

Name _____

The Reading Detectives Answer Key

Question #	Answer	Evidence / Clue from Text
1	A turkey sandwich with lettuce and tomato	"She was sure she had packed her sandwich that morning—it was turkey with lettuce and tomato."
2	Her friend Max	"Her friend Max peeked over and said..."
3	Crumbs near the hamster's cage and Mr. Whiskers eating bread	"Lena noticed crumbs on the floor near the class pet's cage. The hamster, Mr. Whiskers, was nibbling something that looked suspiciously like bread."
4	She smiled and praised Lena	"Mrs. Parker smiled and said, 'Looks like our class detective solved the case!'"
5	Lena is observant and persistent	Clues: "Lena noticed crumbs on the floor..." and "She showed her the evidence: crumbs, lettuce bits, and a tiny trail leading to the cage."

Teaching Tips:

- Introduce the lesson by comparing reading to solving a mystery; students must *find proof* in the text, not rely on guesses.
- Model the first question together by highlighting the clue in the passage.
- Encourage students to use **line numbers or short direct quotes** rather than paraphrases.
- Discuss how evidence gives credibility to answers in reading and writing.

Assessment Tip: Look for precision; students should highlight *only* the key evidence, not entire paragraphs. Reward responses that show clear, text-based reasoning.