YOUR MISSION:

It’s a case for the Odd Squad: Dangerous Doobles are on the loose, and agents must work together to quickly find them all and put things right again. Only with stellar sorting and classifying skills will agents be able to separate the Doobles from their creature cousins and send them back to Headquarters before they turn everything upside down!

LEARNING GOALS:

- Sort and classify items based on attribute (i.e. identify unique features and group like items together).
- Record observations in a chart.

MATERIALS:

- Doobles, Snoobles, and Oobles Printable Creatures page
- Handout: Creature Features Chart
- Four different toys used for building: for example, a wooden block, a Lego®, a bristle block, a large cardboard brick
- Three envelopes; color one of the envelopes red
- A plain manila folder to use as the case file. You can attach the Odd Squad Seal (included in this packet) to the front and put the activity pages inside.

PREPARATION:

- Find the Odd Squad episode How to Interrogate a Unicorn and the accompanying training video (approx. 12 minutes total) online at pbskids.org/learn/oddsquad/afterschool.
- Set your building toys on a table.
- Cut out the Doobles, Snoobles, and Oobles from the printable page and hide them around the room.
- Print out the Creature Features Chart (one per child).
- Prepare your case file.
IMPLEMENTING THE ACTIVITY:

- Help the children settle down by completing a fun, focusing task that explores sorting and classifying. Ask them to line up and name three things that they have in common with the person standing to their right and three things that they do not have in common. They can do the same with the child on their left before they take their seats.

- Once the children are focused, view the episode How to Interrogate a Unicorn (and the accompanying training video) with the group. Before you begin, ask the children to pay attention to how Olive and Otto sort items by grouping like objects together. After you watch, ask: What did Olive and Otto do to figure out what the characters in the book had in common? (They made a chart.)

- Tell the children that you’ve received a letter from the head of Odd Squad, Ms. O. Explain: The Odd Squad needs our help. Are you ready to help crack a math case? Read the letter from Ms. O. aloud (below).

- Engage the children in Training and Casework, then celebrate with a Case Closed learning recap (following pages).

Letter from Ms. O

Agents! There you are! Something very odd has happened. Don’t look now, but dangerous Doobles are on the loose. These crazy creatures gobble up anything they see—windows, walls, even desks and chairs! I’ve just received a report that the Doobles have already invaded your room—along with some Snoobles and maybe an Ooble or two! Snoobles and Oobles won’t hurt a thing, but they do look a lot like those dodgy Doobles. I need you to find all the critters that you can, and then separate the Doobles from their creature cousins and send them back to headquarters, STAT. That means right now! So, are you on the case? Then hurry, because Odd Squad needs you!

Training:

1. Tell the children that in order to crack The Case of the Doobles, Snoobles, and Oobles, they will need to practice identifying an object’s unique features, or attributes.

2. Show the children the different building toys you set out earlier. Draw a chart with four rows and three columns on the board. Along the side of your chart, draw a picture of each item or write its name. Above column 1, write “color,” above column 2, write “size” and above column 3, write “use.”

3. Explain: We are going to practice identifying the unique features of each of these items. We’ll be able to see what they have in common and how they are different. First, let’s check to see if they are all the same color. Investigate each item’s color and fill in the “color” column.

continued
**CASE CLOSED:**

Gather the children back into a group.

Say: Great work, agents! We’ve rid ourselves of those dangerous Doobles! As part of our training, we like to review what we learned from the case and enter it in the case file so that future agents-in-training can learn from it.

Ask: What are some ways that we can sort items? How can a chart help us?

Write down the learnings/findings that the children share, close your case file and write **CASE CLOSED** across the front. Congratulate your agents on a case well-solved.

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**TRAINING CONTINUED:**

4. Next, check each item’s size. You can measure each using a ruler or simply use descriptive words such as small, medium and large.

5. Finally, discuss each item’s use. Ask the children to tell you what each item is used for. Help them to notice that each item is used to build things. Yes! They are all used for building things. That’s one thing they all have in common.

6. As a group, you can talk about other things they have in common (perhaps shape or color) and the ways in which they are different.
## Creature Features Chart

### The Case of the Doobles, Snoobles, and Oobles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Eyes</th>
<th>Legs</th>
<th>Antennae</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ooble</strong></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Ooble" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Legs" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Antennae" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Snooble</strong></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Eyes" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Ooble" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Snooble" /></td>
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<td><strong>Dooble</strong></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Dooble" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Snooble" /></td>
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