

Charting Predictions Answer Key

Note: Predictions will vary. The key below shows **sample reasonable responses** based on common outcomes for a mystery setup.

Story Moment 1 - Prediction:

Alex might be curious and think the box is a gift, or he may be suspicious and ask his parents about it.

Story Moment 2 - Prediction:

He might open the box right away, or he might hesitate and wait for help.

Story Moment 3 - Prediction:

The box could contain something surprising—maybe a clue, a letter, or an unusual object.

Teacher Notes:

- The focus is on the **process of predicting and revising**, not whether predictions are “right.”
- Encourage students to cite clues (like “no return address”) as reasons for their guesses.
- This chart works best if the teacher either **provides a continuation** of the passage (so students can check predictions) or allows students to **write their own “ending”** to compare with classmates.
- Teachers may also use this story continuation below:

The Mysterious Package

Alex picked up the box and turned it over in his hands. It felt light, almost empty, but he couldn't stop wondering what was inside. He thought about asking his parents, but curiosity got the better of him.

He carried the package to the kitchen table and carefully peeled off the brown paper. Beneath the wrapping was a small wooden box with a brass lock. On top sat a folded piece of paper. Alex unfolded it and read the words: “Open only when the time is right.”

His heart pounded. The lock had no key, but when Alex pressed on the lid, it popped open with a soft click. Inside was not a toy or a snack, but a silver compass with strange markings on its face. The needle spun wildly, then stopped, pointing not north, but toward the woods behind his house.