

Alphabetical Order: Shelf Detectives

Grades 2-4 | 64 task cards

Practise alphabetical order beyond the first letter. Learners sort fictional book labels by surname, then given name when needed, and explain the letter comparison that decides the order.

4 stations with 16 cards each

Sort, compare letters, repair, choose

Enlarged copies + response sheets + keys

Set up four stations or use one station at a time. Each station has Starter and Stretch cards. Cut compact sheets between task cards, or print enlarged one-task pages. Use the separate response sheets for answers.

The following pages are actual excerpts from the resource.
A4 + US Letter | Version 1.3
Printable PDF with teacher support

Alphabetical Order: Shelf Detectives

Fall edition

Student / A4



P08-01

Starter

Station 1 • Put in order

Put these labels in A-Z order. Write their letter IDs in order.

A Geller, Juno Amber Trail	B Warden, Ari Seed Pocket	C Varden, Lea Paper Lantern	D Lenner, Remy Windy Gate
---	--	--	--

Order: _____

If surnames tie, use given names. Do not sort by book title.

P08-02

Starter

Station 1 • Put in order

Put these labels in A-Z order. Write their letter IDs in order.

A Darven, Vera Quiet Acorn	B Parden, Bea Quiet Acorn	C Ulven, Wren Quiet Acorn	D Yellin, Nico Quiet Acorn
---	--	--	---

Order: _____

If surnames tie, use given names. Do not sort by book title.



P08-25

Stretch

Station 2 • Compare letters

Which label comes first? Give the first differing letter in each surname.

A

Baken,

Uma

Cloud Basket

B

Baven,

Kai

Moon Ribbon

First: _____

First different letters: _____ and _____

P08-26

Stretch

Station 2 • Compare letters

Which label comes first? Give the first differing letter in each surname.

A

Caben,

Nico

Paper Lantern

B

Camen,

Gus

Paper Lantern

First: _____

First different letters: _____ and _____

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P08-41

Stretch

Station 3 • Repair the shelf

Move ONE label to restore A-Z order. Name it and give its new position.

1 Carmen, Ari Leaf Window	2 Dovren, Uma Leaf Window	3 Fenwick, Sora Windy Gate	4 Carmen, Wren Seed Pocket	5 Narden, Cleo Cloud Basket	6 Tarden, Vera Windy Gate
--	--	---	---	--	--

Move: _____

New position: _____

P08-42

Stretch

Station 3 • Repair the shelf

Move ONE label to restore A-Z order. Name it and give its new position.

1 Garven, Uma Cloud Basket	2 Weller, Tavi Leaf Window	3 Genton, Lea Seed Pocket	4 Quentin, Ira Cloud Basket	5 Rarden, Vera Moon Ribbon	6 Weller, Dara Amber Trail
---	---	--	--	---	---

Move: _____

New position: _____



P08-57

Stretch

Station 4 • Choose a shelf

Which shelf puts the listed labels in correct A-Z order? Circle A, B or C.

A Orven, Fia Moon Ribbon	B Marlen, Nico Paper Lantern	C Derval, Yara Seed Pocket	D Delmar, Mina Windy Gate	E Galen, Lio Moon Ribbon	F Zellin, Bea Leaf Window
---	---	---	--	---	--

Shelf A

D - E - B - A - F - C

Shelf B

D - C - E - B - A - F

Shelf C

D - C - F - B - A - E

P08-58

Stretch

Station 4 • Choose a shelf

Which shelf puts the listed labels in correct A-Z order? Circle A, B or C.

A Quentin, Ira Quiet Acorn	B Quellen, Kai Amber Trail	C Narden, Lea Windy Gate	D Heller, Lio Moon Ribbon	E Marlow, Zia Moon Ribbon	F Calden, Eli Moon Ribbon
---	---	---	--	--	--

Shelf A

F - D - E - C - B - A

Shelf B

D - F - B - A - E - C

Shelf C

F - C - E - B - D - A



P08-57**Stretch**

Station 4 • Choose a shelf

B

Option B follows surname, then given name. The shelf letters refer only to the listed labels.

P08-58**Stretch**

Station 4 • Choose a shelf

A

Option A follows surname, then given name. The shelf letters refer only to the listed labels.

Alphabetical Order: Shelf Detectives

Enlarged task | P08-25

P08-25 | Stretch

Which label comes first? Give the first differing letter in each surname.

A

Baken, Uma

Cloud Basket

B

Baven, Kai

Moon Ribbon

First: _____

First different letters: _____ and _____