

## May's Infobase Research Side Quest: **Crack the Case!**

The Quest Printables are built for those who have nothing to do and everything to discover. Each one starts with a question that doesn't have an obvious answer, and four Infobase links that get them closer without giving it away. Readers work through the resources, think about what they've found, and draw their own conclusion.



### How It Works:

Each printable features one central mystery question and four curated Infobase resources to explore. Readers follow the links, dig into the sources, and record their own conclusions. There's no single right answer—just evidence and reasoning.



### Set Up:

Print the full stack front and back and laminate them—these are meant to be grabbed, used, and grabbed again. Leave them out in the open, or keep a pile on hand for the moment someone says "I'm done" or "I'm bored"—because that's exactly what these are for.

## This Month's Questions:

**Mother's Day:** Why do kids look more like one parent than the other?

**Mental Health Awareness Month:** Why is Autism diagnosed so much more often now than it used to be?

**Memorial Day:** Why is Memorial Day always on a Monday?

**Asian American and Pacific Islander Month:** Why is there a Chinatown in most major cities?

# Infobase Research Side Quest

## Crack the Case: Why Do Kids Look More Like One Parent Than the Other?



### Your Mission:

Follow the four clues below, dig into the research, and figure out why kids often look more like one parent than the other. Read through each resource, then head to the Draw Your Conclusion section to record what you think. When you're ready, flip this page over to confirm your findings!

### Your Mystery: Why Do Kids Look More Like One Parent Than the Other?

#### Clue #1:

##### Patterns of Inheritance

##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "CREDO Source"
2. Type into the search bar "Gene Expression"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2018
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #2:

##### Are You What Your Mother Ate? The Agouti Mouse Study

##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Classroom Video On Demand"
2. Type into the search bar "Are You What Your Mother Ate? The Agouti Mouse Study"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2018 and ShortCuts TV as the producer
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #3:

##### Dominant Gene

##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Today's Science"
2. Type into the search bar "Dominant Gene"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a copyright date of 2018 and ShortCuts TV as the producer
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #4:

##### Gene Activation and Suppression

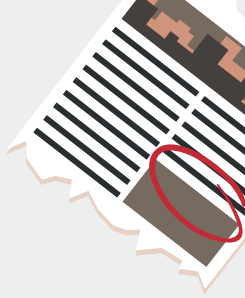
##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Classroom Video On Demand"
2. Type into the search bar "Gene Activation and Suppression"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a copyright date of 2020 from PBS
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

### Draw Your Own Conclusion

You've seen the evidence, now make your case! Why do you think kids look more like one parent than the other, and what did you find that convinced you?





# Case Closed

Kids inherit genes from both parents, but not in equal amounts at any given trait. Some genes are dominant and override others, so whichever parent passed down the stronger version for eye color, nose shape, or hair type is the one a kid will resemble for that feature. It's also random which genes get passed down at all, so siblings can end up looking like totally different mixes of the same two parents. And the resemblance can shift over time as a kid grows.



\*The secret code is a Bitly URL. To access, type it directly into your browser's address bar and press enter.



# Infobase Research Side Quest

## Crack the Case: Why Is Autism Diagnosed So Much More Often Now Than It Used To Be?



### Your Mission:

Follow the four clues below, dig into the research, and figure out why autism is diagnosed so much more often now than it used to be. Read through each resource, record your conclusion in the Draw Your Conclusion section, then flip this page over to see if you cracked the case.

### Your Mystery: Why Is Autism Diagnosed So Much More Often Now Than It Used To Be?

#### Clue #1:

##### Myths Surrounding Autism

###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Classroom Video On Demand"
2. Type into the search bar "Myths Surrounding Autism"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a copyright date of 2019 from True to Life Productions
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #2:

##### Autism Society of America (ASA)

###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "History Center"
2. Type into the search bar "Autism Society of America (ASA)"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2009 and Facts on File as the publisher
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #3:

##### Along the Spectrum: PW Talks with Temple Grandin

###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Bloom's Literature"
2. Type into the search bar "Along the Spectrum: PW Talks with Temple Grandin"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a copyright date of 2018 from Publishers Weekly
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #4:

##### Roots of Autism Revealed

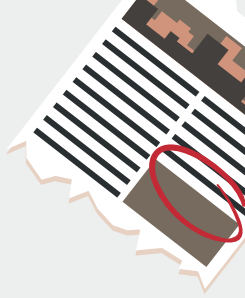
###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Today's Science"
2. Type into the search bar "Roots of Autism Revealed"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of April 2014 by Patricia Waldron
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

### Draw Your Own Conclusion

You've seen the evidence, now make your case! Why do you think autism is diagnosed so much more often now than it used to be, and what did you find that convinced you?





# Case Closed

Autism itself isn't more common than it used to be—what's changed is how doctors recognize it. The definition of autism has expanded over the years to include a much wider range of traits, so people who would have been missed in the past are now being diagnosed. Better awareness, earlier screening in kids, and more adults recognizing autism in themselves all play a role too. So the rise in diagnoses reflects better understanding, not a sudden change in people.



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# Infobase Research Side Quest

## Crack the Case: Why Is Memorial Day Always on a Monday?



### Your Mission:

Follow the four clues below, dig into the research, and figure out why Memorial Day always falls on a Monday. Read through each resource, record your conclusion in the Draw Your Conclusion section—then flip this page over to see if you cracked the case.

### Your Mystery: Why Is Memorial Day Always on a Monday?

#### Clue #1:

Holidays and Festivals in the 19th Century

##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "History Center"
2. Type into the search bar "Holidays and Festivals in the 19th Century"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2018 by Daily Life and Material Culture in U.S. History
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly: <https://bit.ly/4vYScBI>

#### Clue #2:

Civil War and American Folklore

##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Bloom's Literature"
2. Type into the search bar "Civil War and American Folklore"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2020 by Linda D. Watts
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly: <https://bit.ly/4tM1srw>

#### Clue #3:

Memorial Day's Civil War Origins - USAA (History Shorts)

##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Classroom Video On Demand"
2. Type into the search bar "Memorial Day's Civil War Origins"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2013 by Innovation Networks
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly: <https://bit.ly/4dg9XFh>

#### Clue #4:

Roots of Memorial Day

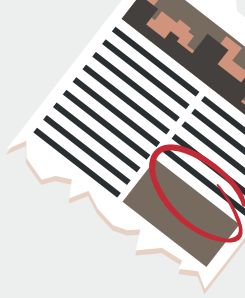
##### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Modern World History"
2. Type into the search bar "Roots of Memorial Day"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2014 by MVD
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly: <https://bit.ly/4t2uGkD>

### Draw Your Own Conclusion

You've seen the evidence, now make your case! Why do you think Memorial Day always falls on a Monday, and what did you find that convinced you?





# Case Closed

Memorial Day wasn't always on a Monday. For most of its history, it was observed on May 30th, no matter what day of the week that fell on. That changed in 1971, when Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act to move several federal holidays to Mondays so workers could have guaranteed three-day weekends. Memorial Day was one of them, and it's been the last Monday in May ever since.



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# Infobase Research Side Quest

## Crack the Case: Why Is There a Chinatown in Most Major Cities?



### Your Mission:

Follow the four clues below, dig into the research, and figure out why most major cities have a Chinatown. Read through each resource, record your conclusion in the Draw Your Conclusion section, then flip this page over to see if you cracked the case.

### Your Mystery: Why Is There a Chinatown in Most Major Cities?

#### Clue #1:

##### Japanese Success in California

###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "History Center"
2. Type into the search bar "Japanese Success in California"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2018 by American Public Television (APT)
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #2:

##### Origin of Chinatowns

###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Classroom Video On Demand"
2. Type into the search bar "Origin of Chinatowns"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2000 by A&E Networks
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

#### Clue #3:

##### Asian Americans During the Cold War

###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "History Center"
2. Type into the search bar "Asian Americans During the Cold War"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2020 by PBS
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly: <https://bit.ly/4w09RJI>

#### Clue #4:

##### Come All Ye Asian American Writers of the Real and the Fake

###### Follow This Trail:

1. Login to Infobase and select the database "Bloom's Literature"
2. Type into the search bar "Come All Ye Asian American Writers of the Real and the Fake"
3. Look for the mirroring title, plus a publishing date of 2018 by Amy Tan
4. Or, type in this secret code\* to access the case file directly:

### Draw Your Own Conclusion

You've seen the evidence, now make your case! Why do you think there's a Chinatown in most major cities and what did you find that convinced you?



# Case Closed

Chinatowns started forming in American cities in the mid-1800s, when large numbers of Chinese immigrants came to the US for work—especially during the Gold Rush and the building of the transcontinental railroad. Facing discrimination, exclusion laws, and violence, Chinese immigrants often couldn't live or work in many parts of a city, so they settled together in tight-knit neighborhoods where they could support each other, share a language, and build businesses. Over time, those neighborhoods became cultural anchors—places where traditions, food, and community were preserved and passed down. That's why so many major cities still have a Chinatown today.



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