

Challenge 2: Sharna Jackson

The trophy taker



In my book *High Rise Mystery*, sisters Nik and Norva collaborate to figure out who murdered their art teacher.

In football, 11 players work together as a team to win their matches to the delight of all their fans.

Those are very different tasks – solving mysteries and playing football are not the same – but they both show the power of strength in numbers.

Together, we are stronger, right? Teamwork definitely makes the dream work!

For this activity, we're going to create and solve a crime.

You need to work together in a group of four – one of you is the daring detective and three of you will be very sly suspects.

Read about the crime, the clues and the suspects below, then:

if you are a detective, write a list of questions that you know will catch the culprit.

If you are a suspect, you must be sneaky! Choose which one you want to be, and with the other suspects (detectives cover your ears!) decide who you think really did it.

The detective will then interview the suspects and decide just who took the trophy.

Will you catch the criminal? Or will you get away with the crime of the century? Good luck!

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Part One: The crime

Your class is super excited today!

You're going on a special school trip to the Enormo Stadium to see City's winning Premier League trophy.

Everyone on the coach is excited, apart from Marcus Moore. He's grumpy. He supports United, and thinks they should have won this year. **'City don't deserve the trophy'**, he mutters.

When you arrive at the stadium at 12:15 it's raining, and you rush in with wet shoes.

You are greeted by a cheerful tour guide, Aimee Smith. She is very excited to show you around, but she doesn't want to take you to the trophy.

'I spend a long time polishing that trophy, I do – I don't want mucky paws on it,' she says, sticking out her tongue. She takes your class to the dressing rooms, where she pops out for a moment. **'Ooh, I need the loo! Just wait here.'**

In the dressing room, you are very surprised to see Jose Allegro, the manager of United speaking to Raheem Sterling, a City player, in low whispers.

'Well, you know what I think...' Allegro says.

Sterling shakes his head. **'Yes, but I would never!'**

Marcus is very excited and shouts. **'You're the best manager ever! What are you doing here?'**

Allegro is surprised but laughs. **'Just... talking to my friend. Would you like a picture and an autograph?'**

Marcus nods, and rushes over with your teacher.

Raheem Sterling decides to take the rest of your class to the trophy room, you get there at 13:00, just before lunch. The trophy is missing.

Sterling stares in shock. **'Who would do this?'** he shouts clenching his fist.

You turn to look at the door. Marcus, Aimee and Jose Allegro stand together in the frame.

'It's one of those three, it has to be,' you say. **'And I'm going to find out which one.'**

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The clues

- Missing trophy
- Wet footprints, shoe size seven
- A scrunched up packet of crisps



Marcus Moore

Age: 11

Job: Pupil at school

Shoe size: Seven

Motive: Hates City

Last movements: With Allegro, taking a photograph – but your teacher says he stopped for a snack before coming to the trophy room.



Aimee Smith

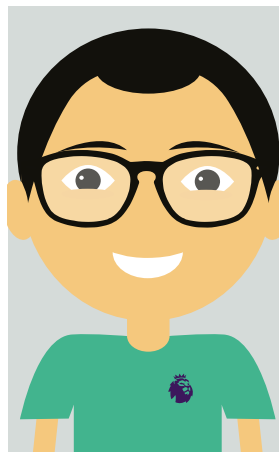
Age: 25

Job: Tour guide

Shoe size: Seven

Motive: Doesn't want the trophy to be touched

Last movements: In the bathroom, apparently. She has crisp crumbs on her lip coming to the trophy room.



Jose Allegro

Age: 48

Job: Manager of United

Shoe size: Seven

Motive: Wants the cup for his team?

Last movements: Taking a photograph with Marcus Moore, but whereabouts unknown while Marcus was getting a snack... but he smells like Monster Munch.

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Top tips:

For detectives!

Read the crimes and clues closely and pick up the facts.

When you craft your questions, be specific – ask **'Where were you at 12:15?'** rather than **'Were you there that day?'**

When you interview your suspects, look at their body language. Are they telling the truth or are they lying? Can you tell by the way they are acting?

For suspects!

Read the facts about your suspect, and get into character – think about how they might think and might act.

Write a strong reason as to why you didn't do the crime (even if you did). Use all the facts available to you to make it make sense.

When the detective interviews you, don't act suspicious! Don't smile or laugh. It's very serious! You don't want to be arrested, do you?

Detectives

Use this grid to help you interview your suspects. Make sure you write down the facts to catch them out!

My questions:



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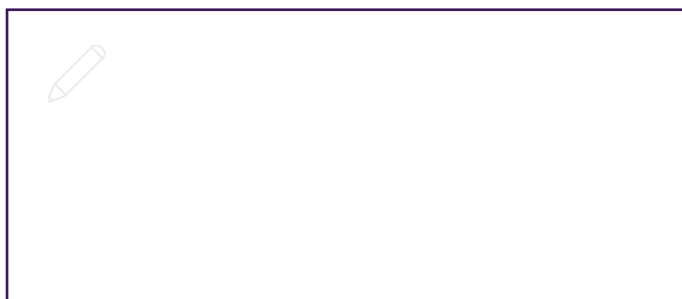


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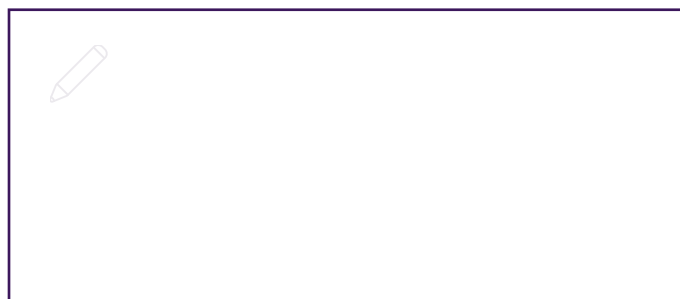
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My suspect is



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My reason is:



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Suspects

Use this grid to help you get your story straight! Keep that innocent smile fixed, and your fingers crossed.

I look suspicious because:



But I didn't do it because:

