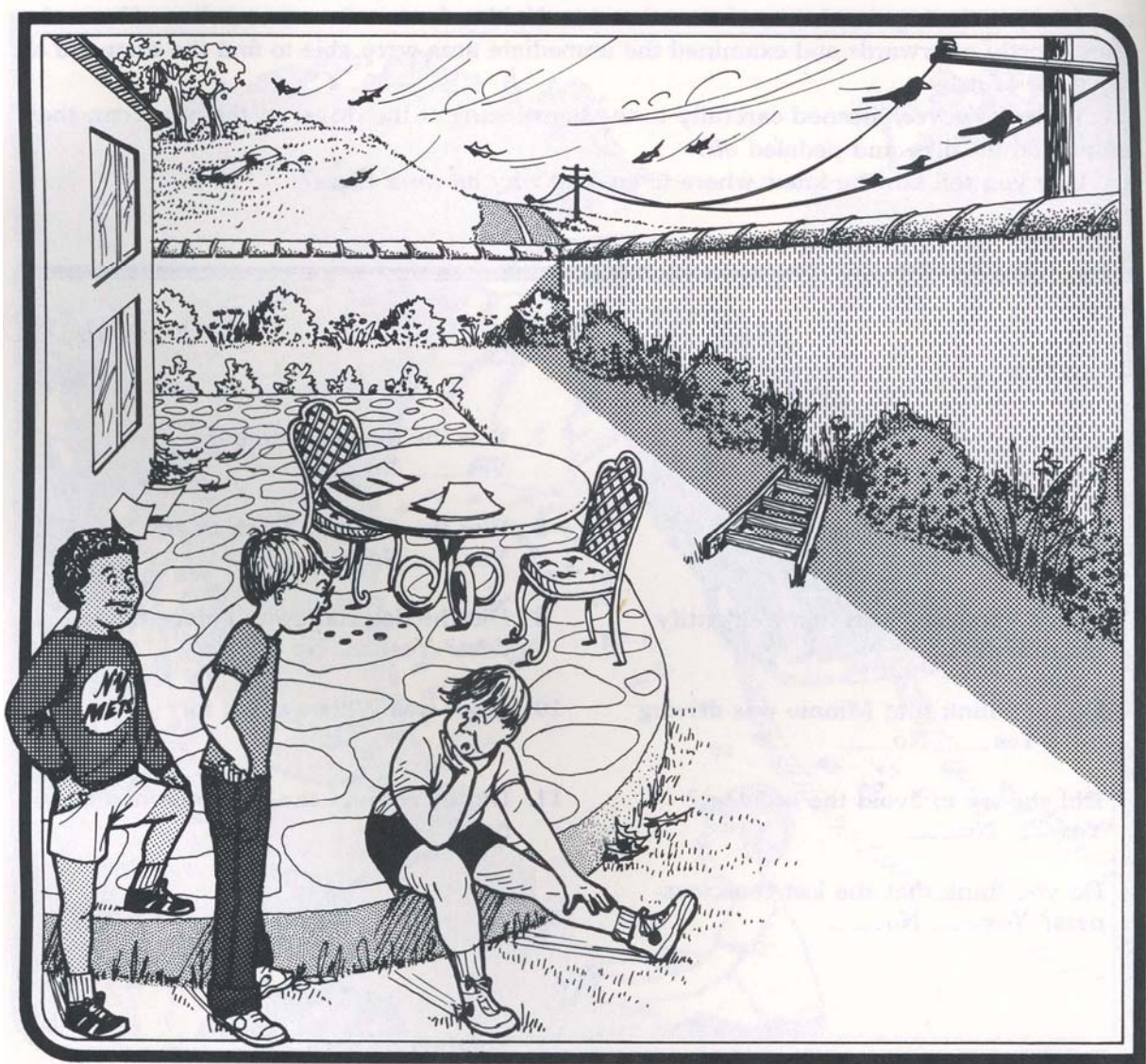


ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Opening Activity

You Solve the Mystery #6

Name: _____ Period: _____ Row: _____



The Case of the Winds of Fortune

Larry Madison and Derrick Wilson were sitting at a patio table in Larry's back yard counting out the money they'd collected as donations from the community for the new little league baseball field to be built soon. Just after counting the money (\$55.00) the phone rang and they both jumped up and ran into the house to answer the call. When they got back a few minutes later, all the money was gone.

With the help of a ladder leaning against the ten foot high wall, Derrick got to the top of the wall and recognized Ricky Nelson, who was riding his bicycle away from the scene about 50 feet away. When Ricky saw Derrick, Ricky sped up and started to ride away faster although he appeared to be having trouble with his right leg. It looked as if the leg was injured. Derrick yelled to Larry to call the police. In his excitement he lost his balance and the ladder fell to the ground with him hanging on for dear life. Luckily he was not hurt. A patrol car was nearby and spotted

Ricky several blocks away when the call came out on the police radio. The officer stopped Ricky based on probable cause, searched him, and found exactly fifty five dollars.

When asked about the money Ricky stated, "It blew over the wall so I picked it up." Larry asked the officer "what's wrong with picking up a few bills when I don't know where they came from? And tell me how could I climb a wall as high as that one?"

The police offer scratched his head and had no answer. When asked how he hurt his leg he said he hit a bump in the road earlier and fell off the bicycle. After the police returned with him to the back yard Ricky repeated the answer he'd given to the police about his innocence, but Larry and Derrick didn't believe him.



LET US LOOK AT THE FACTS: (Circle the correct answer)

1. Was there a brisk wind blowing? Yes No

2. What helps you determine your answer for question #1?

3. How would looking at the birds help determine which way the wind was blowing?

4. How could Ricky have seen the money while he was riding along the road if the wall was 10 feet high?

5. Could the wind have blown the bills over the wall? Yes No

6. Could Ricky have climbed the wall without aid of some sort? Yes No

7. Was there a way for Ricky to climb over the wall? Yes No

8. Can you disprove Ricky's story? Yes No

9. Do you think Ricky stole the money? Yes No

10. If your answer is yes Ricky stole the money, explain how he was able to accomplish the theft.
