MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 01: All Aboard!

Molly and Trini are excited for their train trip to Anchorage. They're even more excited when they learn they're not riding any ordinary train – they're taking the Mystery Train! Who else is along for the ride and what mysteries will they uncover?

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. Why are Molly and her family taking a train trip?

They are going on a birdwatching trip.

2. What is a "bird call"?

It is the sound a bird makes, but it is also an instrument, kind of like a whistle, for making a bird call noise to get a bird's attention.

3. What does Molly say she loves about mystery stories?

Finding the clues and solving the puzzle, or problem-solving.

4. What is a Mystery Train?

It is a train trip where the passengers play a game and solve a made-up mystery.

5. What friends do Molly and her family run into on the train?

Trini and her dad, plus Trini's chicken, who are on their way to the state fair.

Find more games and activities at pbskids.org/molly

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6. Where do Suki and Trini's chicken Texas Red have to ride?

In their crates in the cargo car.

7. What is so special about Texas Red's crate?

It's very fancy and cozy, with pillows and blankets.

8. How does Molly feel about taking this train trip?

Molly is excited about the trip. I know this because she runs ahead of her parents and says, " I don't want to miss the train..."

9. Would you like to take a trip on a train? Why or why not? Where would you go?

Share your responses with one another!

10. What role does Molly get to play?

Molly is Detective Mabray. She is very excited because she loves solving mysteries. She compares her role to Nancy Drew and Sherlock Holmes.

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MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 02: Detective Mabray

Everyone on the Mystery Train has been assigned pretend characters to play. Molly is now “Detective Mabray” and Trini is “Dr. Mumford.” These two investigators will need to meet everyone on board as they wait for the mystery to begin...

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. What snack do Molly and Trini grab when they are playing their mystery game roles of “Detective Mabray” and “Dr. Mumford”?

Popcorn.

2. Who is the first mystery game character that Molly and Trini meet?

Luke the zookeeper.

3. What is the clue you hear that the zookeeper’s tiger is not real?

A squeaky noise that comes from a toy.

4. What does Luke do in real life and what is his favorite instrument?

He is a musician and his favorite is a harmonica.

5. What goes missing during all the excitement of Suki getting loose?

The Countess’ (Molly’s mother) jeweled necklace.

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MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 03: Follow the Clues

The mystery is afoot - or atrack. When the Countess's necklace suddenly goes missing, Detective Mabray and Dr. Mumford search for clues and follow a greasy trail that leads them to some potential suspects.

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. What is the first clue Molly and Trini find and where do they find it?

A smudge of grease on the overhead rack over the Countess's (Molly's mom's) seat.

2. What senses does Molly use to figure out what the smudge is?

Sight and smell.

3. Why do Molly and Trini go to the engine room?

They think the grease might come from the train engine.

4. Why does Byron the mechanic say the grease could not have come from the train engine?

Because the train motor is electric, and does not use the kind of grease they found on the overhead rack.

5. What is a "locomotive" car?

The front car of a train that pulls the other cars.

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What do you remember from listening?

6. Where does Catherine the engineer say the detectives should look, and why?

The cargo car, because there are machines down there that the train is moving, and the machines might have grease on them.

7. What does Catherine let Molly and Trini do in the locomotive car?

Toot the horn.

8. What do you think will happen next?

Share your responses with one another!

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MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 04: Ghost Town

The Mystery Train unexpectedly stops in a ghost town!? Meanwhile, the case takes a detour when Detective Mabray hears a PUFFIN! Why would a lone puffin be in a ghost town and what does it have to do with the mystery?

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. After the train stops, what does Catherine the engineer say the passengers might find when the explore outside the train?

Clues to the mystery.

2. Trini is worried that a "ghost town" is filled with ghosts. How do Molly and her dad explain to her what a "ghost town" actually is?

They explain a ghost town is where people USED to live.

3. What is Molly's theory about how Suki got loose?

She thinks someone let Suki loose on purpose to cause a distraction in order to steal the necklace.

4. What is the first clue that Molly sees when she gets off the train?

Footprints in the dirt.

5. What is the first clue that she <u>hears</u>, and why is it strange?

Molly hears a Puffin call, which is unusual to hear in the forest, since they live near the ocean.

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What do you remember from listening?

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6. Who do Molly, her dad, and Trini find in the woods?

Hans.

7. What do you think will happen next?

Share your responses with one another!

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MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 05: Whodunnit?

Molly thinks she's solved the case! But after she reveals the thief of the missing necklace, a new mystery presents itself.

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. Where on the train does everyone gather to hear Molly's solution to the case?

The dining car.

2. Why are the fresh footprints Molly, her dad and Trini found in the woods suspicious?

Because they thought they were the first ones off the train.

3. Who turns out to be the necklace thief?

Marvin and an accomplice.

4. What is an "accomplice"?

Someone who helps someone else do something wrong.

5. What was making the Puffin noise in the woods?

Molly's Puffin birdcall.

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6. Who was the accomplice and how does Molly figure it out?

Sir Walter, the character played by Molly's dad, was the accomplice, and Molly figures it out because he was the only one who could have taken her Puffin bird call.

7. After the mystery game is solved by Molly and Trini, two other things go missing. What are they?

Molly's Puffin bird call, which her dad says he put back after the game, and Luke's harmonica.

8. What do you think will happen next?

Share your responses with one another!

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MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 06: Strangers on a Train

The plot thickens as Molly and Trini retrace their steps and discover that even more items have gone missing! It appears this train is just full of mysteries

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. After the mystery game ends, four other items go missing; Molly's birdcall, Luke's harmonica, and Hans' binoculars. What is the fourth thing that goes missing?

Marvin's keys, which he needs for the speaker system.

2. Are the new missing things part of the mystery game?

No, they are really missing and part of a real mystery.

3. The engineer makes an announcement that the train tracks are "impassable"—what does that mean?

It means the train can't pass, or go by.

4. What happens to make the train stop again?

The tracks are flooded.

5. Why doesn't Molly believe that the rain is causing the flooded tracks?

Because the rain has been light and has not been going on for very long.

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MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 07: The Flood

Detective Mabray and Dr. Mumford need to work quickly and solve all the cases if they want the train to get to Anchorage on time. But first, they'll need to fix a flood!

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. What does Catherine the engineer say needs to happen before the train can keep moving again?

The flood needs to be cleared.

2. What do Trini ("Dr. Mumford") and her chicken Texas Red say that gives Molly a hint about what is causing the flood?

"Where did all the water come from?"

3. What do Molly and her parents find when they go to explore the source of the flooding?

Water flowing down a hill, coming from a lake.

4. Molly thinks there might be a hole in the embankment around the lake. What is an "embankment"?

A wall of dirt or stone built around water to stop flooding.

5. What does Molly say big problems need?

Big problem-solving!

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What do you remember from listening?

---

6. What is Molly's idea to stop the flooding?

Plugging the hole in the embankment.

7. How do the passengers stop the leak in the embankment?

They plug the hole with sandbags that they had on the train.

8. What do you think will happen next?

Share your responses with one another!

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MOLLY OF DENALI PODCAST
Listening Questions

Episode 08: Mystery Solved

In the final episode of the season, the Mystery Train is just minutes from its destination, but there's still one case left to solve. Molly and Trini will need to listen very closely if they hope to crack this last mystery.

What do you remember from listening?

---

1. Catherine the engineer tells the passengers to "gather their belongings" before the train gets to Anchorage. Why can't they gather them all?

Because many items are still missing.

2. Toni's microphone is still missing. What does Molly look at and listen to get clues about the microphone and the other missing items?

Toni's video footage of the passengers plugging the embankment hole.

3. What does Molly notice when listening to the video?

At one point someone takes the microphone and moves it to a place where there is no sound from the train's speaker system.

4. What train car does not have a speaker?

The cargo car where Suki and Texas Red were riding.

5. Where do they find all of the missing items?

In Texas Red's crate in the cargo car.

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What do you remember from listening?

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6. Who put all the items in the crate and why?

Suki, because she is a "collector", and thought Texas Red's crate was cozier than hers.

7. How was Suki able to take all of the items she put in the crate?

All of the items had been put close to the floor where she could reach them.

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