Practice your questioning skills with this fun activity.

Make the box:

1. Cut around the shapes outline.

2. Next, encourage your little detective to decorate the box using paints, stickers, textas and glitter.

3. Fold the shape along the fold lines and secure with tape or glue.

4. Collect small items from around the house; pebble, ring, rubber, button, etc.

5. Ask your little investigator to close their eyes. While their eyes are closed place an item in the box.

Mystery Guess:
Now the fun begins!

• Start giving your little detective clues to help them guess what the item in the box might be.

• Keep clue giving and guessing until the mystery is solved.

Switch places with your little investigator and let them become the detective ask they give you clues to help you guess what the new mystery item might be.

Activity sourced from:
http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/mystery-box
ID BADGE/MUG SHOT

AGENT #

INVESTIGATION AGENCY:

INVESTIGATOR NAME:

FIRST

LAST

SPECIAL SKILLS:

• For Agent # write your AGE
• For Investigator Agency write your LAST NAME BACKWARDS
• For your FIRST NAME write your FIRST NAME BACKWARDS
• For your LAST NAME write your STREET NAME

ARE YOU AN SRC DETECTIVE OR AN SRC MASTER OF DISGUISE?

Draw yourself doing the Summer Reading Club — Investigation!

Scan your picture to our National Picture Gallery! Go to www.summerreadingclub.org.au/upload-a-picture

WANTED
CRACKING CODES

Help your little code breaker use the key below to crack the secret message! The letters that make up the secret message have been given a picture. Use the pictures in the key to identify the sound of each letter; then match the letter to the picture in the coded message! As a clue the first one is done for you.

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B

Bonus
How many ice creams are on this page? _______
Put an X on things that go in the water.
Circle all the eggs.
A sneaky robber has stolen some items from Detective Derek’s office! Detective Derek has taken a photo of his office before and after the crime.

CAN YOU SPOT 5 DIFFERENCES IN THE PICTURES BELOW?
COLOUR BY NUMBER

Colour me in!

1. Light Green
2. Light Blue
3. Dark Green
4. Brown
5. Grey
6. Yellow
MAGNIFICATION GAME

Can you guess what the word is in each of the magnifying glasses?
Use a magnifying glass just like a detective to see what each of the words say!

If you don’t have a magnifying glass you can make your own with the help of an adult.
• Boil water and pour it into a small, heat-safe bowl that has a convex surface.
• Place the bowl in the freezer. Wait for the water to freeze.
• Turn the bowl upside down and tap the ice to free this “magnifying glass.”

1  CAT
2  NOSE
3  SPY
4  BOOK
5  SEARCH
6  FIND
FIND THE CLUES

Do you have a keen eye?
Derek the Detective needs to find all the clues in order to solve the mystery. Help Derek find the 5 clues by circling them in the picture below.

1. A secret message
2. The moon
3. A Cola Can
4. A flower pot
5. A crack
Finding things is key to a detective’s work!

Derek the Detective has lost his moustache! Without his moustache people will know Derek’s real identity!

Help keep Derek’s identity top secret by finding all eight moustaches in the scene below—use a magnifying glass like a real detective to help solve the puzzle!

DEREK’S MOUSTACHE LOOKS LIKE THIS!

CHECK OUT THE BACK COVER OF THIS ACTIVITY BOOKLET FOR MORE DETECTIVE DISGUISES!

Colour them in, cut them out and then send a picture of yourself in disguise, just like Derek to summerreadingclub@slq.qld.gov.au. Remember to include your name, age and state.

We’ll add your picture to the online Summer Reading Club Gallery! To maintain your secret identity also include your secret agent name — you can figure this out on page 3.
Our fingerprints are unique to us. They identify who we are! Parents, help your little investigator examine the fingerprints of everyone in the family. You might even want to try paw printing the dog!

**CAPTURING THE PRINTS**

1. Have the “suspect” push their finger on the ink pad and then place their inked fingerprint in one of the boxes.
2. Help your child write the names of the owners of the prints in each box.
3. Help your child compare each of these fingerprints.
4. Identify what is different and what is similar between the captured prints. Point out how each fingerprint has a different pattern, shape and perhaps even size.

**ANALYSE THE PRINTS**

Compare each of these fingerprints by helping your child understand that each fingerprint is different. Talk about how each fingerprint has a different pattern, shape and may even be a different size!

Now help your child to print each of their fingerprints onto the tips of the fingers on the hand!

**What you’ll need:**
An ink pad

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Building skills of observation

Use your incredible searching skills to find the letter in each of the scenes below!

In each picture circle the letter you are searching for each time you find it!

Before you start guess how many times you think the letter will appear. At the end count how many times each letter appeared in the puzzles.

FIND THE LETTER A!

I think the letter A will appear _______ times.

The letter A appeared _______ times.

FIND THE LETTER B!

I think the letter B will appear _______ times.

The letter B appeared _______ times.
COLOURING ACTIVITY

Colour me in! Send your coloured-in picture to the Summer Reading Club at summerreadingclub@slq.qld.gov.au and we’ll post it to the Summer Reading Club online Gallery. Remember to include your name, age, and state so we can identify your artwork submission.
It’s time to go exploring!

Equip your little investigator with a magnifying glass and let them loose in the park or yard to play *Nature Detective* to show them how things look different under a magnifying glass.

Point out things like the veins in leaves, watch a ladybug crawl on a flower or examine a fresh paw print in the dirt.

A nature reserve is an ideal spot for this activity — just remember to tell your little investigator to just look, not touch!

Extend this activity further by creating a scavenger hunt:

Make a list of things for your child to find, such as a bird feather, an ant hill or a flower. Here are a few common examples of things you might like to find!
Be Prepared!
No detective is prepared without their trusty brief case filled with top secret investigation equipment!
Parents ensure your little detective is prepared by helping them to make their own detective briefcase.

**DETECTIVE KIT**

**Materials needed**
- A cardboard box
- String
- Paints, markers and a bulldog clip!
- Top secret investigation equipment (see below)

**DETECTIVE KIT BLUEPRINT**

**TOP SECRET INVESTIGATION EQUIPMENT (TOOLS OF THE TRADE)**

- **A Notebook**: To record various observations.
- **Flour and a Make-up brush**: For revealing fingerprints.
- **Clear sticky tape**: Once you’ve revealed the fingerprint get a piece of tape and place it on the fingerprint. The flour will stick to the so you can take a closer look at the fingerprint.
- **Tape measure**: To measure hairs and foot prints.
- **Gloves**: So you don’t get your fingerprints on the evidence.
- **Plastic tweezers**: To pick up the evidence.
- **Small plastic bags**: To store the evidence.
- **Pencil**: To write things that might need correction.
- **Pen**: In case the pencil breaks or to highlight.
- **Magnifying glass**: To take a closer look at things

Activity sourced from: http://www.crafts-for-all-seasons.com/homemade-detective-kit.html
CRACKING CODES

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

FIND THE CLUES

MAGNIFICATION GAME

1. Cat
2. Nose
3. Spy
4. Book
5. Search
6. Find

THE MISSING Moustache

LETTER SEARCH A

LETTER SEARCH B

SOLUTIONS
1. Cut out the disguise items
2. Tape each item to a pencil or a plastic straw
3. Hold the item to your face
4. Assume your new identity
5. Take a picture and send it to the Summer Reading Club Gallery (go to summerreadingclub.org.au/upload-a-picture)