

Name _____



The Mystery of the Missing Presents

In the cheerful neighborhood of Candy Cane Lane, excitement was in the air as Christmas drew near. But this year, something strange was happening. Christmas presents were disappearing one by one, right from under the twinkling trees. It was a puzzle that had the whole neighborhood baffled.

Enter Benny Brown, an amateur detective with a passion for solving mysteries. He wore a neon green detective hat, carried a magnifying glass, and had a notebook full of scribbles about his neighbors' quirky habits.

Benny decided to investigate the case of the stolen presents. He knocked on his first suspect's door, Mrs. Gingersnap, a sweet old lady known for her love of gingerbread cookies. Benny asked, "Have you seen anything unusual lately, Mrs. Gingersnap?"

She replied, "Oh, dear Benny, I'm too busy baking cookies to notice anything else!"

Next, Benny questioned Mr. Peppermint, the neighborhood's grumpy cat owner. Mr. Peppermint was always complaining about something. "Did you notice anything suspicious, Mr. Peppermint?"

Mr. Peppermint grumbled, "Those pesky reindeer keep leaving hoofprints on my lawn, but nothing else!"

Benny's next stop was the home of the Gumdrop family, a bunch of jolly, candy-loving siblings. They were always laughing and playing pranks on each other. Benny asked, "Any strange occurrences at your house?"

Gumdrop Junior giggled, "Well, there was this time my brother tried to wrap himself up as a present!"

Despite Benny's best efforts, he couldn't find any clues. He felt a bit defeated until he heard a commotion coming from the house next door, the residence of the Marshmallow Twins. The twins were known for their love of marshmallow fights and their mischievous ways.

Benny peeked through the window and saw the Marshmallow Twins surrounded by piles of presents. They were giggling uncontrollably as they unwrapped gifts. It turned out they had been "borrowing" the presents to have their own early Christmas celebrations.

With the mystery solved, Benny explained the situation to the twins and convinced them to return the stolen presents. The neighborhood's Christmas spirit was restored, and the Marshmallow Twins promised to behave.

As Christmas morning arrived, Candy Cane Lane was filled with laughter and joy. Thanks to Benny Brown, everyone had their presents back, and the neighborhood celebrated the most memorable Christmas ever.

