

MISSION BRIEF

MISSION 3

WHO STOLE THE
WOODSPRING NUG
(AGAIN!)?



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CAPER CREW



Australian
Children's
Television
Foundation

Mission Overview

Who stole the Woodspring Nug (again!)?

The Joeys are on a school excursion to the grand reopening of the Planetarium. At some point during the excursion, the Woodspring Nug goes missing (again!.) You need to piece together the clues and find out who stole it (again!).

This activity is asking you to solve a mini ‘whodunnit’ based on the theft of the Woodspring Nug. You can create your own clue boards to organise your evidence. A clue board is a tool detectives often use to solve a crime. They lay out all the evidence they have on a board and move things around as they need. It’s like a visual way to solve a problem. The Joeys use a clue board to solve the problem of the missing nug.



A ‘whodunnit’ is a mystery story where something has happened — just like the mystery of the missing Nug in *Caper Crew*. Everyone must work together to find out who committed the crime.

There are usually:

- **Suspects** – people who might have done it
- **Clues** – hints or evidence to help solve the mystery
- **Red herrings** – tricky clues that try to confuse you
- **A detective** – the person solving the mystery (that’s you!)

Instructions

1. In small groups, find a clear, flat table or workspace. This will be your 'clue board', where you can move around your clues and case information.
2. Open your **case dossier**. It contains information about the crime.
 - a. Suspect profiles
 - b. Suspect motives
 - c. Suspect timelines
 - d. Suspect clues
3. Cut out each suspect's profile sheet along the dotted line
4. Read each suspect's **motive**, study their **timeline** and examine the **clue** they left behind.
5. You can **arrange** and **re-arrange** the case cards to your clue board table, using blu-tack. You can also add your own notes.
6. Once you have worked up your clue board, decide and explain who is responsible based on clues and evidence you have found.

The details

Important evidence

- The Nug was locked inside a display cabinet at **11:30 am**. At **12:00 pm**, planetarium staff discovered it was gone. This means the Nug disappeared sometime between **11:30 am and 12:00pm**.
- Four students were near the exhibit during that time.
- The cabinet door appeared to have been shut very quickly.
- The nug was round and medium sized — about the size of a bowling ball.
- There were no remnants of the nug left behind, which means it was taken cleanly.
- Someone would have needed loose or bulky clothing to hide it.

Helpful tips

- A motive is a reason why someone might act in a particular way or do something.
- A red herring is a clue or piece of information that tricks you into thinking something is important when it really isn't. In mysteries and whodunnits, a red herring is used to make people guess the wrong answer. Ask your teacher for help if you get stuck.

You might want to use these questions to help you solve the crime:

- Which suspect has the strongest motive?
- Which suspect had the best opportunity to take the nug?
- Which clue seems most important?
- Which clues might be red herrings?

The first crew to solve the mystery must not reveal their answers until all the crews have finished.