

WHAT IS THIS?



Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

full and reindeer someone by it

$\frac{1}{12}$ $\frac{1}{5}$ $\frac{1}{27}$ $\frac{1}{45}$ $\frac{1}{35}$

Clue #2: Color the Reindeer

Solve each question. Circle the right answer and color in the picture. Then read the bottom.

$\frac{2}{3} \times 4$ $\frac{6}{8} \times 6$ $\frac{1}{5} \times 8$

A. $\frac{2}{3}$
B. $\frac{2}{15}$
C. $\frac{2}{27}$
D. $\frac{3}{27}$

Clue #3: Food Sort

Figure out each answer. Write it next to each milk. Color the cookies the same color as the plate they belong on.

$4\frac{1}{2} + 3\frac{1}{4}$ $7\frac{3}{4}$ $11\frac{1}{2} - 4\frac{1}{4}$ $7\frac{3}{8}$ $1\frac{1}{2} + 6\frac{1}{2}$ $7\frac{1}{6}$ or $7\frac{3}{4}$ $10 - 2\frac{1}{4}$ $7\frac{3}{4}$

A. $\frac{7}{2}$ brown
B. $\frac{7}{3}$ green
C. $\frac{7}{4}$ red
D. $\frac{7}{8}$ yellow

Clue #4: The Presents

First, write the answer on each Christmas present. Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

Clue #5: Picture Decoder

Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

37,711 375 50,680 13,045 170 38,294 56 48,128 21

R7 R35 R38 R20

Answers: 13,045 56 R38 48,128 375 R7 37,711 21 R20 50,680 170 R35 38,294

27x485 4,238÷75 94x52 5,632÷15 43x877 1,469÷69 56x905 7,345÷43 82x467

Letters: N O T A T H O M E

You knock on the door and Mrs. Claus said Santa's...

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

A =	G =	M =	S =	Y =
B =	H =	N =	T =	Z =
C =	I =	O =	U =	
D =	J =	P =	V =	
E =	K =	Q =	W =	
F =	L =	R =	X =	

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Santa

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

The North Pole

As you solve each clue, cross out the places that Santa is not located at. The place left at the end will reveal Santa's location!

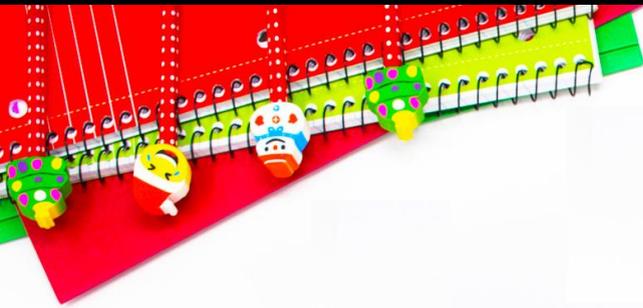
REINDEER STABLES
NORTH POLE CAFE
SANTA'S HOUSE
SLEIGH GARAGE
GINGERBREAD HOUSE
TOY FACTORY
ELF VILLAGE
POLAR BEAR ORPHANAGE

Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Students complete a series of clues to figure out where Santa is!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

Oh no! SANTA IS MISSING!! It's your job to figure out where he is. Solve the clues to figure out where Santa is and solve the mystery!

1. Take a location list and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where Santa is.
3. Cross out wrong places each time you find out new information. Good luck!



Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

$\frac{1}{12}$	full	15	and	$\frac{1}{27}$	reindeer	36	someone	$\frac{1}{45}$	by	$\frac{1}{35}$	it
$\frac{1}{54}$	garage	16	village	$\frac{1}{15}$	you	12	the	$\frac{1}{16}$	sleigh	54	bear
$\frac{1}{36}$	toy	$\frac{1}{32}$	empty	35	Santa	27	elf	32	stopped	45	was

$\frac{1}{5} \div 3$	Answer: $\frac{1}{15}$	Word: you	$4 \div \frac{1}{3}$	Answer: 12	Word: the	$\frac{1}{5} \div 7$	Answer: $\frac{1}{35}$	Word: it
$8 \div \frac{1}{4}$	Answer: 32	Word: stopped	$\frac{1}{9} \div 6$	Answer: $\frac{1}{54}$	Word: garage	$5 \div \frac{1}{9}$	Answer: 45	Word: was
$\frac{1}{9} \div 5$	Answer: $\frac{1}{45}$	Word: by	$3 \div \frac{1}{5}$	Answer: 15	Word: and	$\frac{1}{4} \div 8$	Answer: $\frac{1}{32}$	Word: empty

Solve each problem. Write the answer. Then, write the word that goes with it. When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

The North Pole

As you solve each clue, cross out the places that Santa is not located at. The place left at the end will reveal Santa's location!



Name: _____

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what place to cross out.

When all clues are completed, "The Mystery of the Missing Santa" will be solved!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

full and reindeer someone by it

Clue #2: Color the Reindeer

Solve each question. Circle the right answer.

Clue #3: Food Sort

Figure out each answer. Write it next to each milk. Color the cookies the same color as the plate they belong on.

3 Clue Version

- 3 brown cookies
- 3 green cookies
- 3 red cookies
- 2 yellow cookies

The elves said they haven't seen him in the village.

The toy factory said no one with a red hat has been inside.

There are no footprints in the snow leading to the Gingerbread House.

Santa hasn't bought hot cocoa today.

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

full and reindeer someone by it

Clue #2: Color the Reindeer

Solve each question. Circle the right answer.

Clue #3: Food Sort

Figure out each answer. Write it next to each milk. Color the cookies the same color as the plate they belong on.

Clue #4: The Presents

First, write the answer on each Christmas present. Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

Clue #5: Picture Decoder

Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

5 Clue Version

You knock on the door and Mrs. Claus said Santa's...

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

A = [picture] G = [picture] M = [picture] S = [picture] Y = [picture]
 B = [picture] H = [picture] N = [picture] T = [picture] Z = [picture]
 C = [picture] I = [picture] O = [picture] U = [picture]
 D = [picture] J = [picture] P = [picture] V = [picture]
 E = [picture] K = [picture] Q = [picture] W = [picture]
 F = [picture] L = [picture] R = [picture] X = [picture]

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

1/12	full	15	and	1/27	reindeer	36	someone	1/45	by	1/35	it
1/54	garage	16	village	1/15	you	12	the	1/16	sleigh	54	bear
1/36	toy	1/32	empty	35	Santa	27	elf	32	stopped	45	was

Answers: $\frac{1}{5} \div 3 = \frac{1}{15}$ you $4 \div \frac{1}{3} = 12$ the $\frac{1}{5} \div 7 = \frac{1}{35}$

$8 \div \frac{1}{4} = 32$ stopped $\frac{1}{9} \div 6 = \frac{1}{54}$ garage $5 \div \frac{1}{9} = 45$

$\frac{1}{9} \div 5 = \frac{1}{45}$ by $3 \div \frac{1}{5} = 15$ and $\frac{1}{4} \div 8 = \frac{1}{32}$

Solve each problem. Write the answer. Then, write the word that goes with it. When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

1/12	full	15	and	1/27	reindeer	36	someone	1/45	by	1/35	it
1/54	garage	16	village	1/15	you	12	the	1/16	sleigh	54	bear
1/36	toy	1/32	empty	35	Santa	27	elf	32	stopped	45	was

Answers: $\frac{1}{5} \div 3 = \frac{1}{15}$ you $4 \div \frac{1}{3} =$ $\frac{1}{5} \div 7 =$

$8 \div \frac{1}{4} =$ $\frac{1}{9} \div 6 =$ $5 \div \frac{1}{9} =$

$\frac{1}{9} \div 5 =$ $3 \div \frac{1}{5} =$ $\frac{1}{4} \div 8 =$

Solve each problem. Write the answer. Then, write the word that goes with it. When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

Short & Long Options

2 MATH FACT OPTIONS!



The North Pole

As you solve each clue, cross out the places that Santa is not located at. The place left at the end will reveal Santa's location!

REINDEER STABLES
NORTH POLE CAFE
SLEIGH GARAGE
GINGERBREAD HOUSE
SANTA'S HOUSE
POLAR BEAR ORPHANAGE
TOY FACTORY
ELF VILLAGE

Name: _____

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

15	full	6	and	8	reindeer	3	someone	10	by	13
18	garage	4	village	14	you	12	the	7	sleigh	19
20	toy	19	empty	17	Santa	2	elf	9	stopped	5

Answer: Word: _____ Answer: Word: _____

$7+7=$ $4+8=$ $7+6=$

$6+3=$ $8+10=$ $2+3=$

$8+2=$

Clue #2: Color the Reindeer

Solve each question. Circle the right answer and color in the picture. Then read the bottom.

$14-5$	$18-7$	$20-7$
A. 4 - orange star B. 10 - pink star C. 4 - yellow star D. 11 - brown star	A. 5 - purple tree B. 10 - blue tree C. 4 - pink tree D. 1 - green tree	A. 13 - black antlers B. 7 - brown antlers C. 17 - yellow antlers D. 12 - purple antlers
$19-1$	$12-8$	$19-3$
A. 12 - red ornaments B. 14 - blue ornaments C. 20 - black ornaments D. 8 - purple ornaments	A. 3 - pink body B. 4 - brown body C. 5 - orange body D. 17 - brown body	A. 6 - black nose B. 2 - blue nose C. 16 - red nose D. 17 - brown nose

Clue #3: Food Sort

Figure out each answer. Write it next to each milk. Color the cookies the same color as the plate they belong on.

10 brown	$12-4$	$16-9$	$17-8$	$10-2$
9 green	$18-9$	$20-10$	$11-2$	$15-5$
8 red	$10-3$	$13-3$	$15-7$	$12-5$
7 yellow				

Which box below is true based on what you colored? Circle the box and read the phrase to know what to cross out.

- 3 brown cookies, 2 green cookies, 4 yellow cookies
- 3 brown cookies, 3 green cookies, 4 brown cookies
- 3 brown cookies, 2 red cookies, 4 yellow cookies

You go to the cafe and they said Santa hasn't bought hot cocoa today.

Clue #4: The Presents

First, write the answer on each Christmas present. Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

$42 \div 7$	$90 \div 10$	$24 \div 6$	$12 \div 6$	$18 \div 6$	$54 \div 6$
G	C	A	P	F	I
$70 \div 7$	$48 \div 6$	$5 \div 5$	$40 \div 8$	$30 \div 5$	$21 \div 3$
O	E	N	O	G	D

Cross out the boxes with these answers: **1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9**

The letters that are left will reveal a message.

Santa is not around any _____.

Clue #5: Picture Decoder

Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

72 28 10 30 32 15 24 20 63

Answers: 6×5 3×8 9×8 7×4 10×2 9×7 2×5 4×8 5×3

Letters: _____

You knock on the door and Mrs. Claus said Santa's...

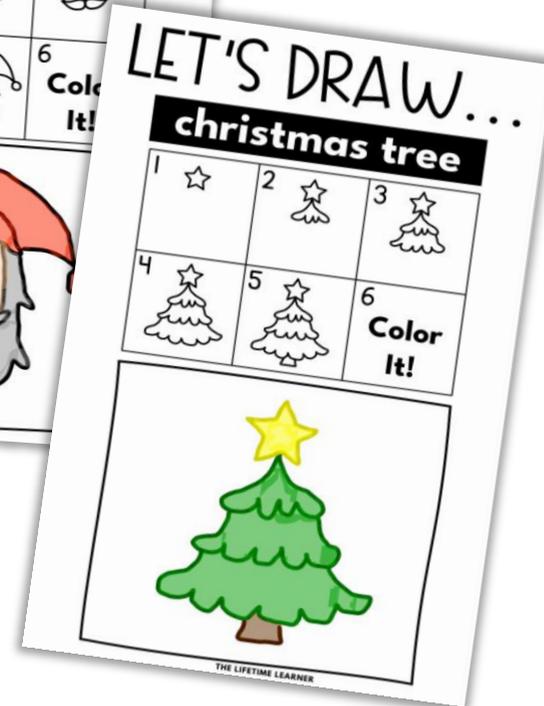
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

A =	G =	M =	S =	Y =
B =	H =	N =	T =	Z =
C =	I =	O =	U =	
D =	J =	P =	V =	
E =	K =	Q =	W =	
F =	L =	R =	X =	

Same clues. Same mystery. Different math!

Use the add/subtract facts to 20 mystery or the multiplication/division facts 1-12 mystery!

FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



If students finish early, give them a **certificate of completion** and a **directed drawing** to complete while others continue working.

MATH MYSTERY BENEFITS



- No Prep
- Print and Digital Versions
- 3 & 5 Clue Options
- Extra Math Facts Mystery
- Fun and Engaging
- Easy to Differentiate
- Encourages Critical Thinking
- Aligns with Math Standards
- Perfect for Review Days

Clue #4: The Presents

First, write the answer on each Christmas present.
Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

$2.437 \square 2.347$ $>$ G	$15.535 \square 15.335$ $>$ C	$78.98 \square 7.989$ $<$ A	$8.11 \square 8.401$ $>$ P	$8.676 \square 8.667$ $>$ F	$10.620 \square 10.62$ $=$ I
$5.304 \square 5.034$ $>$ O	$18.07 \square 18.070$ $=$ E	$313.1 \square 31.43$ $<$ N	$7.040 \square 7.04$ $=$ O	$12.337 \square 12.837$ $<$ G	$4.304 \square 4.340$ $<$ D

Cross out the boxes with:
wrong answers
The letters that are left will reveal a message.

Santa is not around any
FOOD

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

In 5th grade,
this works well
in small groups
or in partners.

WHY TEACHERS LOVE THESE!

Ordinary math worksheets can be boring and unoriginal.

You want activities that are fun and engaging, but also rigorous and meaningful to student learning.

MATH MYSTERIES ARE EXACTLY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank
9 H 7 5 7 6 5 6 7 7 4 H

Clue #2: Color the Reindeer
Solve each question. Circle the right answer and color in the picture.
 $\frac{2}{3} \times 4$ $\frac{6}{8} \times 6$ $\frac{1}{5} \times 8$

Clue #3: Food Sort
Figure out each answer. Write it next to each milk. Color the cookies the same color as the plate they belong on.
13-7=7 false 4-5=10 false 7-4=11 true 16-6=9 false

Clue #4: The Presents
First, write the answer on each Christmas present. Then read what to do in the box at the bottom.

Clue #5: Picture Decoder
Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Answers: $13,095$ $56,238$ $48,128$ $375,127$ $37,711$ $21,120$ $50,680$ $70,125$ $38,214$
 27×485 $4,238 \div 75$ 94×52 $5,632 \div 15$ 43×877 $1,469 \div 69$ 56×905 $7,315 \div 43$ 82×167

Letters: **N O T A T H O M E**

You knock on the door and Mrs. Claus said "Santa's..."
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

Date: **11/2** Presented by: **AW**

LET'S DRAW...
a Santa Claus

1 2 3
4 5 6
Color it!

LET'S DRAW...
christmas tree

1 2 3
4 5 6
Color it!

The North Pole

As you solve each clue, cross out the places that Santa is not located at. The place left at the end will reveal Santa's location!

REINDEER STABLES ELF VILLAGE
NORTH POLE CAFE SANTA'S HOUSE
SLEIGH GARAGE GINGERBREAD HOUSE POLAR BEAR ORPHANAGE
TOY FACTORY

Name: _____

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Santa

WHAT MAKES MATH MYSTERIES UNIQUE?

Math Mysteries aren't just a copy of Reading Mysteries!

They have brand-new clues, focus on math skills, and even feature a different conclusion to the mystery.

The only thing that stays the same is the list of suspects students start with!

So, if you have both, students can play during math and then again during reading for double the fun.

Reading

Clue #1: Read It Like a Book

Color the boxes that are adjectives that describe Christmas. Cross out the boxes that do not. Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Santa festive	will spicy	is merry	can muddy
elf tropical	in snowy	cup slimy	his warm
pet rainy	bed cheerful	toy sour	

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong place off your list.

Santa is not in his bed

Example of Clue 1

Math

Clue #1: Fill in the Blank

1/12	full	15	and	1/27	reindeer	36	someone	1/45	by	1/35	it
1/54	garage	16	village	1/15	you	12	the	1/16	sleigh	54	bear
1/36	toy	1/32	empty	35	Santa	27	elf	32	stopped	45	was

Answer: Word: $\frac{1}{15}$ you $4 \div \frac{1}{3} = 12$ the $\frac{1}{5} \div 7 = \frac{1}{35}$ it

Answer: Word: $8 \div \frac{1}{4} = 32$ stopped $\frac{1}{9} \div 6 = \frac{1}{54}$ garage $5 \div \frac{1}{9} = 45$ was

Answer: Word: $\frac{1}{9} \div 5 = \frac{1}{45}$ by $3 \div \frac{1}{5} = 15$ and $\frac{1}{4} \div 8 = \frac{1}{32}$ empty

Solve each problem. Write the answer. Then, write the word that goes with it. When you are done, read the words in order from top to bottom in each row to figure out the clue.

KEEP THE FUN GOING!

GRAB A **READING MYSTERY:**

Reading mysteries aren't just a copy of math. They come with fresh clues, unique reading challenges, and a new culprit, so students are solving an entirely different case!



MORE **MATH MYSTERIES:**

Explore other grade levels to differentiate and keep every student engaged.



BUY A BUNDLE
TO **SAVE BIG!**

