

Genre Detectives

Three files. One sharp-eyed detective.

THIS BOARD SUPPORTS
Genres

The Case Files

Sort the prompt. Prove the genre. Earn a badge in each of the three files.

FILE 1

Narrative

Tell a story with characters, a setting, and events.

Clues to notice

“Tell about a time...”
“Write a story...”

*Place your case card here
while you explain.*

FILE 2

Informative

Teach or explain using facts and clear details.

Clues to notice

“Explain how...”
“Describe the steps...”

*Place your case card here
while you explain.*

FILE 3

Argumentative

State a position and support it with reasons.

Clues to notice

“Should...?”
“Convince...”

*Place your case card here
while you explain.*

Spin your challenge



Hold a paper clip at the center with a pencil tip; flick to spin. On a line? Spin again.

1 Name its purpose.

2 Quote the prompt's genre clue.

3 Suggest a fitting first sentence.

How to Play

2–4 players · 10–15 minutes

Use page 2, pencils, and a paper clip.

1. Cut and shuffle the case cards. Keep the answer key aside for the checker. Write names in the badge log.
2. Take turns clockwise. Draw a case and spin. Name its genre, place it in that file, and do the numbered challenge.
3. The next player checks the genre with the key and the challenge with the file guide. If unsure, ask the teacher. Correct? Mark that genre in your log. Otherwise, explain the correction; earn no badge.
4. Return the card to the bottom of the deck. A repeated badge does not count. First to earn all three different badges wins.

Detective check

The task decides the genre, not the topic. A garden can appear in a story, an explanation, or an argument!

Detective Kit

Cut the nine case cards. Keep the log and key uncut.

THIS BOARD SUPPORTS
Genres

CASE 01

Tell a story about a lost puppy finding its way home.

Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 02

Explain the steps for caring for a new puppy.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 03

Convince your family that adopting a puppy is a good idea.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 04

Tell about a time you learned to ride a bicycle.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 05

Explain how a bicycle helmet protects a rider.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 06

Should every bicycle rider wear a helmet? Support your position.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 07

Write a story about a surprise in the school garden.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 08

Explain how seeds grow into plants.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

CASE 09

Convince your principal to start a school garden.
Name the genre; then do your spin challenge.

Detective name	Narrative	Informative	Argumentative
_____	○	○	○
_____	○	○	○
_____	○	○	○
_____	○	○	○

Checker's key — cover until checking: 1, 4, 7 Narrative (story or personal event); 2, 5, 8 Informative (explanation); 3, 6, 9 Argumentative (position and persuasion).

Challenge check: Purpose matches the file guide; clue quotes the task words; first sentence fits the purpose. Accept varied sensible sentences.