

Answers and explanations

SPOILERS - OPEN AFTER WRITING YOUR VERDICT

Who was behind the mask?

Arlo, the pirate, took the candy bowl. The carrier has striped sleeves and a star pin. Only Maya and Arlo have striped sleeves. At 7:08 they exchanged pins: Arlo took the star, while Maya took the round moon. At the 7:12 theft, Arlo alone matches both visible details.

Why Maya looks suspicious

The 7:00 photo shows Maya with stripes and a star. Using that old photo without the later exchange points to the wrong guest. Ben and Nia have plain sleeves; Owen and Zoe have checks. None can match the camera image. Zoe being the last recorded mask borrower does not make her the thief: she returned it, and the booth was unattended afterward.

Where is the candy?

The bowl traveled east from the party hall into the dining room, then into the room with no outside windows: the study. The tag specifies two symbols matching the pin the culprit GAVE AWAY. Arlo gave away the moon, so the answer is the study's right bookcase cupboard, marked with TWO MOONS. The left cupboard has only one moon; the chest has suns. The porch chest has two moons but is in the wrong room.

Why did Arlo take it?

He wanted to stage a surprise candy treasure hunt and lead the big reveal. The host had explicitly refused permission. It was a misguided attempt to make the party exciting, not an approved game or a plan to eat the candy alone.

The party ending

The host opens the right bookcase cupboard and finds the bowl with all the wrapped candy intact. Arlo admits he should have asked and accepted the answer. The bowl returns to the table, everyone gets a treat, and the detectives get to choose the next party game. This ending confirms the deductions; it supplies no extra clue needed to solve the case.

Case closed. What next?

Score one point for each correct verdict answer and one extra point for explaining its evidence.
Maximum: 8 points. This is a friendly discussion aid, not a competition.

Players: _____ Time taken: _____ Hints used: _____ Score: _____ / 8

Talk it through

Which detail changed your mind? Did you initially suspect Maya or Zoe? What is the difference between a fun surprise and taking over somebody else's party?

Ready for another mystery?

GB Mystery also makes longer evidence-based cases for adults. These are separate stories, so you can play them in any order.

The Empty Stall

A champion racehorse disappears before a major race. Follow the records to discover who arranged the transfer and where the horse went.

[Open The Empty Stall download page](#)

The Missing Grail

An expensive vintage concert shirt is replaced with a substitute. Trace the original through the evidence and identify the person behind the switch.

[Open The Missing Grail download page](#)

Printed this page? Ask the person who shared the Halloween mystery for the other game links.

Thank you for playing!

Share this free Halloween game with friends and family. Please keep the answers separate from the player packet, and avoid posting the solution where new players might see it.