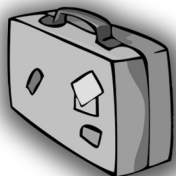




The Mystery at

DISNEY WORLD

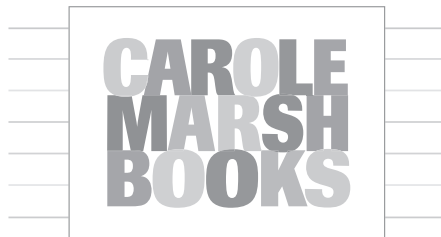
Teacher's Guide



by
Carole Marsh



Editors: Jenny Corsey, Sheila Phinazee & Teresa Valentine • Art & Design: Lynette Rowe



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#1 THE MYSTERY OF BILTMORE HOUSE



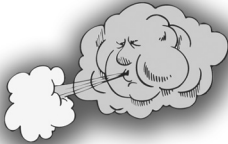
#2 THE MYSTERY AT THE BOSTON MARATHON



#3 THE MYSTERY OF BLACKBEARD THE PIRATE

#4 THE MYSTERY OF THE ALAMO GHOST

#5 THE MYSTERY ON THE CALIFORNIA MISSION TRAIL



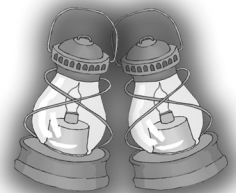
#6 THE MYSTERY OF THE CHICAGO DINOSAURS



#7 THE WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS MYSTERY

#8 THE MYSTERY ON ALASKA'S IDITAROD TRAIL

#9 THE MYSTERY AT KILL DEVIL HILLS



#10 THE MYSTERY IN NEW YORK CITY

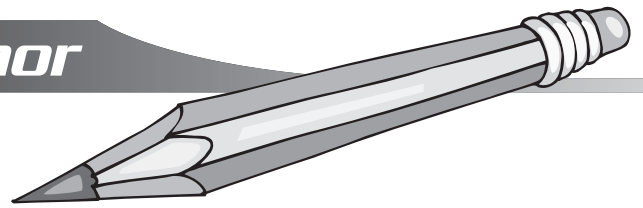


#11 THE MYSTERY AT DISNEY WORLD

#12 THE MYSTERY ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD



A Word from the Author



Dear Teachers,

In 1979, I began writing children's mysteries set at historic sites that still existed—primarily so that kids could go and see what they had read about. Frankly, I found no more fun, educational, and stress-free (actually, just plain joyful!) activity to do with my then school-age children than to visit a fascinating historic site!

Many people believe that visiting Disney World is the ultimate vacation. There is so much to see and do. A day at Disney with a handful of kids is an awesome experience! If Walt Disney wanted us to use our imagination, he really did a great job in exciting our mind with all the wonders you can see in the park. There's history, mystery, legend, lore, fun, fantasy, and much more!

Yes, Disney World is a major, world-class tourist attraction, but it is also one gigantic history lesson! It is fascinating to learn how Disney came to be. Walt Disney was a magical person who left an amazing heritage to remind us all to dream! It was certainly not hard to "dream up" a mystery that took place at Disney World. The kids helped me, of course!



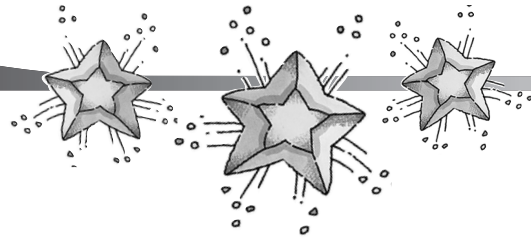
We learned a lot, but what we learned best is that kids and adults can learn together. Reading and going and seeing and doing is what education is all about, and most especially, that "adopting" a subject or place leads to a lifelong interest in an era, a place, the people, and all the fascinating facts that made up their lives. We learned that history is still "living" and is not lost on kids! In fact, it is quite a revelation!

Enjoy your Disney World mystery adventure!

Carole Marsh



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The Mystery at **DISNEY WORLD**

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. (For example, we really did have some wild and crazy adventures at Disney World!)

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



Orlando Area Tourist Information

Orlando Official Visitor Center

8723 International Dr., Suite
101, Orlando, FL 32819
(800) 551-0181
www.go2orlando.com

Seminole County Convention & Visitors Bureau

105 International Pkwy.,
Heathrow, FL 32746
(800) 800-7832
www.co.seminole.fl.us/visit

Central Florida Visitors & Convention Bureau

P.O. Box 61, Cypress Gardens,
FL 33884 (800)828-7655
www.sunsational.org

Websites

www.orlandoinfo.com

Official visitor information site
for Orlando and Central
Florida. There are 95 theme
parks and attractions in
Orlando! Plot your course and
find out more about the area.

Theme Park Pioneers

These two attractions started
the theme park magic in
Central Florida!

Silver Springs, Silver Springs, FL
(800)234-7458

Florida's first tourist attraction,
national historic landmark and
nature theme park. The
glassbottom boat was
invented here in the 1870s.

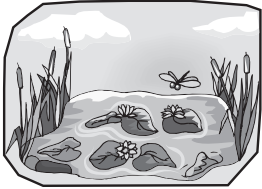
Cypress Gardens, Winter Haven,
FL (800) 282-2123

The gardens first opened in
1936. Features a botanical
showcase and world-famous
waterski shows.

Chapter Subject EXPLORE!

1 Geography Florida is our 27th state. It is nicknamed the Sunshine State.

1 History When European settlers arrived, Seminole Indians left their Georgia farms and settled in the Florida swamps. Seminole means “runaway.” The houses they built in the warm Florida climate had no walls and were called “chickees.”



If the land was especially marshy, the Seminoles would build their houses up on stilts. One chief, Osceola, was known for refusing to give up his land to the European settlers.

1 Character Christina fixed breakfast for herself and her younger brother without being asked. She is showing responsibility.

1 Personality Some people like to go by a plan, others like to be more spontaneous and go wherever their mood takes them. Which personality type are you when you take a trip? Are you a planner or a “free spirited” person? [It is probably good to be a little of both.]

1 Fashion A coonskin cap is a cap made out of raccoon skin with the tail still hanging off of it. According to legend, American frontiersman Daniel Boone wore one.



1 Personality Are you a morning person or a night owl? When do you have the most energy? Do you think Mimi and Papa are morning people or night owls?

1 History Walt Disney lived from 1901 to 1966. He was an



Walt Disney Biography

1901 Born December 5 in Illinois. Full name, Walter Elias Disney.

1918 Walt goes to France during World War 1 to work for the Red Cross Ambulance Corp.

1919 Gets his first job as an artist.

1923 Moves to Hollywood and forms the Walt Disney Studio with his brother, Roy.

1925 Walt marries Lilly Bounds.

1928 Walt creates Mickey Mouse.

1933 Walt and his wife, Lilly, have a daughter, Diane Marie Disney.

1934 Walt creates Donald Duck.

1936 A second daughter, Sharon Disney, is born.

1937 Walt creates *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, the first animated feature film.

1940 Walt creates *Pinocchio*, the animated feature film.

1941 Walt creates *Dumbo*, the animated feature film.

1942 Walt creates *Bambi*, the animated feature film.

1954 Walt begins his weekly television show, “Disneyland.”

1955 Disneyland opens in Anaheim, California.

1964 Walt produces *Mary Poppins*.



1966 Walt dies on December 15.

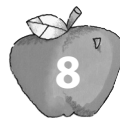
1971 Walt Disney World opens in Orlando, Florida.

1982 EPCOT opens in Orlando, Florida.

1989 The Disney MGM Studios Theme Park opens at Walt Disney World.

American cartoonist, showman, animator and movie producer.

- 1 Logic Which way is clockwise? What about counterclockwise? How can you tell?
- 1 Diplomacy Being diplomatic means trying to be fair to everyone. Mimi found a “win-win” solution where everyone could feel like they won. Have you ever had to be diplomatic in a disagreement?
- 2 Life  Making a list is a great way to make sure you are prepared without relying on your memory to keep track of everything. Can you think of a time when it would be helpful for you to have a checklist? [homework, buying school supplies, etc.]
- 2 Vocabulary Imagination is the power of the mind to make a mental picture of something that is not real in the present. Walt Disney died before all the plans he had for his theme parks were complete. In his imagination, though, he probably saw it all.
- 2 Vocabulary What does Papa mean by “star treatment?” Why are “stars” treated differently from other people?
- 2 Safety Why can’t Grant sit up front?
- 3 Logic Walt Disney had to take care of a pig at age five. Do you think this was a lot of responsibility for someone so young?
- 3 Life  A mentor is a wise counselor, teacher, or friend. Walt Disney had an aunt who recognized his budding talent and gave him basic art materials. Is there someone who can encourage you in your talent, whatever it is? If you don’t have a mentor



Disney Characters

Snow White: From the Brothers Grimm collection of fairy tales, Walt Disney created the character of Snow White in the first-ever animated feature film, which is still considered one of the best ever made.



Cinderella: One of the best retellings of the fairy tale about the scullery maid with a wicked stepmother and two wicked step sisters, whose fairy godmother magically arranges for her to go the ball with the prince!



Pooh Bear and friends: Walt Disney animated author A.A. Milne’s beloved characters Pooh, Eyore, Piglet, Owl, Christopher Robin, and other friends, in many of their adventures in the Magic Wood.



Dumbo: The story of circus elephant Mrs. Jumbo’s baby whose ears are so big that everyone laughs at him. But Dumbo



(continued)

yet, choose one!

3 Money Inflation causes a sharp and continuing rise in price levels. Therefore five cents just won't buy what it used to buy.

3 History World War I was fought from 1914 to 1918. The Allies included Great Britain, Russia, Belgium, Italy, Japan, France, the U.S., and other countries. They defeated Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Turkey.



3 Logic Why did Walt lie about his age? Is lying ever OK? Why or why not?

3 Life How did Walt and his friend Ub Iwerks show ingenuity? Do you think he also showed courage?

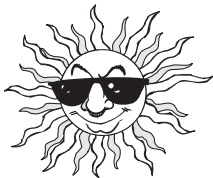
3 Hobby One of Walt Disney's hobbies was trains. He even had one built on his property after he became rich and famous. It was large enough to ride on!

3 History The Great Depression was a time of drastic decline in the economy. Businesses failed, prices fell, and people lost jobs. It was a hard time.

3 Life Everyone needs help sometime. Walt's brother, the Bank of America, and Walt's persistence and hard work helped get his dream off the ground.

4 Life What is your favorite type of ride at theme parks?

4 Weather Orlando is located in central Florida. Florida has long, warm summers and mild winters. The average temperature is 59° F in January and 81° F in July.



Disney Characters

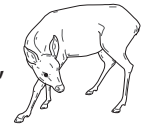
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learns to use his ears, with the help of his friends the crows, to do something no elephant has ever done – fly!

Peter Pan: The boy in Never-Never Land who determines to stay a boy all his life. Walt Disney made this story into a feature animation in 1953.



Bambi: Walt based this character on the beautiful book by Felix Salton called "Bambi: A Life in the Woods." It is the story of a young deer who learns from the Great Stag of the forest how to be a strong and wise leader as an adult.

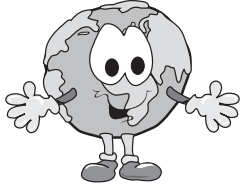


Mickey Mouse: Walt's first animated character, Mickey Mouse, became a worldwide sensation within months of his creation. He has remained a well-known and beloved character to children around the world.



Florida is one of the wettest states. In the summer there are heavy thunderstorms and in the winter the rain is more of a drizzle.

4 Culture



Disney World attracts thousands of employees from around the world. All the workers are called “cast members.” They even come from different nations! Their nametags tell which country they represent.

4 Vocabulary

Undaunted means not being discouraged or disheartened.

4 Life

What would you do if you were interested in a sport or activity that was different from what other people of your gender normally do?

4 Sport

Who knows what a running back is? What job does this person have in a football game?

4 Vocabulary

Agility means able to move easily and quickly. It is important for athletes and dancers. Norm Nixon of the Los Angeles Lakers basketball team was also a dancer.

4 Travel

A monorail is a single rail on which a vehicle or a train of cars travel.

5 Geography

Polynesia consists of many scattered islands of the central and south Pacific Ocean. It lies between New Zealand, Hawaii, and Easter Island.

5 Food



Disney vendors and restaurants have many other delicious treats to choose from like ice cream, popcorn, and even smoked turkey legs. What is your favorite treat?




Animators

J. Stuart Blackton 1906: the first film-based animator launched a series of animated films in New York. He also experimented with stop-motion technique, in which objects were photographed by a motion picture camera, then repositioned, then photographed again.

Winsor McCay 1914: Created *Gertie the Dinosaur*, which is said to have transformed the art of animation. Winsor gave his animated creature a personality through his excellent draftsmanship, his ability to portray graceful movement, and his ability to infuse his pictures with a sense of character. Gertie was the first cartoon star!

Pat Sullivan/Otto Messmer 1919: Pat Sullivan was a cartoonist who started a studio and hired the talented Otto Messmer to produce an animated character. Messmer drew Felix the Cat, which became an international celebrity and a milestone in the art form of animation. Messmer continued to draw Felix cartoons until 1931, while his boss, Sullivan, took credit for the creation.

Walt Disney: Walt learned how to draw simple cartoons from the popular Felix the Cat creation. He created Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, modeling him closely after Felix. But the copy was too close, and Disney lost the rights to use his Rabbit character. So, he modified Oswald’s ears to be round, and Mickey Mouse was born. The rest is history!

- 6 Math If it is 9:30 a.m. now, how many hours will they spend in the park if they stay until 8:30 p.m.?
- 6 Logic Are you superstitious? Why or why not?
- 6 Logic What do you think about Mick's idea to change walkie-talkie channels?
- 7 Vocabulary Delectable means delicious.
- 7 Logic Why do they have special scent tanks at Disney to make the park smell like cinnamon rolls?
- 7 Life What does Mick think about his name? How does he feel about being named after Mickey Mouse?
- 7 Vocabulary Dubious means doubtful or uncertain.
- 7 Life  Wouldn't it be nice to have unlimited Fastpass access for other things instead of having to wait? How would you use your Fastpass if you had one?
- 8 Reading Have you ever read *The Mystery of Blackbeard the Pirate*? Do you enjoy adventure stories?
- 8 Vocabulary Marooned means abandoned or to be put ashore on a deserted island.
- 8 Geography The Caribbean is the sea of the North Atlantic bounded by the coasts of Central America, South America, and the islands of the West Indies.
- 8 Logic What would you do next if you were Christina? Why?
- 9 Manners Why does Christina try not to talk with her mouth full? Is this important?

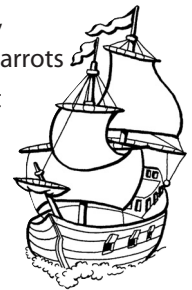
Brethren of the Coast



In the 1700s, many of the American buccaneers joined together and called themselves the Brethren of the Coast. Being a part of this group gave the pirates a chance to brag and show off their evil strengths with their "brothers."

The group also vacationed together in the West Indies, particularly at a place called Turneffe Island, off the coast of Guatemala.

Here they camped, sunbathed, captured parrots and taught them to speak, and barbecued lambs and pigs. They spent the rest of their time drinking rum,



fighting, carousing, and carrying on with the natives.



9 Vocabulary Rawhide is the untanned hide of cattle or other animals. A whip or rope can also be made of rawhide. Rawhide is also the name of a old TV western.



10 Manners Why did Mick let Christina sit down first?

10 Vocabulary Brer is a Southern version of the word “brother.”

10 History Most slaves who were captured and brought to the New World were from West Africa.

10 Life Why did Christina blush?

11 Government The president of the United States is the Commander in Chief.

11 Reading Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn rode a raft in the story of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

1 Logic Why would the early Americans be afraid that the British might make cannon balls?

11 History Why did they ring the Liberty Bell on George Washington’s Birthday?

11 Weather Many have said that the invention of air conditioning saved the South. Why?

11 History Thomas Jefferson was the third U.S. president. He was also an author, scientist, educator, diplomat, and architect.



12 Life How does Christina feel? Why did she decide to go on the ride anyway?

12 Science An optical illusion is when your eyes are tricked



Walt Disney Trivia

• Walt Disney designed Mickey Mouse while riding a train to Los Angeles. He named the sketch Mortimer Mouse. But his wife didn’t like the name, and she suggested Mickey Mouse instead.



• The Mickey Mouse film “Steamboat Willie,” made in 1928, was Walt Disney’s first film with sound.

• Walt Disney himself played the original voice of Mickey Mouse.



• When the “Disneyland” television series aired every Sunday evening during the 1950s, Walt Disney would always begin the show by talking to the television public in person. He would always begin, “Good evening.” Then he would talk about the animation or movie playing that evening. It was a Sunday night tradition for many American children.

• Walt Disney was nine years old when he made his first animated flipbook. He drew a picture on each page, and when he flipped the pages, the picture “moved.”



(continued)



into believing that something is really happening when it actually is not.

Christina felt like she was moving down, but in reality, she was standing still while the walls were moving up.

- 12 Logic When was the last time Christina and Mick saw Crystal? What would you do next?
- 13 Geography Scandinavia is a region which includes Norway, Sweden, Denmark and sometimes Finland, Iceland, and the Foeroe Island.
- 13 Movie Mick and Christina enjoyed floats at Mrs. Potts' Cupboard. Mrs. Potts is a character in a Disney movie. Which one? [*Beauty and the Beast*]
- 14 Logic Christina doesn't think splitting up is a good idea. What do you think?
- 14 Vocabulary Dejected means depressed or low in spirit.
- 14 Feelings Christina experiences a variety of emotions before she decides to find the other kids by herself. What did she feel? [ex: anxious, sad, angry, etc.]
- 15 Technology The video games in the Tomorrowland arcade were not invented when Walt Disney was still alive. Do you think he would want them there?
- 15 Reading English poet and playwright, William Shakespeare, was a key figure in the development of English Literature.
- 15 Vocabulary Extraterrestrial means originating or occurring



Walt Disney Trivia

(continued)

• Walt Disney's family emigrated to America from England in 1834.



• Besides being one of America's foremost creative geniuses, Walt Disney also, at one point in his life, held the jobs of Post Office truck driver and paperboy.

• When commenting on the idea of sequels, Walt Disney once said, "You can't top pigs with pigs."



• Walt Disney's brother and business partner, Roy Disney, proposed to his wife by telegram.

• Walt Disney also had two other brothers: Ray Disney and Herb Disney.

• Walt's daughter, at age six, asked her father, "...are you the famous Walt Disney who makes movies? Someone at school said you were."

• During Walt's childhood, the Disney family had a farm in Missouri.

Many of the animals on the farm were inspirations for the unforgettable characters he created later.





outside the earth and its atmosphere.

ExtraTERRORestrial is a play on words. Can you think of some other “plays” on words?

- 15 Logic Why didn't the boy or lady answer Christina when she asked them a question?
- 16 Invention In Morse Code, the letters of the alphabet and numbers are represented by short and long flashes of light or sounds.
- 17 Reading Do you know the story of Cinderella? How does she end up in a castle? What are some differences between the original fairytale and the Disney movie?
- 17 Career Architects use math to design and oversee the construction of buildings. If you were an architect, what kind of buildings would you create?
- 17 Science Silver and gold are precious metals found in caves and soil. Miners work hard to excavate, or dig out, these metals.
- 17 Language The expression “a gold mine” means something is worth a lot of money.
- 17 Vocabulary A karat is a unit of measurement for the fineness of gold.

- 17 Logic



Why do some places have signs that say, “Do Not Enter?” Why aren't people allowed to enter? [private property, or in some cases, hazardous materials are present.]



Disney Studios: An Exciting Place to Work!

• Animator Marc Davis, who helped create Cinderella, Tinker Bell, Maleficent and Cruella DeVil, said that *Snow White* was “one of the most remarkable accomplishments ever put on the screen.”




• Eric Larson, an animator who worked for Disney, said “Walt had a way of making us do far more than we thought we could ... We all had egos, but Walt had a way of taking those egos and making them work together as a team.”

• “Imagineer” Ken Anderson said, “Walt was a great storyteller and a tremendous actor... I'll never forget his telling of ‘Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs’ that night on the recording stage and how it inspired us so.”



• Wolfgang Reitherman, an animator, described the Disney studio: “The atmosphere in the studio was alive with creativity, a marriage of minds and talents. We fabricated whole characters from thin air... From our imaginations, we created frame-by-frame spontaneity.”

(continued)

- 17 Math If it took 24 minutes for Christina to climb 18 stories, how many minutes would it take to climb each story?
- 17 Logic Why do you think the plaque said, “Disney Family Apartment?”
- 17 Language What is meant by the expression, a “blood-curdling scream?”
- 18 Logic After notifying the security guards, Christina tried to save Grant on her own. What would you have done?
- 18 Logic How did the kidnappers capture so many kids?
- 19 Vocabulary What is a hero? Would you call Christina one?
- 20 Logic  The kids never tried to reach the adults and the adults never tried to reach the kids on their walkie-talkies. What might have been different if they had?
- 20 Vocabulary A plot is a series of events used in a story.
- 20 Life How do the kids feel at the end of the day? How do they feel about each other?
- 20 Logic What will Mimi say when she hears what happened to the kids at Disney World? Do you think she will write a new book? Maybe she did!

Be sure to read Carole Marsh Mystery #12:
The Mystery on the Underground Railroad



Disney Studios: An Exciting Place to Work!

(continued)

• “As the date for the premiere of *Snow White* grew closer, we were running out of money and time,” said Ken Anderson, then a layout artist at the studio. “Everyone was putting in overtime to get the picture finished. As I recall, the print from Technicolor arrived at the theater only a few hours before show time.”

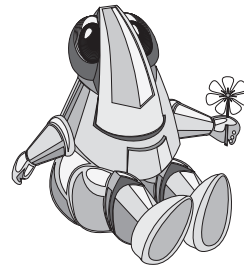


• Wolfgang Reitherman once described the opening night of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*: “The audience was so taken by the magic of what they had seen that they applauded after individual sequences, just as though they were watching a stage play. I’ve never seen anything quite like it since.”

• He added: “I ran into Walt at the studio the next morning. Instead of talking about how he could now take a little rest ... he began talking about the next animated feature and how he wanted to get started right away... There was only one Walt Disney.”

Discussion Questions

- ❖ Walt Disney is one of Mimi's favorite people. Do you remember why? Who is one of your favorite people? Why did you choose this person?
- ❖ Disney World has many attractions based on famous stories or time periods. Do you like a specific story mentioned in this mystery? Can you think of a book you like that was not mentioned in the story? Use your imagination and create a ride or attraction based on that tale at Disney World. Send Disney a copy of your idea!
- ❖ Why was the robot in Tomorrowland named S.I.R.? Can you make up a new name for it, based on these three initials?
- ❖ If you bought 30,000 acres of land like Walt Disney did, what would you do with the land?
- ❖ How would you spend a day at Disney World, which includes EPCOT and the Magic Kingdom? There is also Disney-MGM Studios, the Animal Kingdom, waterparks, and more to explore. Where would you go? What would you do?
- ❖ Why do you think so many people from all over the world travel to Disney World?
- ❖ Mick said, "A dream is a wish your heart makes." Who else said that? Do you have a dream? What is it? How will you make that a dream come true?



Florida Trivia

- Orlando has more visitors than any other amusement park destination in the U.S.
- There are about 30,000 lakes in Florida.
- The world's smallest police station is a telephone booth in Carabelle.
- Author Ernest Hemingway's home and museum is in Key West.
- Nearly half of Florida is covered with uninhabited forest.
- The brilliant white sand on northwest Florida beaches is 99% pure quartz crystal formed in the Appalachian mountains, then ground, polished, and bleached during its long journey downriver to the Gulf of Mexico.
- Sanibel Island is known as one of the best shelling beaches on earth.
- The port of Miami is the busiest cruise port in the U.S.
- Florida is the only state which has two rivers with the same name. There is Withlacoochee in north central Florida and one in central Florida. They are not connected in any way. They just have the same name.
- Key West has the highest average temperature in the U.S.
- Today there are four federal Indian reservations in Florida. The major tribes include: Seminole, Miccosukee, and Cherokee.
- The lowest point in Florida is the Atlantic Ocean at sea level.

Geography: Find It!

1. The “Small World” Ride features many different countries from around the world. Draw a simple map of the earth with all of the continents on a piece of foam board. Mark each country represented by the ride with a tack and written label. Write various facts about each country on small cards. Glue the cards around the earth as a border. Use colored yarn to connect each country with its fact card.
2. Papa, Mimi, and the kids ride the Monorail to enter Disney World. Design some more unique modes of transportation to reach the park. They can be futuristic, present, or old-fashioned!
3. Draw a map of Orlando. Label major landmarks, streets, roads, and bodies of water. Include a key, map symbols, title, and chart of locations.
4. Construct a model of Cinderella’s Castle in the Magic Kingdom at Disney World. Use various craft materials, including paints, cardboard, toothpicks, ribbons, etc. Surround the castle with rides, visitors, Disney characters, and other Disney landmarks.
5. Design a new roller coaster for Disney World. Map out your blueprints on a poster board and provide a measurement scale.
6. Many of Disney’s rides are related to events or eras of time. Make a timeline and plot each of the sections on it. Add some rides as well and color pictures of them.
7. How is Orlando unique in comparison to other major cities in Florida like Tallahassee, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa, Jacksonville, St. Augustine, St. Petersburg, Miami, and others?



Popular Theme Parks Around the World

United States

• *American Adventures, Marietta, Georgia:* An excellent theme park for children under 12 years old.

• *Belmont Park, San Diego, California:* A seaside amusement park featuring the Giant Dipper wooden coaster.

• *Busch Gardens, Tampa, Florida:* A ride park and a zoo: two in one. One hour south of Disney World.

Cedar Point, Sandusky, Ohio: A waterfront resort atmosphere featuring the largest collection of roller coasters and rides in the world. It is the second oldest amusement park in North America

• *Coney Island, Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York:* Coney Island has several amusement parks, including “Coney Island” and Astroland. Home of the original Nathan’s Hot Dogs.

• *Dutch Village, Holland, Michigan:* A theme park based on 19th century Netherlands village life.

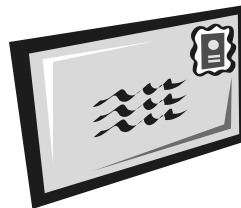
• *Enchanted Forest, Salem, Oregon:* Featuring Storybook Lane, Western Town, and Old Europe themes. The Ice Mountain Bobsled roller coaster hugs the tunnels so closely that they had to include Plexiglas shields for extra passenger protection.

(continued)



Mathematics: Calculate It!

1. Disney tickets cost \$40 for adults, \$35 for college students, \$30 for children, and \$25 for senior citizens. The Rompus family goes to Disney World! Papa Rompus and Mama Rompus are taking 6 people with them. Grandma and Grandpa Rompus are invited. Janey, Petey, and Mikey Rompus are still in elementary school, but the trip is over spring break, so they can all go. Oscar Rompus finishes his college semester early so he can join the group. How much will tickets cost for the whole Rompus family?
2. A roller coaster at Disney World usually travels at 60 miles per hour. The operator slows down the ride so that it will travel at half the normal speed. How many miles per hour does the roller coaster go now?
3. If there are 50 mice dancing at a party, how many ears are listening to the music? How many tails are wiggling to the beat?
4. A budget is a list of expenses. Total this budget for the Disney mystery trip: \$2,200–airfare, \$350–food, \$400–lodging, \$175–rental car, \$300–tickets, \$150–souvenirs
5. Orlando has 75 hotels. Each hotel has 125 double rooms, which can each fit a maximum of two people. What is the maximum number of people that can stay in one hotel? What is the minimum number of people that can stay in one hotel? How many rooms do all the hotels have combined?
6. Mickey Mouse gets 4,500 letters on Monday and 3,200 letter on Tuesday. On Wednesday, he gets 7,000 letters and on Thursday he receives 2,500. If Mickey Mouse gets 6,700 letters on Friday, how many letters does he have at the end of the week? If each letter has two stamps, how many stamps were used to mail all of the letters?



Popular Theme Parks Around the World

(continued)

Canada

• *La Ronde, Montréal, Quebec:* There are 35 rides and shows and attractions for all visitors to enjoy. The park is built on an island near downtown Montréal. Each summer the park hosts the largest fireworks competition in the world!

Europe

• *Blackpool Pleasure Beach, England:* A seaside amusement park in Blackpool, England with several roller coasters to chose from.

• *Disney Resort in Paris:* Includes the original Disneyland Park and the Walt Disney Studios Park.

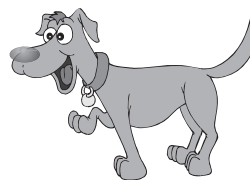
Asia

• *Tokyo Disney Resort:* The original Tokyo Disneyland is the best-attended theme park in the world. The resort also features the Tokyo Disney Sea theme park.

Australia

• *Dreamworld, Queensland Australia:* The Giant Drop made Guinness Book of World Records in 2003 as “tallest, vertical free-fall ride in the world”! Features 10 different “worlds”!

1. Which character did you like best in the mystery book? Why? What would you change about that person if you could? In what ways would you like to be more like that person?
2. Pretend you are a Disney employee. Which ride would you want to work at and which section of the park? Or would you want to work at EPCOT, MGM Studios, or a waterpark? Or would you want to be a Disney Imagineer, animation artist, or actor? What do you like best about your job? Write about a typical day on the job at Disney.
3. Write five new titles for *The Mystery at Disney World*. Write new chapter headings for every chapter in the book.
4. Write a story about some adventures that a dog might have if he were lost in Disney World. How does he find his owners at the end of the day?
5. Write a new ending for the last chapter of the mystery.
6. Compose an ode to Mickey Mouse that is either silly or serious.
7. Is there a fun amusement park in your state? If not, write a letter about why one should be built in your town. Send your letter to the head of a major theme park and see what happens!
8. Write the biography of a famous Disney animator or writer.
9. What is a glossary, and why is it important for the reader? Write down a list of words you didn't know in the mystery. Define each of them to compile your own glossary.



Joel Chandler Harris and Friends

Brer Rabbit, Brer Fox, Brer Bear are some of the most popular characters in the *Uncle Remus Stories* by Joel Chandler Harris. Brer Rabbit ("Brer" is a short form of the word "Brother") is perhaps one of the favorite heroes of these stories because he always uses his brain to get out of trouble.

In one famous story, Brer Rabbit is caught by Brer Fox, who happily plans to eat him. But Brer Rabbit doesn't give up hope. Instead, he keeps talking. Brer Rabbit tells Brer Fox that he really doesn't care if he eats him, just so long as he **doesn't throw him in that briar patch!!**

Brer Fox considers different ways in which he can most easily kill Brer Rabbit. Maybe he'll hang him, or maybe drown him. But Brer Rabbit, held captive, keeps saying that he can hang him high or drown him deep, but just **don't throw him in that briar patch!!** Well, Brer Fox gets to thinking that that old Briar Patch must be just the way to kill this rabbit, so finally he flings him into it.

Brer Rabbit laughs with glee and scampers around, singing "Born and bred in the briar patch, Brer Fox! Born and bred in the briar patch!" Joel Chandler tells all his stories in a rich unique Southern dialect that makes the stories and these beloved characters all the more enjoyable.

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! Check your work, and study the words you miss! Look up each word in the dictionary and write its definition on a separate piece of paper.

- DELECTABLE _____
- OBVIOUS _____
- CRAVE _____
- ANXIOUS _____
- RECOGNIZE _____
- DUBIOUS _____
- MIMIC _____
- SQUINT _____
- EMBARRASS _____
- CONFIGURATION _____
- TRADITION _____
- CIRCUMSTANCE _____
- REVENGE _____
- SYMBOLIZE _____
- LAUNCH _____
- COMPLIMENT _____
- DESCENDANT _____
- ATTRACTION _____
- CONFUSE _____
- ENCOUNTER _____
- ARCADE _____
- MOTORCYCLE _____
- CORRIDOR _____
- RESTRAINT _____
- USHER _____
- CIRCULAR _____
- MASSIVE _____
- PRECISE _____



Hello Friend!

Here's a list of how to say hello in other countries!

FranceBonjour



MoroccoAhlen

IndonesiaSelamat

NorwayHei

BrazilComo vai

NigerFofu

AustraliaYow

ItalyBuon giorno



EcuadorPujamek

SwitzerlandBien gi

PolandCzesc

IraqHalaw

TurkeyShlomo

EthiopiaSelam

VietnamChào

RussiaÜvä päivää



JapanKonnichi wa

KenyaAshamaa

BelgiumBondjoû

GermanyHallo



IndiaSat siri akal

Southern Africa ..Goeie dag

IrelandDia dhuit

SpainHola

HungarySzervusz

Art: Create It!

1. Paint a picture of lots of families enjoying fireworks at the end of a fun day at Disney World.
2. Use modeling clay to mold Disney characters. Ask an adult to help you “bake” the clay so it will harden. Place the characters around your Magic Kingdom castle craft!
3. Sketch portraits of each mystery book character. Add specific details in the background like a roller coaster, sign, or castle, etc.
4. Build a Monorail with shoeboxes, scissors, paint, and spools to circle around your miniature Disney World.
5. Design a new cover for *The Mystery at Disney World* book. You could take photographs or draw your own pictures. Create a new and interesting type font!
6. Gather craft materials like fabric, cotton balls, paint, cardboard, toothpicks, buttons, grass, yarn, etc. to build a miniature version of Disney World. Construct a three-dimensional amusement park using miniature objects. Include rides, vendors, shows, landscaping, the big castle, and other features.
7. Sculpt a tall mountain with a water slide coming down the middle. Set it in a big plastic tub. Cut a cardboard paper towel holder in half to create a log so you can play Splash Mountain!
8. Design and cut out play tickets and play money so you can pretend to visit Disney World at home!



Mini-Animated Book

Walt Disney made pictures come alive with animation. You can too!

- Find a small notepad of blank white paper. It should just be paper and a cardboard back, no cover. The pad should measure about 2" wide and 3" high.
- Think of something you want to animate. It could be as simple as a ball rolling down the stairs or something more complex, like a boy running to kick a soccer ball.
- Imagine how the animation scene would look if you could see it acted out.
- Determine the steps of the scene.
- Draw sketches of each movement in each scene. Each sketch should go on a separate piece of paper. Place the pad horizontally. Draw the scenes across the long side of the pad so you can flip it to show the animation later. You don't have to draw on every sheet. Just draw until your cartoon is complete.
- Check your work every few pages by flipping the book. Make sure that the background or scenery looks the same, unless you want it to change. The only aspects that should be drawn differently are those that will move.
- When you are finished, flip through the book and note any problems to correct on your drawings.
- Show a friend your animated cartoon!

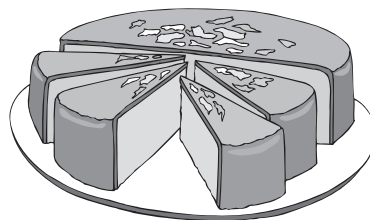
What do mice like best to eat? **CHEESE!** Let's make a simple cheesecake for our cocoa and powder mice to enjoy!

Mousy Cheesecake

Ingredients

- 1 1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 2 (1.3 oz.) envelopes whipped topping mix
- 2 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
- 2 oz. cherry juice

Serves 10



Directions

1. Combine graham cracker crumbs, butter, and sugar in a medium bowl. Mix well and press into the bottom of a 9-inch pan.
2. Mix whipped topping powder as directed on package in another bowl. Beat until thick.
3. Cut the cream cheese into small cubes. Drop them into the whipped topping, one at a time, while beating.
4. Add the cherry juice and beat another 5 minutes at high speed.
5. Spoon the filling into the crust. Use a spatula or butter knife to smooth out the top.
6. Refrigerate cheesecake 2-4 hours. Wait until it sets, or gets firm. Set some cocoa and powder mice on top of the cheesecake or the fruit topping of your choice. Serve chilled.



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



Cocoa and Powder Mice

Melt 4 squares of semisweet chocolate (1 oz. each) in a double boiler, stirring constantly.

Cover and refrigerate until firmly chilled (15-20 minutes).

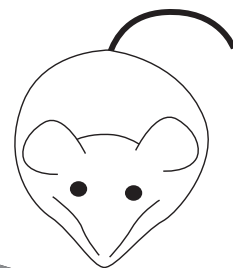
Combine chocolate with 1/3 cup of sour cream. Add 1 cup of crushed chocolate wafer cookies (crush very finely!) and mix well.

Roll dough into small oval shapes. Give one end a slight point for a nose.

Place 1/3 cup of cocoa powder and 1/3 cup of powdered sugar in separate bowls. Roll some mice in cocoa and some in sugar.

Press in tiny blue candies for eyes and tiny pink candies for noses. Insert sliced almonds in the heads for ears and black licorice string tails in the back.

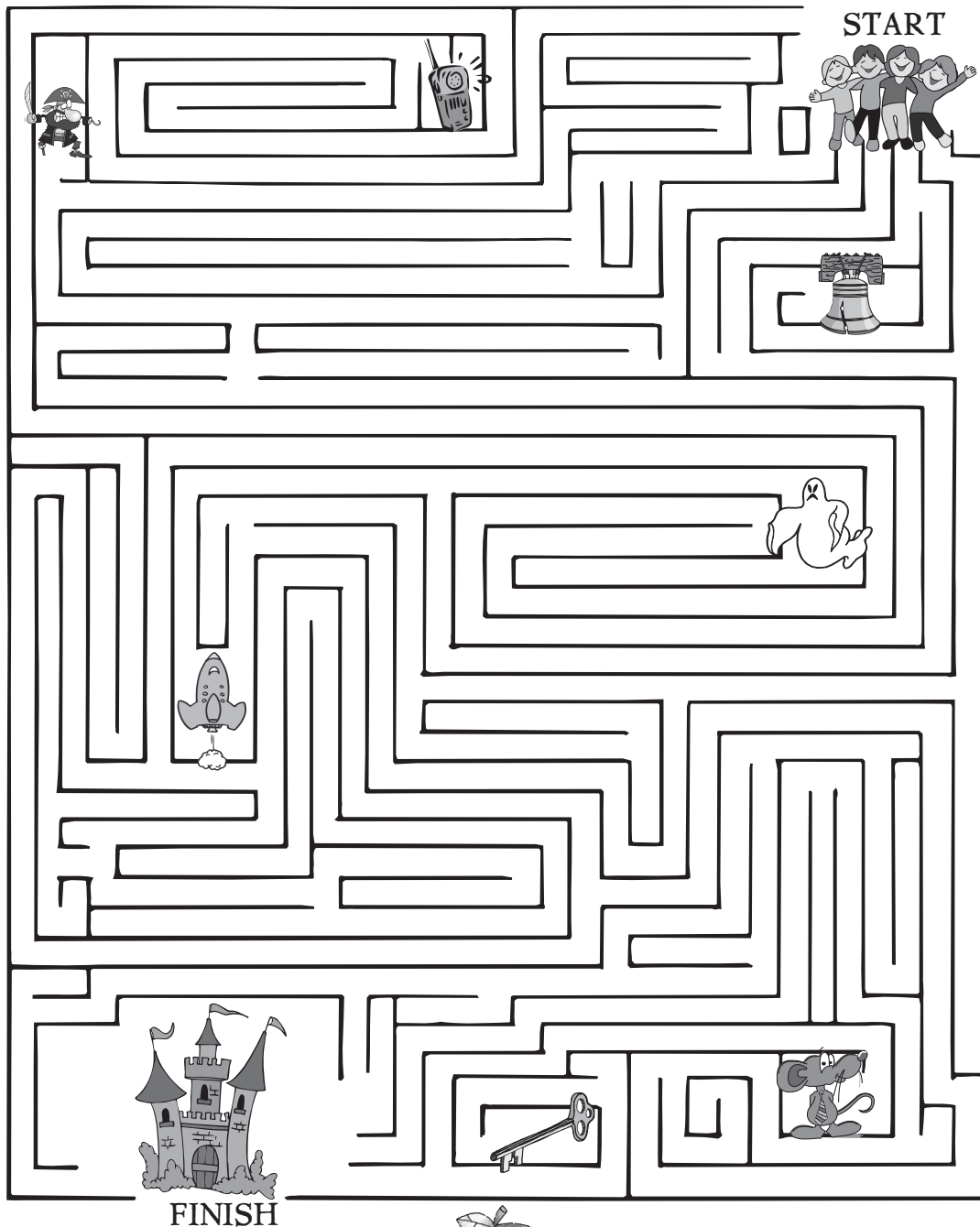
Refrigerate at least 2 hours, and then enjoy!



The Mystery at Disney World Maze



Help Mick, Crystal, Christina, and Grant race through Disney World!



The Mystery at Disney World Pair Up



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



DISNEY

MOUSE

MAGIC

ANIMATION

ORLANDO

THE CARIBBEAN

MICKEY

WORLD

SMALL

KINGDOM

CARTOON

DISNEY

MGM

WORLD

WALT

FLORIDA

PIRATES OF

STUDIOS



The Mystery at Disney World Amusement Park Project



Have you ever been to Disney World or another amusement park? What did you like best? The roller coasters? The shows? The treats?

Create your own amusement park!

- 1** Find a large piece of light plywood (rectangular or square) for a base. Paint the wood in a bright green. Let it dry while you plan your dream park.
- 2** Now let's brainstorm! Take 10 minutes to write a list of things you would like to include in your very own amusement park. Examples include vendors, roller coasters, swings, fountains, paths, benches, restaurants, games, and other rides. Get creative! What about a monkey exhibit, ice cream making exhibit, banana peel waterslide, or brightly colored foam jungle gym?
- 3** Write some important facts next to each idea, like what it should look like, who might run it, where it should be located, etc. Draw a "rough draft" map of where each element of the amusement park should go. Give each element a number. Plot each number on the green board base with a pencil. Draw paths around and to each element on the board.
- 4** Now let's create! Use cardboard, poster board, markers, glue, fabric, buttons, toothpicks, ribbon, spools, blue plastic wrap, foil, anything to create the rides, restaurants, and other elements.
- 5** Place each creation on the board and glue it securely. Wait for everything to dry before moving on to the next object. Glue gray ribbon to the board along the paths that you marked. Choose a wild and wacky name for your park, and design a sign for the entrance. Glue the sign to two pillars made with cardboard paper towel rollers and place it where visitors will first enter. Add final touches like paint, flags, plastic flowers, etc.
- 6** Now create some people to enjoy your amusement park! Use modeling clay or even plastic toys. Your park might not even be for humans! Maybe it's an amusement park just for animals!
- 7** Invite some friends over to play amusement park with you!



The Mystery at Disney World Clue Scramble



Unscramble the words below to find the mystery clues!

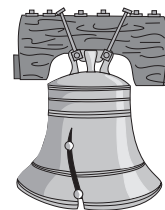
1. PATIRE LERUS _____

2. KEPE MNGOVI
GIDOES _____



3. RHIDAWE _____

4. VEGI EM
LIRTBEY _____



5. AAYLWS OOMR
OFR NOE ORME _____

6. IPTR AOUDRN
TEH ORWLD _____



7. HPYAP TABIHDRY _____



8. HET USMOE
KOWNS _____

9. ARDE OT OG _____

The Mystery at Disney World Word Search



Search for the mysteriously hidden words below!

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

COASTER

RIDE

TICKET

PRESIDENT

DISNEY

CASTLE

MESSAGE

PARK

ADVENTURE

FRIGHT

MOUSE

KIDNAP

CHARACTER

FUN

MAGIC

KIDS



The Mystery at Disney World Fill-in-the-Blank Crossword



Fill in the blanks to answer the questions.

1. Moving cartoons are called:

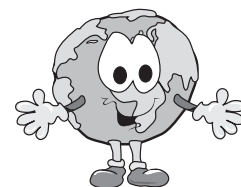
A _____ M _____

2. This legendary animal helped Walt Disney get started:

M _____ E _____ O _____ E _____

3. On the "It's A Small World" ride, Disney World visitors learn about:

D _____ F _____ T _____
O _____ T _____

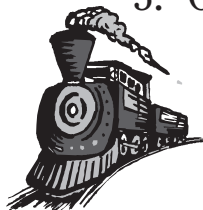


4. These keep missing all over the park:

_____ I _____

5. One of Walt Disney's most favorite hobbies was playing with:

T _____ N _____



6. The most important ingredient in a Disney movie is:

I _____ G _____ T _____

7. At the end of their day at Disney World, the kids enjoyed a great show of:

F _____ W _____



The Mystery at Disney World Matching Characters



Match these mystery characters with their descriptions!

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. Mick | A. mystery writer |
| 2. Mr. Jerome | B. first kid kidnapped by the kidnappers |
| 3. Christina | C. takes ballet to increase his agility |
| 4. Mimi | D. named his son after Mickey Mouse |
| 5. Grant | E. named after a restaurant |
| 6. Crystal | F. Disney Imagineer |
| 7. Papa | G. always joking |
| 8. Mr. Rupert | H. carries a red walkie-talkie |



The Mystery at Disney World Quiz



Use the clues to discover these magical Disney "lands" or hotspots!



1. ExtraTERRORestrial hangout:

2. Rawhide! Keep moving, dogies:

3. Pirates of the Caribbean like to lurk here:

4. Home of Brer Rabbit, Brer Fox, and Brer Bear:

5. Choo-Choo through an abandoned mine:

6. Hail to the Chief:

7. Don't lose your seatmate to the ghosts:

8. Round the world:

9. Beautiful house at Disney World with intricate mosaics:



The Mystery at Disney World True or False



Mark each statement true or false.

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

- _____ 1. Mick was named after Minnie Mouse.
- _____ 2. Walt Disney is a famous doctor.
- _____ 3. A celluloid is a transparent sheet that artists paint on to create the background for a cartoon.
- _____ 4. Walt Disney took care of pigs on a farm when he was a boy.
- _____ 5. The kids got their clues from a cell phone.
- _____ 6. Steamboat Willie was the first cartoon that featured Donald Duck.
- _____ 7. The wonderful smells at Disney World come from bread factories.
- _____ 8. Kidnappers held the children captive in Cinderella's Castle.
- _____ 9. Before he created Mickey Mouse, Walt Disney created Oswald the Lucky Rabbit.
- _____ 10. Walt Disney's first full-length animated feature film was *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.



Answer Key...

to The Mystery at Disney World Activities



Math Activities

1. \$255 for tickets; 2. 30 miles per hour; 3. 100 ears, 50 tails; 4. \$3,575 budget; 5. maximum-250 people, minimum-125 people, 9,375 rooms; 6. 23,900 letters, 47,800 stamps

The Mystery at Disney World Pair Up

DISNEY WORLD; MAGIC KINGDOM; ORLANDO, FLORIDA; MICKEY MOUSE; SMALL WORLD; CARTOON ANIMATION; MGM STUDIOS; WALT DISNEY; PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

The Mystery at Disney World Clue Scramble

PIRATE RULES, KEEP MOVING DOGIES, RAWHIDE, GIVE ME LIBERTY, ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE, TRIP AROUND THE WORLD, HAPPY BIRTHDAY, THE MOUSE KNOWS, DARE TO GO

The Mystery at Disney World Fill-in-the-Blank Crossword

1-ANIMATION; 2-MICKEY MOUSE; 3-DIFFERENT COUNTRIES; 4-KIDS; 5- TRAINS; 6-IMAGINATION; 7-FIREWORKS

The Mystery at Disney World Matching Characters

1-C; 2-D; 3-H; 4-A; 5-B; 6-E; 7-G; 8-F

The Mystery at Disney World Mystery Quiz

Tomorrowland, Frontierland, Adventureland, Splash Mountain, Big Thunder Mountain Railroad, Liberty Square, The Haunted Mansion, It's A Small World, Cinderella's Castle

The Mystery at Disney World True or False?

1-F (Mickey); 2-F (animator, film producer, cartoonist); 3-T; 4-T; 5-F (walkie-talkie); 6-F (Mickey Mouse); 7-F (underground); 8-T; 9-T; 10-T

