

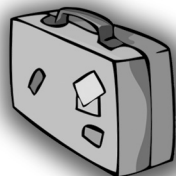


The Wild Water Mystery at

NIAGARA FALLS

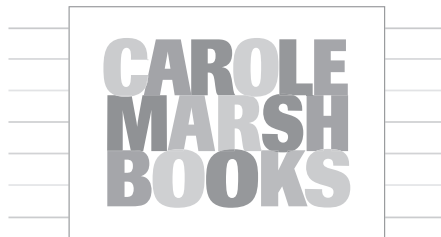


Teacher's Guide



by
Carole Marsh

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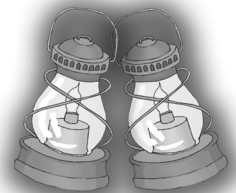
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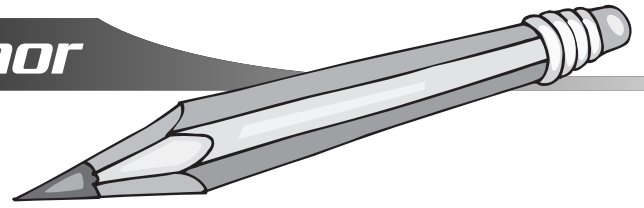
Published by Gallopade International/Carole Marsh Books.
Printed in the United States of America.



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- #24 The Ghost of the Golden Gate Bridge
- #25 The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls
- #26 The Colonial Caper Mystery at Williamsburg



A Word from the Author



Dear Teachers,

The first time I visited Niagara Falls, believe it or not, I was there to talk about sex! Sex education! So while my husband Bob (Papa in the mysteries, as you know!), wolfed down authentic Buffalo Hot Wings, I was too nervous preparing for my talk and television appearance to even think about what we were going to do afterwards: see Niagara Falls.

So you could say that I sort of just stumbled to the falls in a post-speech/tv daze, and boy, was I razzled and dazzled by the amazing sight of all that water! I'm sure everyone says that it is so much larger, splashier, and amazing than any pictures or video can ever really show, and that's true! But not only are the falls spectacular—so are the history and the science behind them.

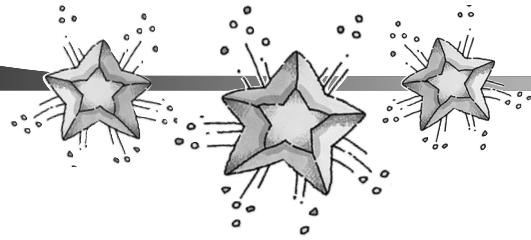


What a barrel-of-fun educational experience it was, and I hope you have the same—on a wacky, wet field trip, or right in your classroom!

Carole Marsh



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The Wild Water Mystery at
**NIAGARA
FALLS**

30 Years Ago...

As a mother and an author, one of the fondest periods of my life was when I decided to write mystery books for children. At this time (1979) kids were pretty much glued to the TV, something parents and teachers complained about the way they do about video games today.

I decided to set each mystery in a real place—a place kids could go and visit for themselves after reading the book. And I also used real children as characters. Usually a couple of my own children served as characters, and I had no trouble recruiting kids from the book's location to also be characters.

Also, I wanted all the kids—boys and girls of all ages—to participate in solving the mystery. And, I wanted kids to learn something as they read. Something about the history of the location. And I wanted the stories to be funny.

That formula of real+scary+smart+fun served me well. The kids and I had a great time visiting each site and many of the events in the stories actually came out of our experiences there.

I love getting letters from teachers and parents who say they read the book with their class or child, then visited the historic site and saw all the places in the mystery for themselves. What's so great about that? What's great is that you and your children have an experience that bonds you together forever. Something you shared. Something you both cared about at the time. Something that crossed all age levels—a good story, a good scare, a good laugh!

30 years later,

Carole Marsh



Niagara Falls Trivia

One and a half million gallons of water flow through the Niagara River every second.

Seven people have gone over the falls in a barrel. Only four survived!



Ten percent of the water of Niagara Falls flows over the American Falls. The other ninety percent flows over the Horseshoe Falls.

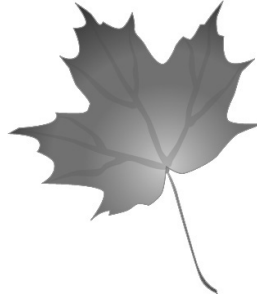
The Niagara River is not a river; it is a strait.

Chapter Subject

EXPLORE!

1 Science

Autumn is also known as "fall," and is one of our four seasons. In the northern hemisphere of the world (where you live), fall officially occurs between September 21st and December 21st. In the southern hemisphere it's the opposite: autumn is from March 20th to June 21st!



1 History

Wheelchairs have been helping people get around for a long time. The earliest evidence of a wheelchair is a Chinese drawing from 525 AD—almost 1500 years ago! Early wheelchairs were very heavy and hard to use.

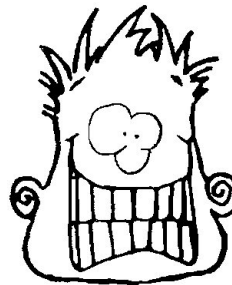


1 Crime

Something that is illegal is against the law. That means if you get caught doing it you'll be in big trouble! Why do you think going over Niagara Falls is illegal?

1 Geography

Canada is the second largest country in the world! It also has the longest coastline in the world and the longest border with another country (the United States!).



2 Language

To be *ecstatic* is to be joyful and full of delight.

2 Body Language

By striking a pose, Mimi is making an exaggerated display of her unique outfit!

2 Imagery

Christina's description of the falls as "sparkling liquid hair" is imagery, or the use of vivid language to create a mental picture or image.



Canadian Cuisine

Biscuits were a staple for British soldiers during the War of 1812. Try this easy and tasty biscuit recipe! Be sure to have an adult help you.

- 2 cups flour
- 1 tbsp. baking powder
- 2 tsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup margarine
- 1 cup milk



✓ Combine the first five ingredients in a bowl and mix well.

✓ Cut in the shortening, butter, or margarine until the mixture looks like pea-sized crumbs.

✓ Make a well in the center of the mixture and add the milk all at once.

✓ Stir just until the mixture sticks together. Stir too long and your biscuits will be hard as a rock!

✓ Use a tablespoon to scoop up the dough and drop it onto a greased baking sheet.

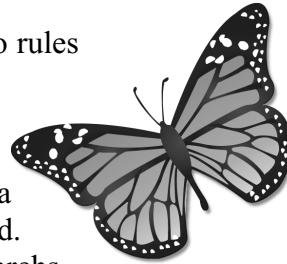
✓ Bake at 450 degrees for 10-12 minutes.

✓ Serve warm and enjoy!

Falls Fun Facts!

3 Vocabulary To do something *warily* is to do it carefully, or with caution. What is something you might do warily?

3 History A monarch is someone who rules over a country. Monarchs are not elected by the people. They rule because they are born into a family that has always ruled. Kings and queens are monarchs. A monarch is also a type of butterfly!



3 Vocabulary If something is *eerie*, it is unnatural and frightening, and it might make you think of ghosts!

3 Body Language Christina looks at Grant in disgust. That means she gives him a look of strong dislike.

4 Language A *mischievous* grin is one that is playful or teasing.

4 Vocabulary A *landlubber* is someone with no experience on boats or the water.

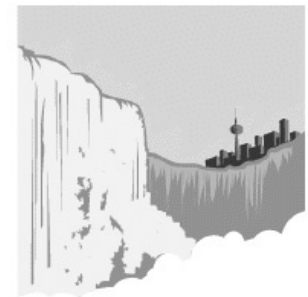
4 Literature When Christina says she feels like *Little Blue Riding Hood*, she is referring to the famous children's tale Little Red Riding Hood, about a girl and a tricky wolf!



4 Vocabulary A *deckhand* is a member of a ship's crew.

4 Vocabulary The *starboard* side of a ship is the right-hand side of a ship, if you are facing forward.

5 Vocabulary A *souvenir* is an item that reminds you of a place, an event, or a person.



Before cameras were invented, tourists sketched pictures of the falls to put in their photo albums!

An ice jam on March 30, 1848 stopped the flow of water over the falls.

The movies *Niagara* and *Superman* were filmed in part at Niagara Falls.

High-wire tightrope acts used to be performed across the river. The daredevil Blondin actually carried his manager across on his back! It was such hard work that he had to stop halfway to rest!

The falls make a tremendous sound as the water goes over and lands at the bottom.

Twenty percent of the world's fresh water lies in the Great Lakes, and most of it flows over Niagara Falls!



5 Reasoning

If you were a daredevil and wanted to go over Niagara Falls, how would you do it? What do you think it would feel like to go over the falls?



5 History

Children have been storing money in piggy banks for hundreds of years! In the early 1700s, people saved money in kitchen jars made of a type of clay called "pygg." Over time the spelling changed, and "pygg jars" became "pig jars!"

6 Language

Something that is done half-heartedly is done without enthusiasm or excitement. Why do you think Grant's salute was half-hearted?

6 Culture

A military salute is a gesture of greeting and respect for another military person who is of higher rank.

6 Vocabulary

A military *invasion* occurs when armed forces from one country come into another country with the purpose of taking it over.

6 Body Language

To stare *wide-eyed* is to look at something in amazement or surprise.

6 Military Culture

Sergeant and *private* are both titles used to tell someone's military rank. A sergeant outranks (has more authority) than a private.



7 Writing

The newspaper museum is not what the children expect it to be. Write about a time something turned out to be much different from what you expected. Be sure to tell *who*, *what*, *when*, *why* and *where*!



Make a Silhouette

Silhouettes were a popular form of art in the early 1800s—especially since there were no cameras! Silhouettes are fun and inexpensive to make. They make great gifts, too!



Directions

1. Tape a large piece of white paper on the wall. Position a bright light (like a flashlight or a gooseneck lamp) so the light shines directly on the paper.
2. Have someone sit between the paper and the lamp so he or she is directly in the light, and the shadow of his or her head is on the paper.
3. Have the person turn sideways so that his or her profile can be seen. Move the lamp closer or further away until the shadow is the right size for the paper.
4. While the person sits very still, use a pencil to outline the shadow on the white paper.
5. Carefully cut out the outline and then use it to trace another outline, this time on black paper.
6. Cut out the black outline and mount it on white paper.

7 Language

A *typo* is short for the term "typographical error," or a mistake in printing. Accidentally typing **typo** instead of **type** is a typographical error!

7 Language

Something that is *hot off the press* is the newest news available!

8 Culture

Currency is a unit of exchange. That means anything that can be traded for something else is a form of currency! The most common forms of currency today are paper money and coins.

8 Science

Dizziness is a feeling of lightheadedness, confusion, wooziness, or unbalance. There are many causes of dizziness, including spinning rapidly in circles!

9 Geography

Greece is a country in southeast Europe that is surrounded by the Aegean and Ionian seas. The first Olympic games were held in Greece, and many great philosophers, artists and scientists were born in early Greece.



9 Writing

After Christina tipped the barrel of building blocks, she was red-faced, or embarrassed. Write about a time you've been embarrassed. Why do we get embarrassed?

10 Science

The horizon is the imaginary line that separates the earth from the sky.

10 Language

A "pun" is the humorous use of different words that sound alike. When Papa says he doesn't want "whine" with his dinner, he is making a pun.

Canadian Customs

Customs that are acceptable in one country might not be acceptable in another. Fortunately, most Canadian customs are very similar to those of the United States. If you visit Canada, here are some things you should know.

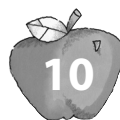
The most common greeting in Canada is the handshake. It should be firm and accompanied by direct eye contact and a sincere smile.



An adult should not use another adult's first name when they meet. They should wait until they are invited to use first names.

French Canadian friends often greet each other by lightly kissing on the cheeks--once on the left cheek and once on the right.

It is considered rude to give cash or money as a present.



10 Agriculture

A vineyard is a plantation of grapevines grown to make wine, raisins, grape juice, or just to eat!



11 Wildlife

Geese are serious about protecting their nests and eggs, and they can be very unpleasant and aggressive if you disturb them! They may charge you, and can leave bruises with their beaks and wings. Stay back!

11 Language

A signal is a way of communicating without words. A signal could be a flash of light, a hand gesture, or, like Grant suggested, a whistle.

11 Vocabulary

Panic is a feeling of fear and helplessness.

11 Writing

Imagine how the red-haired man felt inside the small, dark barrel. Write a paragraph about what you think it would feel like to be trapped in a small, dark space.

12 Language

When Christina says she is stumped, she means that she is confused and can't figure out the clues.

12 Science

The direction water flows in a stream or river is called *downstream*. The opposite direction is called *upstream*.



12 Vocabulary

Armor is protective covering often worn during battles. Knights wore full suits of metal armor!

12 Reasoning

Do you agree that Niagara's water should be used to provide electricity for all people in the area? Why or why not?

Learn from History

Think About It!

What does the expression "If we don't learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it" mean? Ask students if they can think of times when history has repeated itself. Are there examples in the story of history repeating itself, or trying to?

Talk About It!

Discuss conflict—causes and resolution. Check out a controversial historical or current issue. Discuss the contrasting viewpoints. Ask students to tell the class about a conflict they were involved in and how it was resolved.



Draw It!

Have students draw pictures of important historical events addressed in the book. Include events such as the War of 1812, the first person to survive going over the falls, and the opening of the hydroelectric plant.



12 Vocabulary A *reservoir* is a natural or man-made lake used to store water.

12 Safety Hurricanes are dangerous and destructive. People who are in the path of a hurricane are often told to *evacuate*, which means to leave a dangerous place.

14 Language When Grant begins to *second guess* his decision to go to the bottom of Bridal Veil Falls, he is doubting that he made the right choice.



15 Crime David doesn't know what the culprits look like because he couldn't see their faces. What are ways of identifying a person other than seeing their face?

15 Vocabulary A *gruff* voice is one that is hoarse, stern and harsh.

15 Reasoning Christina knows the children are in danger in the tunnels. Why are the tunnels a dangerous place?

15 Reasoning Even though David is in a wheelchair, he is in front when the children are running from the mysterious man in the tunnel. How is that possible?

15 Vocabulary When Christina watches in horror as Grant slips and falls, she is watching with extreme fear and terror.



Idioms

An idiom is a fun figure of speech. It is a word or phrase that has a meaning that is not related to the individual words. There are several idioms in the *Mystery at Niagara Falls*, including "flat as a pancake" and "soak it all in."

See if you can match these idioms with the correct meaning.

1. He's a real penny-pincher.
 2. She's the apple of my eye.
 3. I'm having a bad hair day.
 4. Break a leg!
 5. That baby is as cute as a bug's ear!
 6. She got up on the wrong side of the bed today!
 7. Hold your horses!
 8. You've been running around like a chicken with its head cut off.
 9. It's time to put on your thinking cap.
 10. It's been raining cats and dogs all day!
- a. Think carefully about something
 - b. Something or someone that is very special
 - c. Woke up in a grumpy mood
 - d. Raining hard
 - e. Someone who is thrifty
 - f. Wait
 - g. Running around in a crazy way
 - h. Messy hair
 - i. Good luck!
 - j. Small and adorable

Answers: 1. e 2. b 3. h 4. i 5. j 6. c 7. f 8. g 9. a 10. d

16 Agriculture Chocolate is made from the seed of the cacao tree, which grows in tropical—warm and wet—climates. Chocolate has been popular treat for more than 3,000 years!

16 Math Laura Secord could walk 4 miles per hour. If she walked 20 miles to warn the British of an American attack, how long did it take her to get there?

16 Geography An island is a piece of land entirely surrounded by water! Would you want to live on an island? Why or why not?



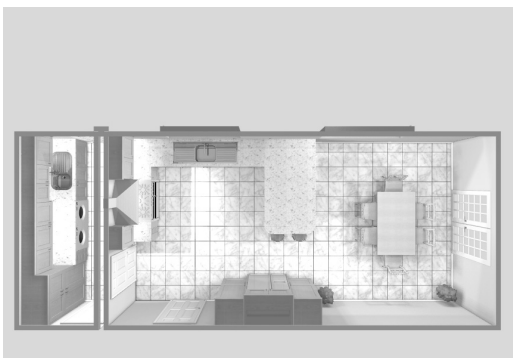
16 Language To *smuggle* something is to bring it into or out of a place secretly, or without permission. Smuggling is against the law.

17 Vocabulary Something that is *exotic* is from another part of the world.

17 Espionage Have you ever tried to solve a mystery? Is it hard to do? What things does it take to be a good sleuth?



17 Vocabulary A “bird’s eye view” is to see something from above.



A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

The children take lots of pictures during their Niagara Falls adventure. There’s a saying that, “A picture is worth a thousand words.” That means that one picture can tell you more about a situation than a whole lot of words can. Try it out! Take a mental picture of something in your classroom—maybe a group of students or your teacher’s desk. If there are windows in your classroom, take a mental picture of what’s outside.

Now write down everything your picture tells you. Try answering *Who, What, When, Where, How, and Why*. If you don’t know, try to find clues in the picture. How many words can you come up with?

18 Vocabulary

A *wet suit* is a close-fitting rubber suit that is worn in cold water to prevent the loss of body heat.



18 Feelings

Christina is frightened by the whirlpool's rushing water. Why was she frightened? Have you ever been in a frightening situation that was supposed to be fun? How did you react?

19 Crime

To prove a crime, you need evidence, or something that determines or demonstrates that the crime happened. Christina planned to take pictures of the barrel to use as evidence.

19 Science

When something irritates the inside of your nostrils, like the gnat in Grant's nose, you sneeze! Did you know that you can't control whether or not you sneeze? You also can't keep your eyes open when you sneeze. Try it!

19 Equipment

Binoculars are two side-by-side telescopes that let you use both eyes to see far off objects up close!



19 Crime

When Detective Roberts was radioing for backup, he was letting other police officers know that he needed help!

19 Language

A *red herring* is a deliberate attempt to change a subject or divert attention away from something. It's also a kind of fish!

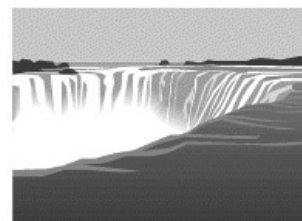
19 Reasoning

Detective Roberts didn't talk to the children when they found him in the barrel because he didn't want to get them involved. Why?



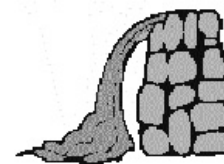
Forming Falls

When water flowing for a long distance and at a high force falls from an elevation (higher ground), a waterfall is formed! Waterfalls are generally formed in mountain environments where the water force is very high and when the stream's course cannot find a path to flow through.



Niagara Falls is an example of a sheet waterfall

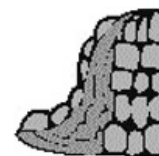
Not all waterfalls are the same. If you look closely, you can tell one kind from another. **Plunge falls** drop straight to the bottom without touching rocks along the way. **Sheet waterfalls** form when the flowing water



Plunge falls

from a wide river drops over the side of the falls in what looks like a huge sheet.

Punchbowl waterfalls happen when water from a wide river flows through a narrower area and out into the plunge pool. It looks as if the water is shooting through the thin space and into the open.



Punchbowl falls

20 Writing

Mimi and Papa are surprised by the children's adventure. Do you think the children should have told them what was going on? Why or why not?

20 Crime

To confess to something is to admit that you did it. Have you ever had to confess?

20 Drawing

The word *crest* has many meanings. It can be the foamy top of a wave, or the tuft on the top of the head of a rooster! In this case, Grant is referring to a crest that is a drawing used to represent a military group and which decorates helmets, shields and other items. Draw your own crest.



20 Reasoning

The children think Ms. Bumpus dresses oddly for someone in the 21st century. If you were describing popular clothing for kids today, what would you say? Why do you think fashions change? What can you learn about a person from their clothing?



20 Writing

The children work together to solve the mystery. Write a paragraph about a time you worked with other people to make something happen. Did working together make it easier to get the job done? Why or why not?



How Do We Learn about the Past?

Historians are people who study and keep track of the past. They write about history for books, magazines, computer software, television, and other places. Where do they get their information? Sometimes they read other books. But sometimes there are no books on the subject. How do they know what happened? Historians use many tools to understand the past:

- Artifacts
- Textbooks
- Architecture
- Documents
- Photos
- Oral Presentations
- Letters
- Paintings
- Diaries
- Graphs
- Maps
- Charts



Discussion Questions

1. The War of 1812 was fought over land. The Americans wanted the Canadian land for themselves! Look at a map of Canada. Why do you think the Americans wanted that land? Other than land, what are some reasons wars are fought?
2. Going over the falls is illegal—against the law. Why do you think it is necessary to have laws? What happens if people break laws? Name two laws you think are very important to obey.
3. Christina first suspects the red-haired man is up to no good. What makes her think that? Have you ever had a wrong impression of someone? What things can give you clues about what a person is really like?
4. The children learn about Laura Secord, who walked 20 miles to warn the British of a surprise attack by the Americans during the War of 1812. How would you describe Laura Secord? Would you be willing to do what Laura Secord did? Why or why not?
5. Christina and the other children spend a lot of time spying. Do you think it's okay to spy on people? Why or why not? How would you feel if someone spied on you? When is a time we might need spies? Do you think it would be exciting to be a spy? Why or why not?



6. Allison and her mother run a business. People pay them for the service of staying at their house and getting a hot breakfast! If you had to run your own business, what would it be? What qualities do you think a business owner should have? Do you think it's easy being a business owner? Why or why not?

7. Should the children have told the adults in the beginning about the danger they were in? Why or why not? Tell about a time when you were in danger or had a problem. Did you tell an adult? Why or why not?



Fingerprints



Fingerprints make excellent evidence, which is what you need to catch criminals! You can study fingerprints just like the police!

You will need the following items:

- pencil and paper
- transparent tape
- magnifying glass

Scribble on a piece of paper until you have a heavy black mark.

Rub your index finger in the mark.

Put a piece of tape over your finger, press down, then pull off the tape.

Put the tape on a clean piece of paper so you can see your fingerprint.

Examine your fingerprints for loops, whirls, and arches.

Fingerprint your friends and compare their prints with yours!

1. If a vineyard owner owned 30 barrels, and one-third of them were destroyed going over the falls, how many were left?
2. Being a tourist is expensive! How much would you pay for this meal at a Niagara Falls restaurant?

2 orders of chili (\$3 each)
1 medium soda (\$1.50)
3 orders of French fries (\$1 each)



3. Papa and the children toured the falls on the *Maid of the Mist*. If the boat could hold 1 driver and 17 passengers, and there were 3 empty seats, how many people were on board?
4. The Amtrak distance from Atlanta, Georgia to Niagara Falls is about 883 miles. If the train traveled 400 miles per day, about how many days did it take Grant and Christina to get to the falls?
5. If Christina and Grant solve two mysteries a year for five years, how many will they have solved in all?
6. Things cost more over time. An ounce of gold was worth \$19.39 in 1812. Go online with an adult to find the current price of an ounce of gold. Compare the current price with the 1812 price. What is the difference? Why do you think the price changed?
7. Probability is the likelihood that an event will occur. The probability of an event can be described using these words: **likely**, **unlikely**, **certain**, **impossible**. Use one of these words to describe the probability of each of the following events.
 - a. The probability that you will do your homework.
 - b. The probability that you are alive.
 - c. The probability that a dinosaur will stomp into your town today.
 - d. The probability that you will encounter a smuggler today.

Famous Falls

Where you find flowing water, you're likely find a waterfall. There are some pretty spectacular waterfalls in the world, and below are some of the most famous.

Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls in Africa is the largest waterfall in the world. It's also one of the noisiest, which is why it is often called Smoke That Thunders. Victoria Falls forms part of the border between the countries of Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is nearly one mile wide! In the forest near the waterfalls you might see elephants, giraffes, baboons and many species of birds.

Angel Falls

Angel Falls in Venezuela is the world's highest waterfall. In fact, the water has to fall so far to the pool below--2,647 feet--that most of it gets blown away by the wind before it ever gets to the bottom!

Yosemite Falls

The Yosemite Falls is the highest waterfall in North America. You'll find it inside the Yosemite National Park in California. These falls are a combination of three falls, two called plunge falls and one called a cascade fall. In years that the area doesn't get a lot of snow, the falls sometimes stop flowing altogether!



1. Pretend that you were invited to be a character in this book. Make a packing list of the things you'll need on this thrilling adventure. Remember that you'll be doing a lot of snooping and spying! Be sure to check the weather, too! It's often damp and cold near the falls.
2. Building the Adam Beck Generator Station was an important event in Canadian history. Pretend that you are a reporter for the Niagara Tribune, and write a newspaper article about the opening of the power station. Make sure the article answers the questions *Who? What? When? Where?* and *Why?*
3. Make a poster encouraging people to come experience the beauty of Niagara Falls. Be sure your poster is exciting and captures people's attention!
4. Pretend you are a new recruit for the Canadian Army. Write a letter home telling about your experiences!
5. Tourists like to shop! Make a shopping list of things you would like to buy to remind you of your trip to Niagara Falls. How much do you think each thing would cost? If you have \$50 to spend, do you have enough money to buy everything you want? Which items are most important?
6. Imagine that you have found a hidden waterfall and you want your best friend to meet you there. Write directions to the secret place. Be sure to be very descriptive so your friend can find it. Here's an example: Go two miles out of town down the long dirt road. Turn west at the old shack. Follow the stream until it begins to widen and you come to a clump of trees. Walk 50 paces until you see the beginning of the falls. Meet at the huge boulder on the bank of the river.
7. Imagine that the Niagara River stopped flowing and couldn't make power. Make a list of the things you would need to survive for several days without power. Does it matter what time of year it is? Why?



Running Water

Geysers are vents in the surface of the earth that spew out steam and hot water. When water is trapped close to a heat source, such as a magma chamber, the water becomes super-heated and pressure forces it to the surface. The United States, Chile, New Zealand, and Iceland are the only countries that have geysers!

Glaciers are slow-moving rivers of ice. In just a few minutes, you can walk farther than a glacier travels in an entire year! As glaciers move, they create deep valleys and flat plains. During the last ice age, glaciers helped form the landscape you see today.



Icebergs are pieces of a glacier that have broken off and are floating in the water. The part of icebergs that are underwater are much bigger than the part you see above water. That means ships and boats have to be very careful when they are near an iceberg.



Vocabulary: Spell It!

Study the words below. All of them are taken from the mystery book. Fold the page in half and take a spelling test. Look up your word in a dictionary and write its definition on a separate piece of paper.

- AUTUMN _____
- ILLEGAL _____
- BARREL _____
- COINCIDENCE _____
- SPOOKY _____
- MYSTERIOUS _____
- DISPOSABLE _____
- HONEYMOON _____
- OXYGEN _____
- IMAGINATION _____
- SERGEANT _____
- CAROUSEL _____
- VACATION _____
- BROCHURE _____
- GENERATOR _____
- ENTHUSIASM _____
- THUNDEROUS _____
- CHOCOLATE _____
- RAINFOREST _____
- HISTORIC _____
- WHIRLPOOL _____
- BINOCULARS _____
- DIZZY _____
- COMMUNICATE _____

Sing It!



Canada's national anthem is "O Canada!" It was first sung in 1880, but didn't become the official national anthem until 1980—a full 100 years later! Talk about testing it out! Because many people in Canada speak French, there is also a French version of the song.

*O Canada!
O Canada!*

Our home and native land!

*True patriot love in all thy sons
command.*

*With glowing hearts we see
thee rise,*

The True North strong and free!

From far and wide,

*O Canada, we stand on guard
for thee.*

*God keep our land glorious and
free!*

*O Canada, we stand on guard
for thee.*

*O Canada, we stand on guard
for thee.*



Art: Create It!

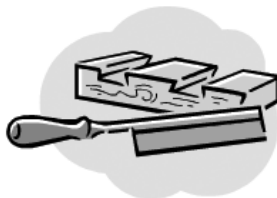
Museums are places you can go to see important pieces of history, art, or science. Did you know that not all museums are indoors? When Papa and the children go to Fort George, they are visiting a living history museum—a place where they can experience how people from the past lived. What do you think people in the future would see at a living history museum from the year 2008? Create your own living history museum using some of the ideas below!



1. Sketch a black-and-white design of something people would see happening in your museum. At the bottom of the page, tell what is happening and why it was important in 2008.
2. Use a milk carton, butter tub, paper towel holder, shoebox, or other materials to create a scene from your museum. Cover your “structure” with paper or paint it with markers. Join materials together if you need to!



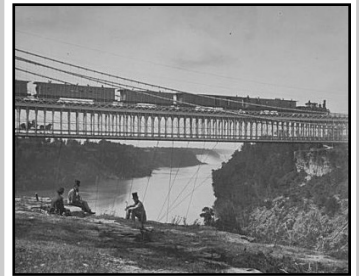
3. Use clay to sculpt the face of a person you might see role-playing (pretending to be someone from the past) at your museum. Write a note telling who this person is and why he or she is important.
4. Crumple and shape aluminum foil to create an historical object you might find in your museum. Remember, it should be something that was important in the year 2008.



Building Bridges

In 1855, John August Roebling, the designer of the Brooklyn Bridge, built the Niagara Railway Suspension Bridge. A suspension bridge is supported by huge cables held up by tall towers. The bridge connected Niagara Falls, Ontario with Niagara Falls, New York.

At first, most people didn't believe the bridge would be strong enough to support the trains that would cross it. John August Roebling's design was a good one, though, and the first train filled with passengers crossed the bridge on March 15, 1855!



The bridge was important to both Canada and the United States. Three railways crossed the bridge, tourists marveled at its construction, daredevils performed amazing feats from the bridge, and during the Civil War, slaves crossed it escaping from the United States to Canada.

Christina and Grant enjoy delicious slices of Canadian bacon during their mystery trip. Try making your own yummy Canadian bacon pizza with this easy recipe. Be sure to get the help of an adult!

CANADIAN BACON PIZZA

Ingredients

- 1 ready-made pizza crust
- ¼ cup of pizza sauce
- 1 cup of shredded mozzarella cheese
- ½ cup of shredded Parmesan cheese
- ½ cup of cooked Italian sausage
- 1 tablespoon of finely chopped onion
- 6-ounces of sliced Canadian bacon



Directions

1. Preheat your oven to 425°.
2. Set pizza crust on a round baking sheet. Layer ingredients in the order listed: pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, Italian sausage, onion, Canadian bacon, Parmesan cheese.
3. Bake until the crust is golden brown and the cheese is melted and bubbly, about 20-25 minutes.



NOTE: The preparation of all dishes should be carried out with the supervision of an adult.



Take Cover!

Christina and the children thought it was strange that Ms. Bumpus dressed like a woman in the 1800s, and no wonder! Women's clothing wasn't exactly what you'd call comfortable back then!



Below is a list of items of clothing a woman would probably wear in 1812—all at the same time!

Chemise -The chemise was a long slip and undershirt combined.

Corset - Women wore corsets to make their waists look tiny.

Cap - People didn't take baths as often as we do today, so white caps that tied under the chin were a great way to help keep hair cleaner longer, and to hide greasy hair!

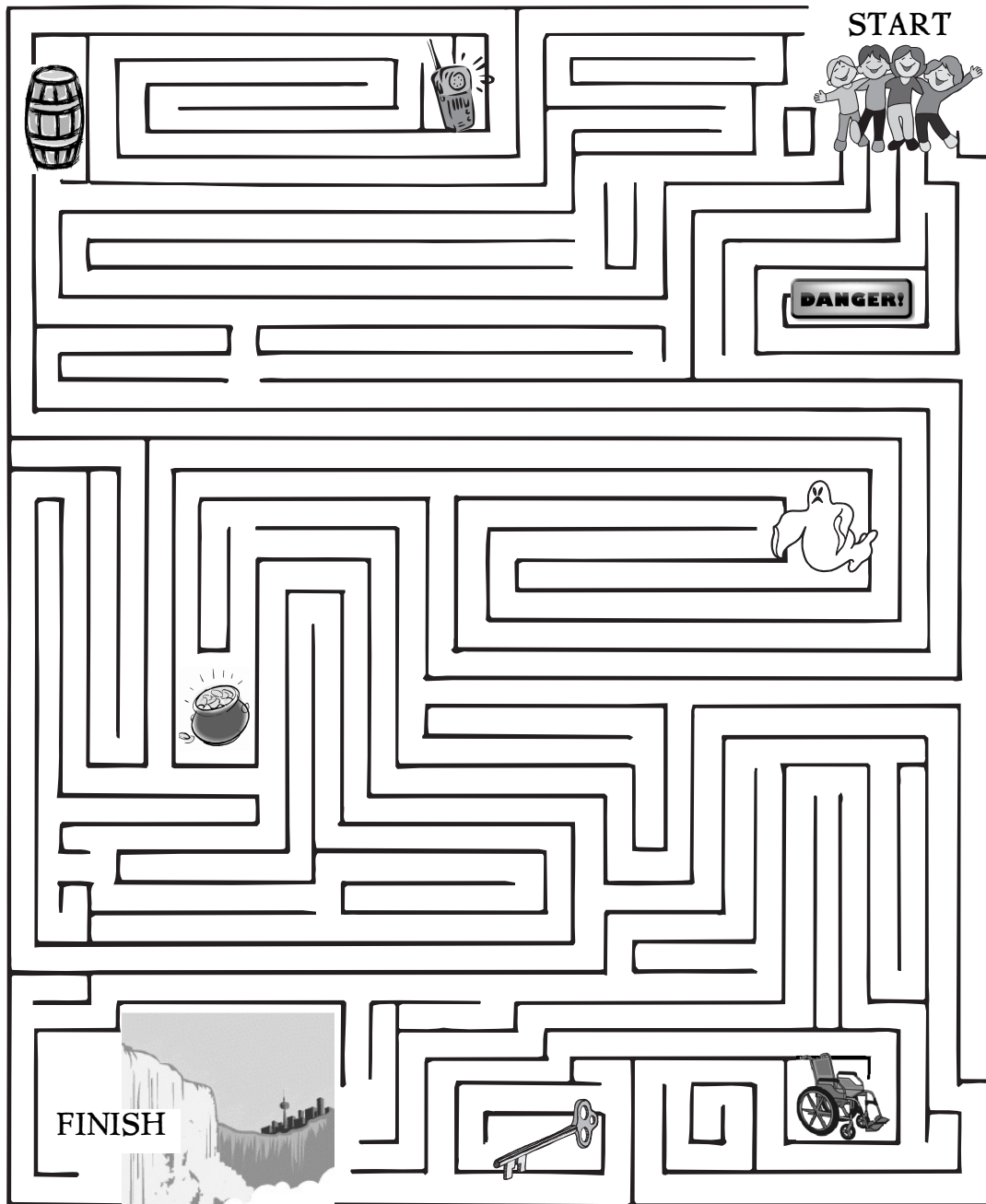
Hat - In the 1800s, the paler a woman's skin was, the better! To keep the sun off their faces, women always wore a hat when they went outside.



The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Maze



Help Christina, Grant, David and Allison find their way through the secret passage. Watch out for flying barrels!



The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Pair Up



Match the words on the left with the correct words on the right!

NIAGARA

PUMP

RAIN

PRESS



FALL

FALLS

HAUNTED

BANK



PIGGY

PLANT



BICYCLE

COAT

GUN

POWDER

PRINTING

HOUSE

POWER

BREAK



The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Spy Game



If you're going to be professional snoopers like Christina and Grant, you need to practice figuring out clues. Try this fun activity to sharpen your spying skills!

1. Write the name of your favorite movie, book, or cartoon character on a 3x5 card.
2. Tape a card to the back of each player. Don't tell other players the names on their cards.
3. Players must figure out who their character is by asking other players questions. Players may only ask "yes" or "no" questions, and they may only ask each player two questions on a turn. The first player to guess his or her character wins!



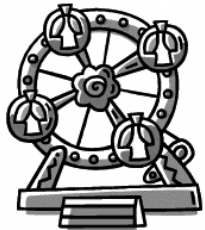
The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Scramble



Unscramble the words below to find the places and things Christina and Grant see in Niagara Falls.

1. RIRFES EHLWE _____

2. COKL _____



3. ANIGAAR VRREI _____

4. RADE IVELD ELRLAGY _____

5. OSESROEHH ALFLS _____

6. NCANON _____

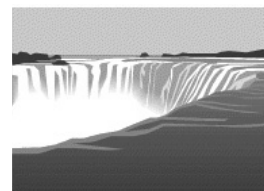
7. SEUMUM _____



8. CRIBK YICT _____

9. NIRYEW _____

10. WPROE TNISATO _____



The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Word Search



Search for the mysteriously hidden words below!

V A E U L C Y B A R R E L N A P T
 I P K R D N A P I O D A T D N E U
 C D E E T S A A S T L C D Y G Z N
 T V V G I R H O U A O F N A I A N
 O R A I N C O A T R G Z R X N H E
 R H I M L S B S O E I L L E G A L
 I Y R E A T S I G N A L I K E S C
 A E E N H Y U E E E S E M A I S E
 N H S T I T N R S G R E D A V N I
 W F O R T D E T E C T I V E C M T

WHEELCHAIR

SIAMESE

GOLD

SIGNAL

GENERATOR

INVADER

DETECTIVE

CLUE

FORT

TUNNEL

REGIMENT

RAINCOAT

BARREL

VICTORIAN

CANADA

ILLEGAL



The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Fill-in-the Blank

Fill in the blanks to answer the questions.



1. Grant discovered a:

S ____ R ____ M

2. The culprits used this to smuggle the gold:

____ R R ____



3. David uses this to get around:

____ H ____ L ____ H ____ R

4. These are grown in vineyards:

G ____ P ____



5. The children spent a day pretending to be:

R ____ C ____ I ____

6. This is what the culprits were after:

____ L ____

7. The redhead turned out to be a:

____ E ____ C ____ V ____



The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Matching Characters



Match these mystery characters with their descriptions!



- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Mimi | a. refuses to go anywhere without his cowboy hat |
| 2. Grant | b. lives in a Victorian mansion with her mother |
| 3. Christina | c. a noisy feline |
| 4. Papa | d. a slightly annoying younger brother |
| 5. Allison | e. wears odd outfits |
| 6. David | f. good at solving mysteries |
| 7. Mrs. Bumpus | g. rescues Grant with his "wheels" |
| 8. Mr. Mudgers | h. makes a fashion statement with her bright red boots |



The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Quiz



*Use the clues to recall some interesting information
about The Mystery of Niagara Falls!*



1. Papa and Mimi take a romantic spin on this:

2. The family travels on this to get to Niagara Falls:

3. The topic of Grant's history project:

4. This "type" of museum wasn't boring at all:

5. It's equal to a one dollar bill:

6. Brick City building blocks:

7. Laura Secord warned the British of this:

8. The Queen of England also rules this country in North America:

9. Ships traveling between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie get a lift from these:



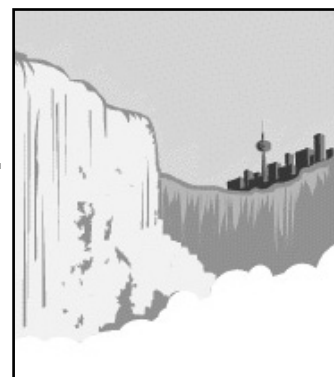
The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls True or False



Mark each statement true or false.

Can you replace the word (or words) that is false in each statement?

- _____ 1. Mimi is on the trip to research a book she is writing.
- _____ 2. Papa often dresses like a cowboy.
- _____ 3. Niagara Falls is located entirely in Canada.
- _____ 4. You can't tell the difference between Canadian and American bacon.
- _____ 5. People are encouraged to try going over Niagara Falls.
- _____ 6. David and Grant spilled building blocks at Brick City.
- _____ 7. David was able to go everywhere the other children went.
- _____ 8. The Canadian and American governments work together to preserve the beauty of Niagara Falls.
- _____ 9. Raincoats are popular attire at the falls.
- _____ 10. Barrels pumped full of oxygen float.



Answer Key...

The Wild Water Mystery at Niagara Falls Activities



Geography Questions

1. Montana, Minnesota, Maine
2. Washington
3. Alaska
4. New York
5. Maine
6. Ontario

Math Activities

1. 10
2. \$10.50
3. 15
4. 2 days
5. 10
6. Things get more expensive because the cost of making or producing them increases.
7. Answers may vary.

The Mystery at Niagara Falls Pair Up

Niagara Falls, raincoat, fall break, haunted house, piggy bank, bicycle pump, gunpowder, printing press, power plant

The Mystery at Niagara Falls Scramble

1. ferris wheel
2. lock
3. Niagara River
4. Dare Devil Gallery
5. Horseshoe Falls
6. cannon
7. museum
8. Brick City
9. winery
10. power station

The Mystery at Niagara Falls Fill-in-the-Blank

1. secret room
2. barrel
3. wheelchair
4. grapes
5. recruits
6. gold
7. detective

The Mystery at Niagara Falls Matching Characters

1. h
2. d
3. f
4. a
5. b
6. g
7. e
8. c

The Mystery at Niagara Falls Quiz

1. ferris wheel
2. Amtrak
3. War of 1812
4. Newspaper Museum
5. loonie
6. Legos
7. an attack by the Americans
8. Canada
9. locks

The Mystery at Niagara Falls True or False

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. F
6. F
7. F
8. T
9. T
10. T

