

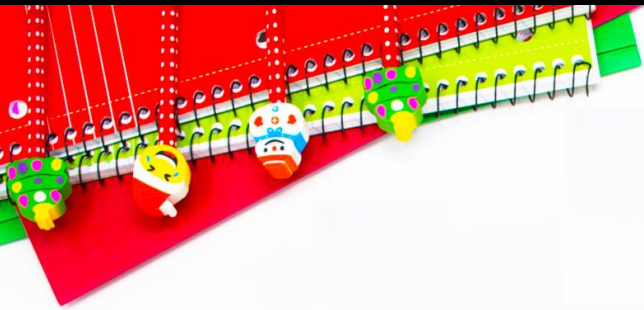
# WHAT IS THIS?



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

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

7+7=	Answer: 14	Word: You	4+8=	Answer: 12	Word: the	7+6=	Answer: 13	Word: it
6+3=	Answer: 9	Word: stopped	8+10=	Answer: 18	Word: garage	2+3=	Answer: 5	Word: was
8+2=	Answer: 10	Word: by	2+4=	Answer: 6	Word: and	10+9=	Answer: 19	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: \_\_\_\_\_

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

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!

# SKILL PRACTICE

**Clue #1: Fill in the Blank**

54	full	24	and	8	reindeer	9	someone	49	by	35	it
80	garage	30	village						sleigh		bear
42	toy	40	empty								

Answer: Word:

$5 \times 9 =$  45 You

$6 \times 3 =$  18 stopped

$7 \times 7 =$  49 by

Solve each problem. Write the answer words in order from top to bottom.

**Clue #2: Color the Reindeer**

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

$42 \div 7$ C	$25 \div 5$ D	$12 \div 4$ A
A. 4 - orange star B. 5 - pink star C. 6 - yellow star D. 7 - brown star	A. 3 - purple tree B. 4 - blue tree C. 20 - pink tree D. 5 - green tree	A. 3 - black antlers B. 4 - brown antlers C. 5 - yellow antlers D. 16 - purple antlers
$64 \div 8$ D	$72 \div 9$ B	$32 \div 8$ C
A. 9 - red ornaments B. 7 - blue ornaments C. 12 - black ornaments D. 8 - purple ornaments	A. 7 - pink body B. 8 - brown body C. 12 - orange body D. 11 - green body	A. 8 - black nose B. 3 - blue nose C. 4 - red nose D. 5 - brown nose

Choose the key below that matches how you colored the picture of the reindeer.

Cross out places with food if the reindeer picture has: • Yellow star • Green tree • Brown antlers • Blue ornaments • orange body • Red nose	Cross out Santa's House if the reindeer picture has: • Pink star • Blue tree • Black antlers • Purple ornaments • Brown body • Red nose	Cross out the Elf Village if the reindeer picture has: • Yellow star • Green tree • Black antlers • Purple ornaments • Pink body • Black nose	Cross out places with animals if the reindeer picture has: • Yellow star • Green tree • Black antlers • Purple ornaments • Brown body • Red nose
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**Clue #3: Food Sort**

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

$10 \times 9$	$4 \times 10$	$9 \times 6$
$8 =$	$3 \times 3$	$10 \times 10$

the phrase to know what to cross out:

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

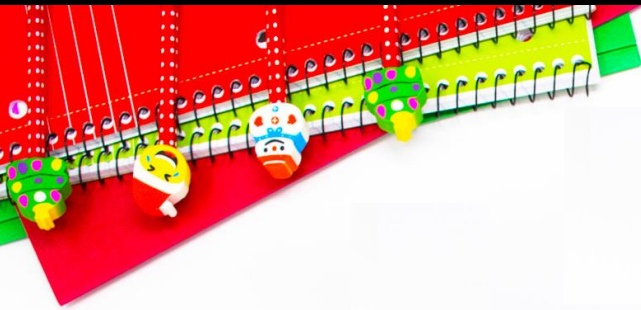
You go to the café and they said Santa hasn't bought hot cocoa today.

- Version 1:  
Addition & Subtraction Facts
- Version 2:  
Multiplication & Division Facts

**All clues focus on reviewing math facts!**



# 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 to.

1-25 brown  
26-50 green  
51-75 red  
76-100 yellow

**3 Clue Version**

Which cookies belong to each elf?

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

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

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

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

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

The elves said they haven't seen her 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.

You go to the café and they said 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 to.

**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.

72 28 10 30 32 15 24 20 63

**5 Clue Version**

Answers: 45, 20, 35, 18, 40, 24, 49, 80, 12, 40

Words: You, the, it, stopped, garage, and, by

Letter Decoder:

B = H = N = T = Z =  
C = I = O = U =  
D = J = P = V =  
E = K = Q = W = X =

**Clue #1: Fill in the Blank**

full and reindeer someone by it

54 24 8 9 49 35

80 30 45 20 16 25

42 toy 40 empty 17 Santa 14 elf 18 stopped 12 was

Answers: 45, 20, 35, 18, 40, 24, 49, 80, 12, 40

Words: You, the, it, stopped, garage, and, by

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**

full and reindeer someone by it

54 24 8 9 49 35

80 30 45 20 16 25

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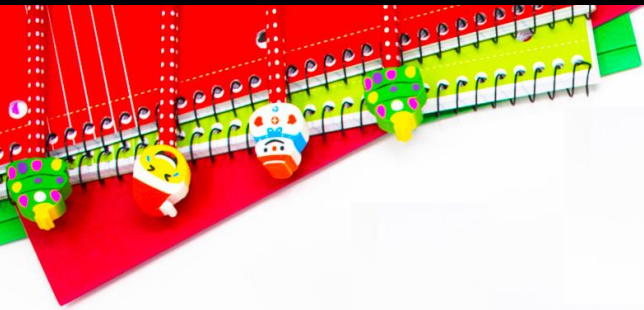
Answers: 45, 20, 35, 18, 40, 24, 49, 80, 12, 40

Words: You, the, it, stopped, garage, and, by

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

# 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
- 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.

$5+8$ G 13	$2+9$ C 11	$8+2$ A 10	$12+5$ P 17	$14+6$ F 20	$5+2$ I 7
$9+5$ O 14	$6+7$ E 13	$3+5$ N 8	$7+5$ O 12	$6+9$ G 15	$6+3$ D 9

Cross out the boxes with these answers:  
**17, 15, 13, 7, 11, 8, 10**  
The letters that are left will reveal a message.

**Santa is not around any**  
**food**

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

This can be used in  
partners, small  
groups with the  
teacher, table  
groups, centers, and  
more!

# 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**

8. H full and 7. 5 and 3. 8 someone 5. 6 7. 7 by 8. H

**Clue #2: Color the Reindeer**

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

$23 \times 38 = 35$   $15 \times 24 = 21$   $36 \times 18 = 25$

**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  $4 \times 5 = 10$  false  $7 \times 4 = 11$  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.

72 28 10 30 32 15 24 20 63

Answers:  $\frac{30}{6 \times 5}$   $\frac{24}{3 \times 8}$   $\frac{72}{9 \times 8}$   $\frac{28}{7 \times 4}$   $\frac{20}{10 \times 2}$   $\frac{63}{9 \times 7}$   $\frac{10}{2 \times 5}$   $\frac{32}{4 \times 8}$   $\frac{15}{5 \times 3}$

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 =

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

**Lindsay**

You solved the mystery!

11/2 Date SW Presented by:

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 NORTH POLE CAFE SANTA'S HOUSE POLAR BEAR ORPHANAGE ELF VILLAGE  
SLEIGH GARAGE GINGERBREAD HOUSE 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**

Example  
of Clue 1

**Math**

**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.

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

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

**Santa is not in his bed**

**Clue #1: Fill in the Blank**

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

Answer: Word: 14 You 4+8= 12 the 7+6= 13 it

6+3= 9 stopped 8+10= 18 garage 2+3= 5 was

8+2= 10 by 2+4= 6 and 10+9= 19 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!

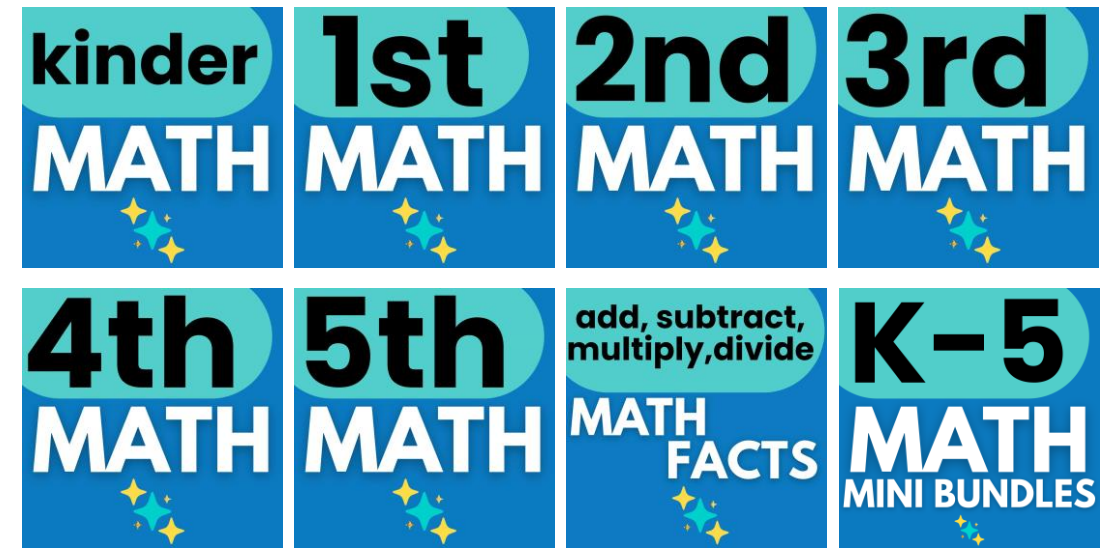
## GRAB A **READING MYSTERY**:

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!**

