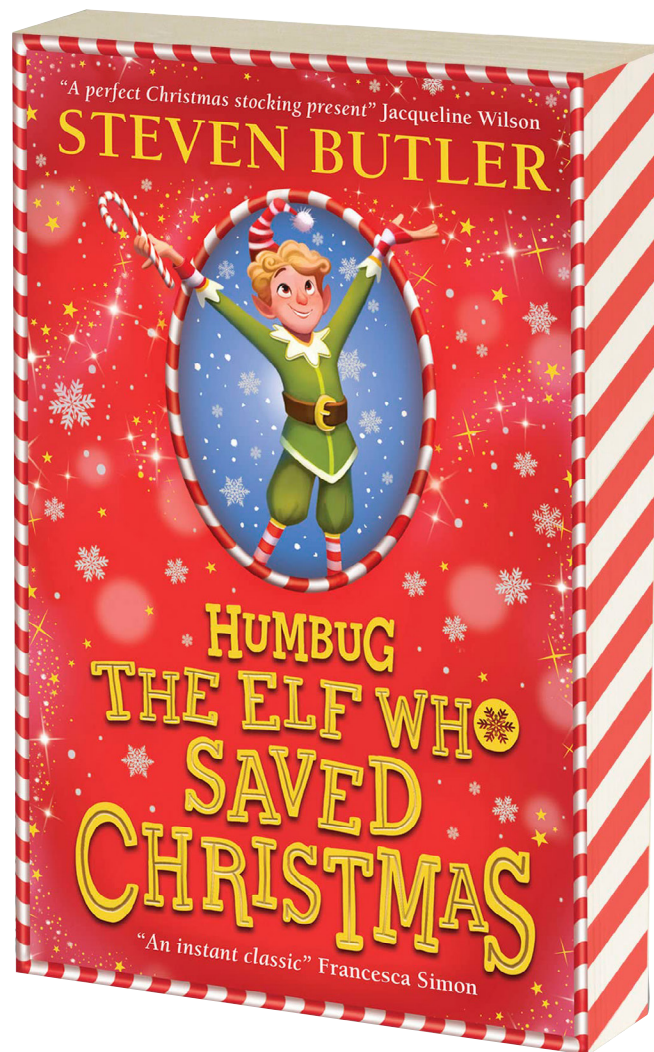


HUMBUG THE ELF WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

Teaching Resources



 SCHOLASTIC

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HUMBUG THE ELF WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

Teaching Resources

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HUMBUG THE ELF WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

Year 3 and 4 Teaching Plan

OUTCOMES:

Children will...

- work together to create Christmas-sounding elf names
- appreciate jobs that are sometimes overlooked, both in the story and in the real world
- improve their tracing skills to create their own character
- create a card for someone who helps us by the job they do

CURRICULUM LINKS:

PSHE:

- the importance of having compassion towards others; shared responsibilities we all have for caring for other people and living things; how to show care and concern for others
- to value the different contributions that people and groups make to the community
- that there is a broad range of different jobs/careers that people can have; that people often have more than one career/type of job during their life

Year 3 and 4 English:

- listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction
- discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination

Art and Design

- to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing

RESOURCES:

- *Humbug: The Elf who Saved Christmas* book
- *Resource Sheet 1: Name that Elf*
- *Resource Sheet 2: Trace an Elf*
- *Resource Sheet 3: A Caring Card* (copied onto card stock)
- Coloured pencils/pens or paint
- Tracing paper

LEAD-IN:

Read *Humbug* to the class. This book follows the adventures of Gristle P. Humbug and his family, who all work in the RPD department (Reindeer Poo Disposal!). They are overlooked by the other Christmas elves who don't appreciate how hard they work and how needed they really are!

As you read, ask the children to listen out for the names of some of the elves. There are many interesting ones in the first chapter alone – look out for Frosty-Frip, Glintles, Patonk, Tumfie and McMerryPie! Scribe them on the board and then discuss them. Why do you think the author chose names like these? How do you think he invented them?

Create a new list of elf names using *Resource Sheet 1: Name that Elf*. Children could work in pairs or small groups to fill in the gaps on the sheet with Christmas-related words. When finished, there will be nearly 200 name combinations for them to choose from!

MAIN TASK:

Ask children to think back to the story to remember some of the jobs that the elves do at the North Pole. It wasn't just making toys – reindeer poo disposal and baking mince pies are two of the others mentioned. What other jobs would be needed? Discuss together and scribe the children's ideas. They might think of nurse/doctor, cleaner, toy checker, coal sorter... and many more!

Invite the children to choose a job for an elf and then look back at their name ideas from resource sheet 1 to choose an appropriate name for their elf. Using *Resource Sheet 2: Trace an Elf*, the children can trace the appropriate body parts and head of their choice to bring their character to life, adding extra details to show their job. You could create an art gallery of the completed elves for people to guess the job that each of them does.

Continued...

EXTENSION:

Together, discuss all the different jobs people do to help us in the human world. Humbug, for instance, mentions people who work at shops, nurses and doctors, and there are many more! Children might not think about the refuse collectors who take our rubbish away at the end of the week or the people who deliver us parcels.

In *Humbug*, a special Christmas card from Scratchet cheered up the man on the meat counter after a customer had been mean. Challenge the children to make a Christmas card for someone who does one of the jobs that they thought of together.

Provide the children with *Resource Sheet 3: A Caring Card*, which has been copied onto cardstock, along with pens, paint and pencil crayons to decorate. Provide the children with examples of messages to put inside for their chosen recipient.

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Resource Sheet 1: Name that Elf

Think of as many Christmas words as you can to fill in the gaps on this Elf Name Generator.

First Names

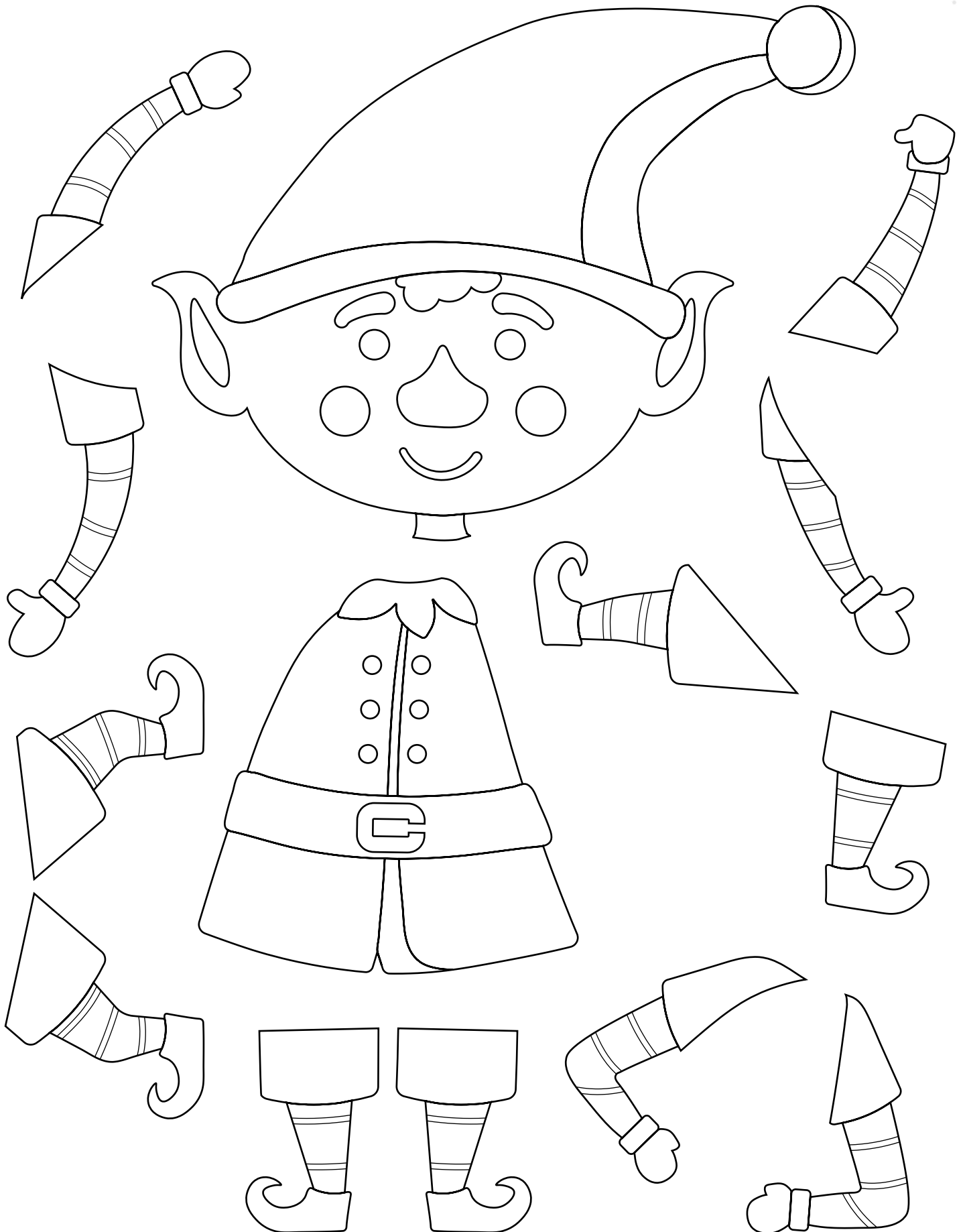
- Merry •
- Twinkle •
- Snowflake •
- Shimmer •
- •
- •
- •

Surnames

- McFluffins • ton
- Cuddleton • ford
- Candleford • wood
- Fitzcookie • don
- Mc ell
- Fitz ing
- Ap son

HUMBUG THE ELF WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

Resource Sheet 2: Trace an Elf



HUMBUG THE ELF WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

Resource Sheet 3: A Caring Card

**The world is better
because you are in it!
Merry Christmas!**

HUMBUG THE ELF WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

Year 5 and 6 Teaching Plan

OUTCOMES:

Children will...

- discuss how people can be treated differently and whether that is right
- identify points from both sides of an argument
- write a persuasive letter
- take part in a debate

CURRICULUM LINKS:

YEAR 5 AND 6 ENGLISH

Spoken Language:

- articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions
- participate in discussions, presentations and debates
- consider and evaluate different viewpoints, attending to and building on the contributions of others

Reading:

- read and discuss a wide range of fiction
- participate in discussions about books, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously
- provide reasoned justifications for their views

Writing:

- to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing

RESOURCES:

- *Humbug: The Elf who Saved Christmas* book
- *Resource Sheet 1: Constructing a Debate*
- *Resource Sheet 2: Both Sides*
- *Resource Sheet 3: A Letter to Santa*

LEAD-IN:

Lead a class discussion with the question: 'Is it right to treat people differently?' Encourage children to respond to other people with constructive talk. Children can use *Resource Sheet 1: Constructing a Debate* to start their arguments for or against the topic.

Read *Humbug: The Elf Who Saved Christmas* up to the end of chapter seven. Gristle and his little sister, Scratchet, are treated differently for lots of reasons up to this point in the story. They have found a lost letter, which makes them heroes, but also stole a mince pie from the bakehouse, which makes them 'crumbinals'. In addition to this, they are from the RPD department – which the other elves look down upon.

MAIN TASK:

Challenge the children to write a persuasive letter to Santa to ask for Gristle and Scratchet to be forgiven for stealing, and eating, the mince pie. In pairs, ask the children to list the positives and negatives of Gristle and Scratchet's current predicament (using *Resource Sheet 2: Both Sides*). Provide copies of the book to each pair so that they can look for evidence of how the Humbug family are being treated, as well as the points where Scratchet steals the mince pie and when they find the lost letter.

Using *Resource Sheet 3: A Letter to Santa*, the children can write their argument to show why Gristle and Scratchet should not be punished.

Continued...

EXTENSION:

Extend the lesson further by holding a debate about Gristle and Scratchet's situation. Nominate one child, or an adult, to take the role of Santa, who will listen to both parties before they make their decision. Divide the class into two groups – one representing the Humbug family and one representing the workshop elves. Each group should have an opportunity to decide on their important points to put forward in the debate. The Humbugs need to explain why Gristle and Scratchet shouldn't be treated harshly, and the workshop elves should explain why the two elves should be punished.

Display the sentence starters from *Resource 1: Constructing a Debate* so that the children can challenge the ideas that people put forward rather than the people themselves. At the end of the debate, give 'Santa' time to deliberate before they give their verdict to the class.

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Resource Sheet 1: Constructing a Debate

Use these sentence starters when you share your ideas:

- I agree with _____. I also think _____
- I think differently to _____ because _____
- Another point of view could be _____
- Some people think _____
- I partially agree with _____'s idea, but I also think _____
- On the other hand, _____
- I disagree with _____'s idea and instead think _____
- Some people would argue that _____



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Resource Sheet 2: Both sides

Write bullet points on both points of view to help you structure your letter.

Reasons why Gristle and Scratchet should be punished:

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Reasons why Gristle and Scratchet should be treated kindly:

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HUMBUG THE ELF WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

Resource Sheet 3: A Letter to Santa

Dear Santa,

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HELPFUL WORDS: Many elves might think... As you may be aware...
On the other hand... I know... I believe that... It is clear that...
All elves know that... The spirit of Christmas encourages us to...