

## **Creating Clues**

Before you begin the fourth step in planning your mystery, review steps 1 and 2. When you plan your mystery, it needs to fit in the setting AND it needs to be something your main character can handle.

**Step 1 - My setting is:**

**Step 2 - My main character is:**

**Step 3 - The intriguing mystery to be solved is:**

### **Step 4 Creating Clues -**

Your main character needs clues to solve the mystery.

Here are some possible ideas of different kinds of clues.

<i>Something is left behind by mistake...</i>	<i>Something is left on purpose...</i>	<i>Something is used or taken...</i>	<i>Other clues...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fingerprints</li> <li>● Tire tracks</li> <li>● Footprints</li> <li>● Phone number or address</li> <li>● A mess</li> <li>● Pieces of clothing</li> <li>● Fur or feathers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A message</li> <li>● A ransom note</li> <li>● A recorded message</li> <li>● A riddle</li> <li>● A video message</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A meaningful souvenir</li> <li>● A treasured possession</li> <li>● A glass or dish</li> <li>● Food</li> <li>● Map</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What a witness saw</li> <li>● What a witness heard</li> <li>● A suspicious acting character</li> </ul>

1. Decide how many clues you will include in your story. Highlight the number of clues you'll include in your mystery ~ 2, 3, or 4.

2. Make a list of the clues and where they are found in your setting.

Examples: a pink candy wrapper beside the granite boulder at the start of the trail  
 a tiny footprint by the tomatoes in the garden that looked like...  
 a crumpled note by the swings that said...