

ACTIVITY ONE READING THE CLUES

Tintin is a curious young reporter who chases clues and usually winds up on globe-trotting adventures in pursuit of the truth, criminals, or treasure. This master-of-disguise character was first introduced in 1929 by graphic novel writer and illustrator Georges Remi, who wrote using the pen name Hergé.

Tintin's newest amazing adventure takes place in the 3D film *The Adventures of Tintin*, directed by Steven Spielberg and produced by Peter Jackson, opening December 21, 2011. The story combines three of Hergé's tales as Tintin sets off on a quest to collect hidden clues left by naval commander Sir Francis Haddock—an ancestor of Tintin's true friend Captain Haddock. The clues reveal the whereabouts of the *Unicorn*, Sir Francis Haddock's ship, which sank almost 400 years ago along with the treasure of the notorious pirate Red Rackham.



PART A: I'VE GOT IT!

In *The Adventures of Tintin*, Tintin tries to solve the mystery of the missing treasure. Now it's your turn to put your skills to the test. Solve each of the puzzles below to discover clues.

A HISTORY MYSTERY

Hergé created the Tintin adventure *The Secret of the Unicorn* in the 1940s. He used fantasy to tell the story because, at that time, authors were under strict censorship. What world event prompted this censorship and influenced Hergé's writings? Figure out the pattern and decode the answer. *Hint:* The letters are 2 ahead of where you would find them in the alphabet.

Y Q T N F Y C T K K

FIND THE LOCATION

Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson combine three popular Tintin books for *The Adventures of Tintin*. One of these books, *The Crab with the Golden Claws*, is set in an imaginary city called Bagghar, which is located in a real country in North Africa. You can find this country on a map at the geographic coordinates 32° N, 5° W. It borders the Atlantic Ocean, and its capital is Rabat. What country is it?

M _____

A PIRATE RIDDLE

Red Rackham, a pirate featured in *The Adventures of Tintin*, is a fictional character that Hergé based on the real-life pirate John "Calico Jack" Rackham. Like many other 17th and 18th century pirates, the real Rackham was known to plunder in a popular port-of-call. Where is this popular pirate haven? Unscramble the letters to find out.

B A C N A E I R B

 S N A I L D S

PART B:

What European capital does Tintin call home? Using the circled letters from the answers above, fill in the missing letters on the lines to spell the city's name.

_____ U S _____

★ THE ADVENTURES OF ★
TINTIN IN THEATRES, **realD 3D** AND **IMAX 3D**
 DECEMBER 21, 2011 **TINTIN.com**



ACTIVITY TWO MAPPING OUT A STORY

In the Tintin graphic novels, Hergé incorporated events and images that reflected the world in which he lived. Because his native country, Belgium, was under Nazi control during World War II, he used foreign and exotic lands as the backdrop for his characters' adventures to avoid censorship. Hergé also used historic names, facts, and images in his stories, such as the 17th century warship, the *Unicorn*.

To introduce audiences to Tintin and his allies, enemies, and adventures, filmmakers Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson combined three popular Tintin books—*The Crab with the Golden Claws*, *The Secret of the Unicorn*, and *Red Rackham's Treasure*—into a single 3D film, ***The Adventures of Tintin***, opening December 21, 2011. You'll go from Europe to the Sahara Desert to the Caribbean of the late 1600s, when the *Unicorn* set sail from Barbados and was ambushed by pirates. And like the author-illustrator Hergé, the film's designers have researched the story's settings to depict stormy seas, endless sand dunes, and exotic cities in an exciting way.



PART A: SETTING THE STAGE

Much of the action in ***The Adventures of Tintin*** takes place in Brussels, Belgium and the imaginary city Bagghar, Morocco in the 1940s, with flashbacks to the Caribbean of the 1600s. To help you picture these locations, match the description below to Brussels, Bagghar, or the Caribbean.

1. Street markets, often referred to as "flea markets," are popular. _____
2. Sugar exports are big business. _____
3. Camels are a form of transportation. _____
4. Gas shortages and rations reduce transportation options. _____
5. Visitors might experience a mirage. _____
6. Pickpockets are a growing concern, as people struggle to earn a living. _____
7. Warships come under attack of pirates. _____

What other images and elements would you expect to see (or not see) in ***The Adventures of Tintin***? Research the two time periods mentioned above—the 1940s and the 1600s—and brainstorm ideas. Write your ideas on the back of this sheet.

PART B: A POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION

After seeing the film, look at your list of ideas. Which appeared in the film? What time periods were depicted in the film? As a class, discuss the real-life references presented in the film and the visuals used to portray time in the story.

★ THE ADVENTURES OF ★
TINTIN IN THEATRES, **real D** 3D AND **IMAX 3D**
 DECEMBER 21, 2011 **TINTIN.com**

ACTIVITY THREE TINTIN TODAY

For more than five decades, Hergé's curious reporter-turned-detective Tintin appeared in graphic stories and set off on world-spanning imaginative escapades. Today, filmmakers Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson are bringing Hergé's stories and characters to life in 3D, in *The Adventures of Tintin*, opening December 21, 2011.



Now it's your turn to take on the role of author-illustrator. What adventure do you think Tintin, his trusted dog Snowy, and his cantankerous friend Captain Haddock should embark on next?

The year is 2011. Create a mystery for Tintin and his companions to solve, or develop a predicament that they have to escape. Your story might use current or past social and world events to reflect the time. Use the questions and prompts below to help you. Once you're done planning, write and illustrate your story in true Hergé style.

CHARACTERS— Who will join the trio of Tintin, Snowy, and Captain Haddock? Will the detective duo of Thompson & Thomson be involved? Who will be the villain? Will your villain compare to the terrible Ivan Ivanovitch Sakharine or pirate Red Rackham? Or will your villain be a contemporary, fictitious counterpart? Describe the characters in your story.

SETTING— Tintin has explored the world. Where will your adventure take him and his friends? To an exotic land? Where will your story start and end? Describe your story's setting(s).

PROBLEM— In the film, Tintin faces several obstacles (including being kidnapped) as he tries to put together clues to find the sunken treasure of Red Rackham. What mystery will Tintin have to solve in your story? Or what predicament will he have to escape? How will Snowy and Captain Haddock help? (Or will they?)

To learn more about the *Tintin* characters, visit the movie website: TINTIN.com

Steven Spielberg describes the new film *The Adventures of Tintin* as “part-mystery, part-detective story, as well as a pure unapologetic adventure, all built around a tremendous story of friendship, loyalty, and belief between Captain Haddock and Tintin.” Keep these elements in mind as you develop the characters’ next adventure.

★ THE ADVENTURES OF ★
TINTIN IN THEATRES, **realD** 3D AND **IMAX 3D**
 DECEMBER 21, 2011 TINTIN.com

