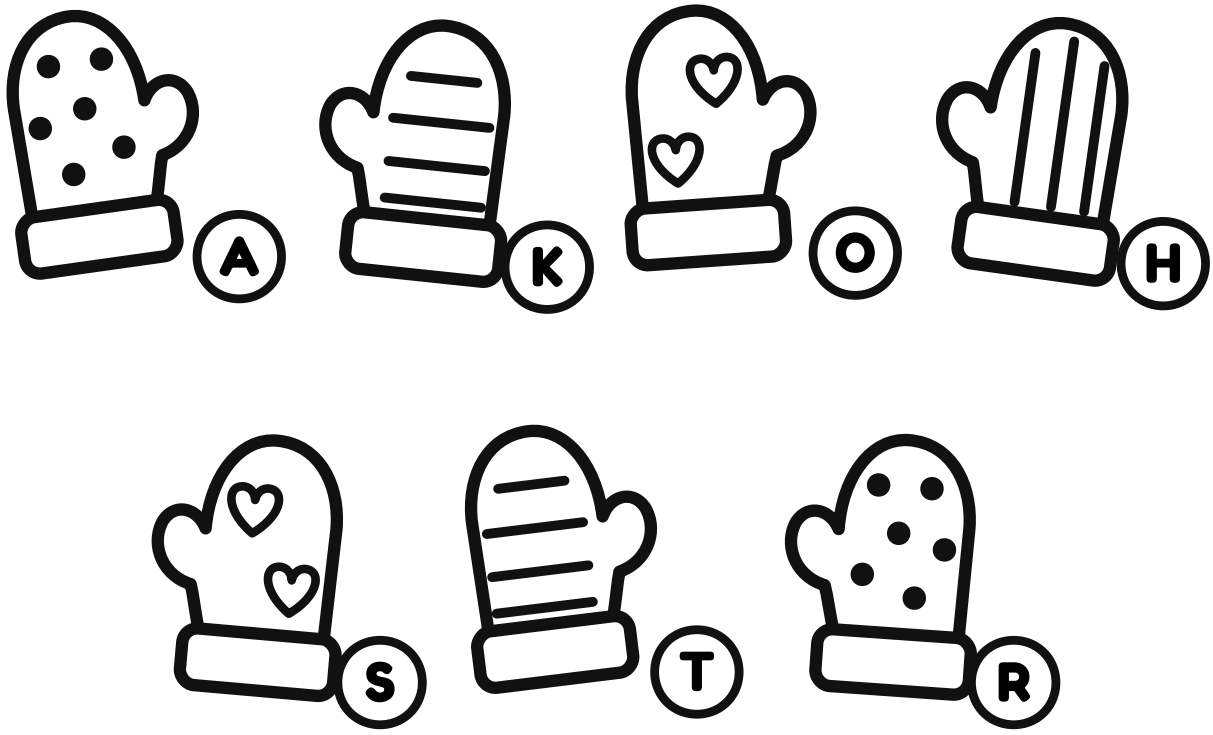


Each stop has a letter for you. Write it in the box.

STOP 1

The sled hill

Lots of mittens were dropped on the sled hill. Is Clover's star mitten here?



1 Draw a line between two mittens that match.

2 One mitten has no partner. Circle it.

Put its letter in the box.

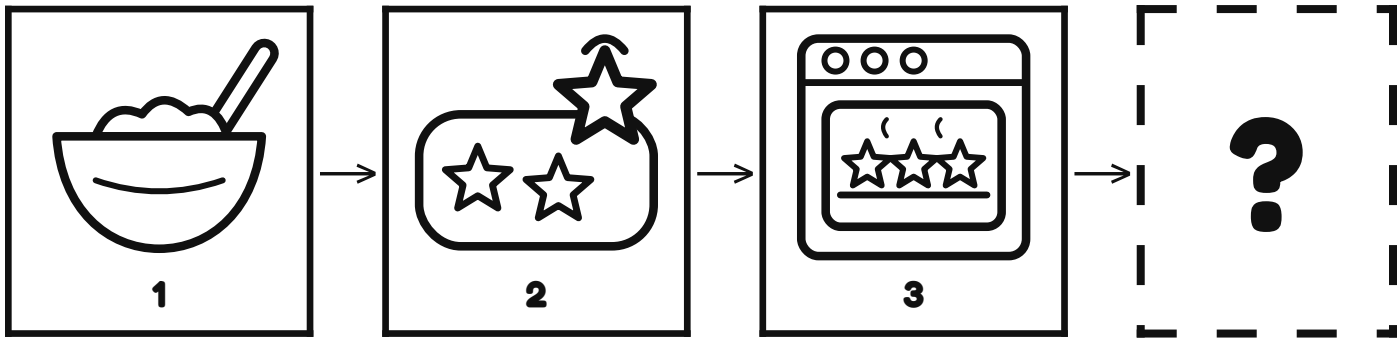
Stop 1

No star mitten here. Next, Nana Bear's kitchen →

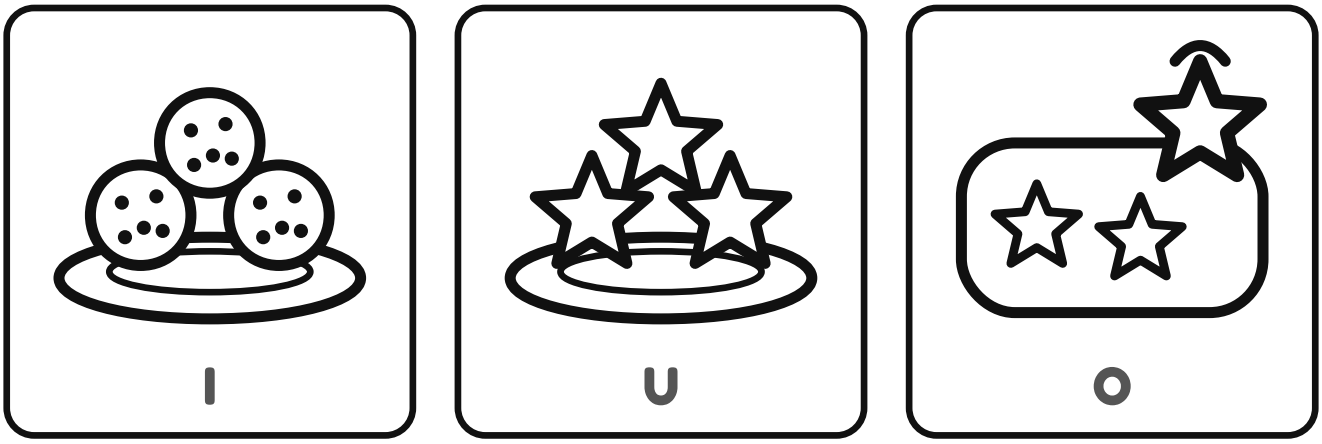
STOP 2

Nana Bear's kitchen

Clover and Nana Bear baked cookies. First, then, then...



What comes out next? Circle it.



Put the letter from your picture in the box.

Stop 2

No mitten here either. Next, the snowman →

STOP 3

The snowman

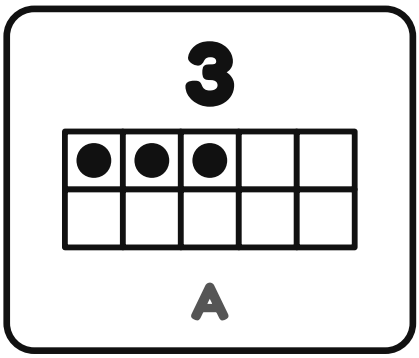
Clover drew her snowman when he was new. Look at him now!

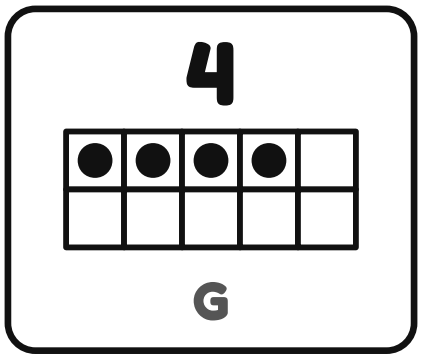


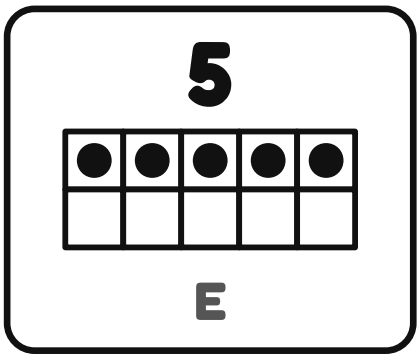


1 Circle each thing that changed.

2 How many did you find? Circle that card.







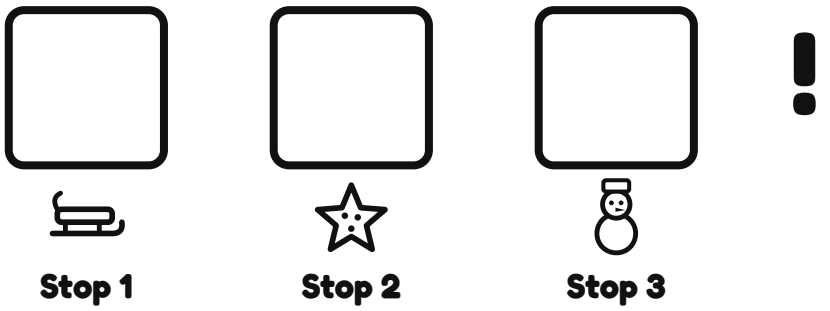
Put the card's letter in the box.

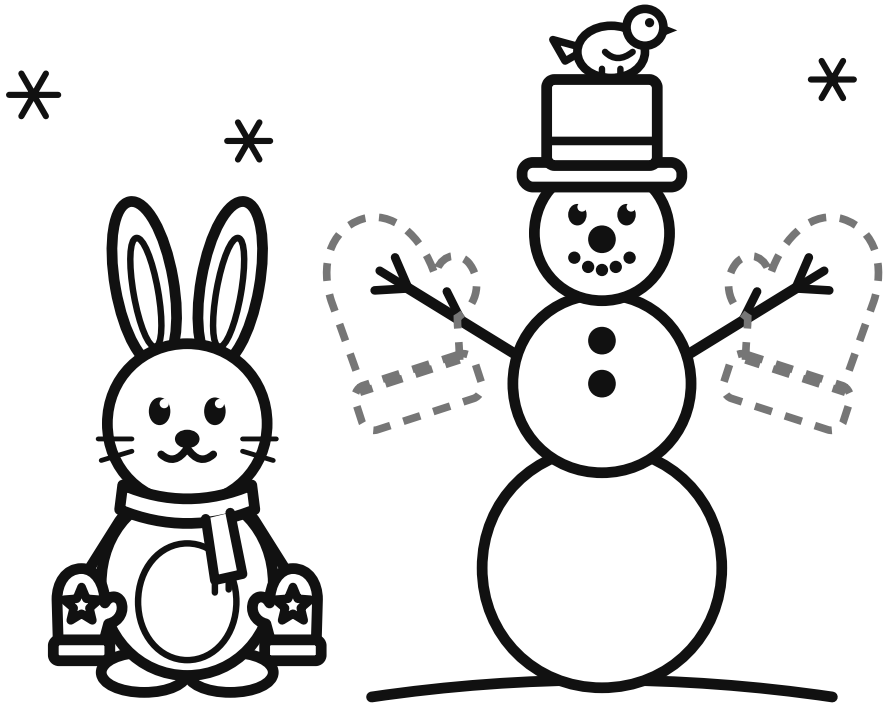
Stop 3

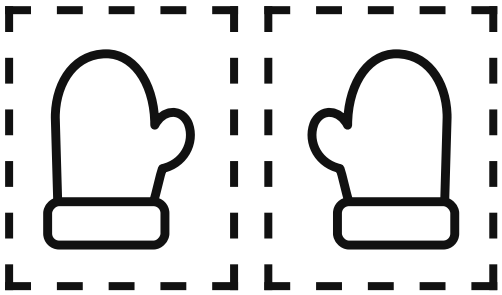
You found the mitten!

The snowman's twig hands looked cold, so Clover lent him her mitten. Then she forgot! Now she has it back. What does Clover give the snowman?

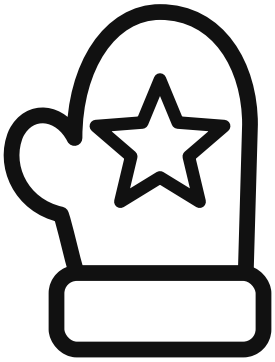
Copy each stop's letter.







1. Color the snowman's mittens.
2. Cut on the dashed lines. A grown-up can cut.
3. Glue one on each twig hand.

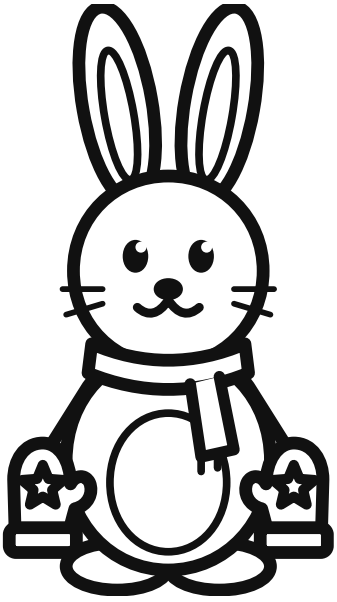


Mitten Finder!

This certificate goes to

_____

for following Clover's snow day
and finding her star mitten. Hooray!





Date: _____

Answers and hints, for grown-ups

Stop 1, the sled hill The pairs are the dots, the hearts and the stripes that go across. The mitten with up-and-down stripes has no partner → **H**. Each pair is a left and a right, so one thumb points each way.

Hints: (1) Look at the pattern on each mitten. Does every one have a twin? (2) Find the two dotted mittens and join them with a line, then the two with hearts. (3) Two mittens with stripes look alike. Do their stripes go the same way?

Stop 2, the kitchen The cutter made stars, and stars went in the oven, so the plate of star cookies comes next → **U**. The round cookies (I) came from a different cutter, and the dough (O) came before the oven.

Hints: (1) What shape is the cookie cutter? (2) Point to the cookies inside the oven window. What shape are they? (3) Find the plate whose cookies match the ones in the oven.

Stop 3, the snowman Four things changed: a bird sits on his hat, his carrot nose is now a pebble (a bunny might know where the carrot went), one button is gone, and Clover's star mitten is on his twig hand. Four → **G**.

Hints: (1) Start at the top: is his hat the same in both pictures? (2) Touch one part of the first snowman, then find it on the second. Do it for the nose, the buttons and both hands. (3) Look at his hat, his nose, his buttons and his hands: something changed at each.

The word H, U, G = **HUG**. If it comes out different, find the stop with the odd letter and look again together.

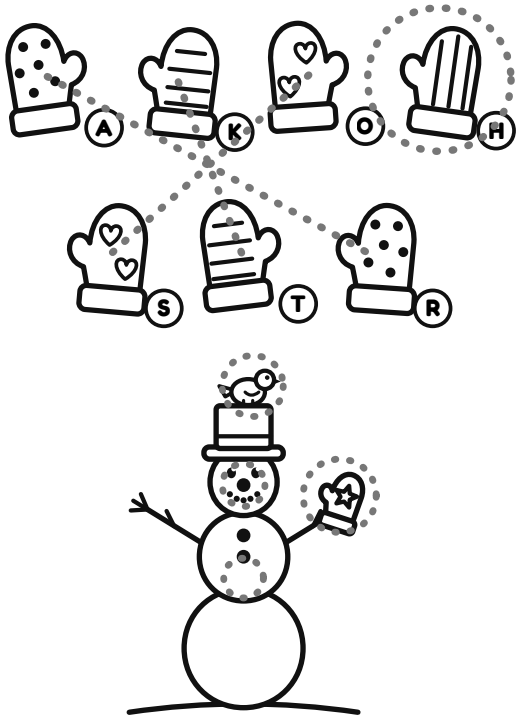
The mittens Anywhere on the snowman is fine. The dotted shapes are only a guide.

If they get stuck

- Read the page out loud again and point to each picture.
- Take turns: you find one pair or one change, then they find the next.

Grown-ups get a kit too

Free escape-room kits for older kids, teens and adults are on the same page you got this one from. New kits for this age are added there too. Kinundrum makes personalized puzzle countdowns for families and group chats.



Credits

Illustrations: original art made for this kit. Fonts: Andika (SIL International), SIL Open Font License 1.1; Fredoka (Milena Brandão and Hafontia), SIL Open Font License 1.1.

Reading the pictures aloud

For a player who can't easily see the pictures or uses a screen reader. Read each stop's part aloud, then let your child answer. The hints on page 8 are the same.

Stop 1, the sled hill

Describe each mitten and its letter, then ask which one has no twin.

- Top row: dots, A. Stripes that go across, K. Hearts, O. Stripes that go up and down, H.
- Bottom row: hearts, S. Stripes that go across, T. Dots, R.

Stop 2, Nana Bear's kitchen

The cards, in order: 1, a mixing bowl of dough with a spoon. 2, rolled-out dough with a star-shaped cookie cutter. 3, an oven with star cookies inside.

What comes out next? I, a plate of round cookies with sprinkles. U, a plate of star cookies. O, the rolled-out dough with the cutter.

Stop 3, the snowman

Read the first snowman, then the second, and let your child say what changed. Fingers help with the counting.

- Clover's drawing: a top hat; two eyes and a smile; a carrot nose; three buttons; two bare twig hands.
- Now: a bird sitting on the top hat; two eyes and a smile; a round pebble nose; two buttons; one bare twig hand, and a star mitten on the other.

The cards: 3, A. 4, G. 5, E.

The mittens and the certificate

Read page 6 together. Coloring, cutting and gluing need no notes; help with the scissors and the glue as much as they like.