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### **A note to Teachers & Parents:**

- Make a color copy of the letter squares.
- Run off the circle “cookie” master on light brown construction paper.
- Cut & Glue the letter squares to the middle of the cookie circles.
- Laminate the cookie sheets.
- Cut out the cookies.
- Make a copy of the cookie jar on white construction paper.
- Laminate it and make a slit in the top of the cookie jar so the students can slip in their cookie.
- Tape a large baggy where the slit is so that the cookies will fall into the baggy.
- Pass letter cookies out to students.
- Try to give the letter to the student who has that letter as their “Captain Capital.” (Initial)
- Instead of reading the name that I have in the book for that letter, substitute your student’s/child’s name.
- As that letter is called, have that student put it in the cookie jar.
- If you’d like, run off copies of the letters and cookie jar for your students to have a set to make at home and use when they read their own book.
- You could also put Velcro on the back or magnet strip and put them on your flannel or magnet board around the cookie jar so that children can see all of the letters.
- As a writing extension, make your own class book. Assign letters trying to match their initials as much as possible. Have the children illustrate their page. Use your student’s school picture on their page. Remember to do yours for the teacher page and include your pix too.
- Collect, laminate and bind them together. If possible, run off a copy for each child; it makes a nice keepsake and they enjoy reading it at home to their families with or without letters.
- For added fun, why not give your students some real cookies as a snack after you read the story, like teachers did as an incentive long ago.

Even during the olden times creative teachers were willing to go the extra mile and were winning hearts and minds by making a batch of cookie dough laced with ginger, then draping them in the shapes of letters. When their students learned that letter they were rewarded with a little ginger-snap cookie. People were poor and treats were scarce, so you can bet this was a coveted prize and real incentive. Although there are many letter- cookie cutters available today, children are just as happy with a handful of animal crackers or mini cookie bites. If you want to involve the alphabet and keep it simple for yourself, buy the frosting in a tube, and write the letters on top of round wafer cookies. Bon a petit!



### A Note About The Names...

I don't know if there are any "Oldies but goodies" like me out there that remember ***Romper Room***, a children's show back in the late 50's when TV was in its black and white baby stage. But the teacher Miss Something had a magic mirror: "*Romper-Stomper Bomper Boo...*" And she could "see" you and would say your name. I'd anxiously listen for mine hoping she'd say it. And sometimes she did! Diane was a pretty popular name in the 50's!

Well, *Who Stole The Cookies?* Is based on alphabetical names and is dedicated to special loved ones in my life. Some of the letters you'll notice have more than one name. I have more than one loved person with that initial. It sort of fit with a little kid theme as well. You know how your mom uses all of your names when you're in trouble, or how there's usually one little kid in class who goes by two names? This was especially true when we lived in Baltimore Maryland. There were so many Mary Jeans, Peggy Sue's, or Barbara Ann's etc. So it seemed OK to throw in a few extra's.

When you're reading the book please feel free to toss in your students' names. They'll be delighted, just like I was 51 years ago to be seen in the magic mirror!

And to my extra special loved ones...This one's for you!

***Romper Stomper Bomper Boo*** I see:

**April** my helper

**Arlene** my extra mom and fellow teacher of many years

**Ann** my daughter-in-law

**Brian** my nephew

**Bud** my dad  
**Brenda** my tea sister and cheerleader  
**Barbara** my nanny friend  
**Clifton** my web designer  
**Clarence** my grampa  
**Daniel** the man of my dreams and soul mate  
**Dan** my son-in-law  
**Danny** my godson  
**Elise** my new daughter  
**Frankie** my new mom  
**Gabriel** my grandson  
**Heather** my niece-in-law  
**Jeremiah** my grandson  
**Jason** my #1 son  
**Jon** my new son  
**Kelli** my daughter-my “baby pita”  
**Kathie** my twin  
**Lily** my future granddaughter  
**Lydia** my grandmother and fellow teacher  
**Lynn** Me!  
**Matthew** my new son  
**Michael** my brother-in-law  
**Maria** my Greek friend and fellow teacher  
**Nancy** my good friend and school librarian-fellow lover of books,  
and how I discovered Kent City Schools!  
**Ray** my extra dad. I miss you dancing man.  
**Stanley** my new dad  
**Steve** my magic man and #2 son  
and finally,  
**Trudy** my mom

The other names I tried to make ethnic or popular so all would feel special.  
I hope you like the book as much as I did creating it! ☺

