

# WHAT IS THIS?



**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.

**Clue #2: Holiday Lights**  
Tell if each noun is a person, place, thing, or idea. Then color each light in the correct color.

**Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Color each thumb in to show if you agree with each verb tense.

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**

**Clue #5: Descrambler**  
What letter is missing from each pronoun at the top? Write the missing letter above each line at the bottom. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

4. W_e hung lights on the tree.	2. Someo_n_e here met Santa yesterday.	7. Do you know a_n_yone who wants to ride in the sleigh?	1. S_he carried the bag of toys.
5. The gift is m_ine.	3. Y_o_u left your mittens outside.	6. Th_e_y built a snowman.	

Santa was not near any **S N O W M E N** today.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

## 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  
POLAR BEAR ORPHANAGE  
ELF VILLAGE  
TOY FACTORY

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: 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.

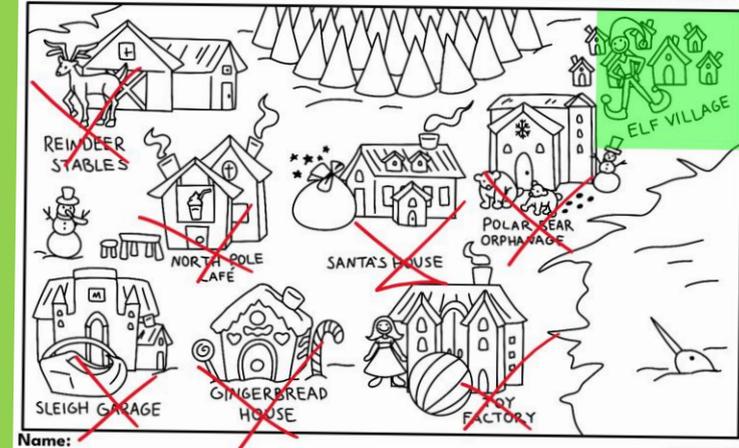
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Santa</b> festive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>will</b> spicy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>is</b> merry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>can</b> muddy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>not</b> joyful	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>in</b> snowy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>cup</b> slimy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>his</b> warm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>elf</b> tropical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>pet</b> rainy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>bed</b> cheerful	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>toy</b> sour

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

Santa is not in his bed

## 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!

# SKILL PRACTICE

## Parts of Speech Review:

- Nouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Prepositions

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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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> will	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> can
<b>not</b> joyful	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>elf</b> tropical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Write the phrase...

**Clue #2: Holiday Lights**  
Tell if each noun is a person, place, thing, or idea. Then color each light in the correct color.

stocking	joy	Santa	giving	North Pole	sleigh
----------	-----	-------	--------	------------	--------

Legend:  
person - red  
place - green  
thing - yellow  
idea - brown

What color lights do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

• 2 red lights • 2 brown lights • 1 green light • 1 yellow light Santa is not near any polar bears at this time.	• 1 red light • 1 brown light • 2 green lights • 2 yellow lights Santa is not in his garage at this time.	• 1 red light • 2 brown lights • 1 green light • 2 yellow lights Santa is not near any candy at this time.	• 2 red lights • 1 brown light • 2 green lights • 1 yellow light Santa is not near any toys at this time.
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**Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Color each thumb in to show if you agree with each verb tense.

past tense present tense Santa ate all the cookies last year.	future tense past tense They will visit family on Christmas Eve.	present tense future tense He will build a snowman after school.	past tense future tense We sing songs by the tree.
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Animals today. fly today.

**All clues focus on reviewing parts of speech!**

# MULTIPLE VERSIONS



## Print & Digital Forms

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**Clue #3: Right or Wrong?**  
Color each thumb in to show if you agree with each verb tense.

**3 Clue Version**

How many boxes were correct?  
More green answers = Santa did not go near any animals today.  
More red answers = Santa did not plan to drive or fly today.

**Clue #1: Read It Like a Book**  
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**Clue #4: Word Hunt**  
What letter is missing from each pronoun at the top? Write the missing letter above each line at the bottom. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

**5 Clue Version**

Santa was not near any S N O W M E N today.

**Clue #2: Holiday Lights**  
Tell if each noun is a person, place, thing, or idea. Then color each light in the correct color.

stocking	joy	Santa	giving	North Pole	sleigh
----------	-----	-------	--------	------------	--------

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What color lights do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

- 2 red lights
- 2 brown lights
- 1 green light
- 1 yellow light

Santa is not near any polar bears at this time.

- 1 red light
- 1 brown light
- 2 green lights
- 2 yellow lights

Santa is not in his garage at this time.

- 1 red light
- 2 brown lights
- 1 green light
- 2 yellow lights

Santa is not near any candy at this time.

- 2 red lights
- 1 brown light
- 2 green lights
- 1 yellow light

Santa is not near any toys at this time.

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Tell if each noun is a person, place, thing, or idea. Then color each light in the correct color.

stocking	joy	Santa	giving	North Pole	sleigh
----------	-----	-------	--------	------------	--------

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Santa is not in his garage at this time.

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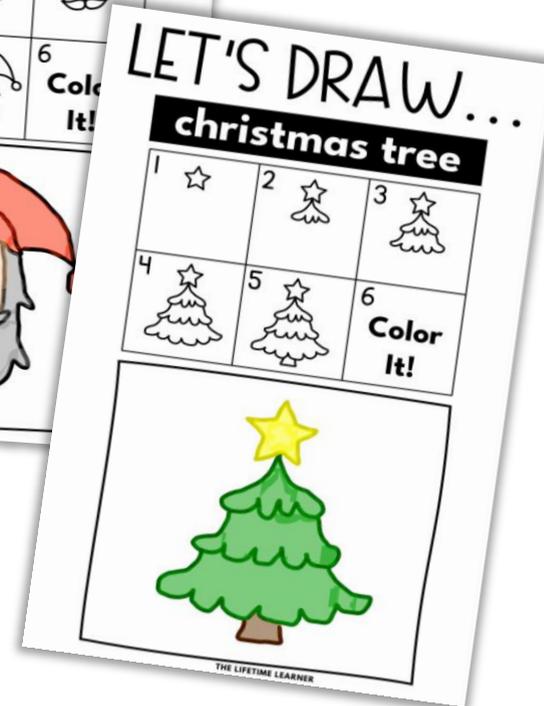
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- 1 brown light
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Santa is not near any toys at this time.

## 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.

# GRAMMAR MYSTERY BENEFITS



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

**Clue #4: Word Hunt**

cheerfully  
softly  
swiftly  
quietly  
toys  
loudly  
sadly  
neatly  
unhurriedly

Cross out the following SYNONYMS for each adverb:

<input type="checkbox"/> swiftly	<input type="checkbox"/> silently
<input type="checkbox"/> softly	<input type="checkbox"/> tidily
<input type="checkbox"/> noisily	<input type="checkbox"/> slowly
<input type="checkbox"/> gloomily	<input type="checkbox"/> merrily

What word is left? Write it on the line.

Santa is not near any **toys**.

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

This works well for grades 2-5 in partners, teams, or even in small groups at the teacher table!

# WHY TEACHERS LOVE THESE!

Ordinary grammar worksheets can be boring and unoriginal.

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

**GRAMMAR MYSTERIES ARE EXACTLY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!**

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Santa was not near any **S N O W M E N** today.

The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

**Lindsay**

You solved the mystery!

11/2 Date **AW** 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  
SANTA'S HOUSE  
POLAR BEAR ORPHANAGE  
SLEIGH GARAGE  
GINGERBREAD HOUSE  
FACTORY  
ELF VILLAGE

**solve the mystery**

The Case of the Missing Santa

# WHAT MAKES READING MYSTERIES UNIQUE?

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

They have brand-new clues, focus on reading 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**

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

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**

408	full	428	and	388	reindeer	568	someone	438	by	428	it
448	garage	528	village	468	you	418	the	598	sleigh	378	bear
500	toy	488	empty	518	Santa	398	elf	458	stopped	478	was

Answer: Word: **468** you    428-10 **418** the    398+100 **498** it

358+100 **458** stopped    548-100 **448** garage    468+10 **478** was

448-10 **438** by    328+100 **428** and    498-10 **488** 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 MATH MYSTERY:

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



## MORE READING MYSTERIES:

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



**BUY A BUNDLE  
TO SAVE BIG!**

