



The Elf on the Shelf[®]

TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER

Kindergarten

Collaborative Conversation (La)

CC standards: Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and large groups. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topics and texts under discussion). Build on others' talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges. With prompting and support, retell familiar stories, including key details.

Materials:

- The Elf on the Shelf[®] book
- The Elf on the Shelf[®] hat and ears templates (on pages 2-3)
- The scout elf hiding in your classroom
- Scissors
- Computer and printer
- Tape or glue
- Cheap headbands or string, any color
- Good listener badge (on page 4)

Lesson:

Today students are going to take turns being good listeners and engaging in conversation. Be sure to tell kids how being a good listener is important and will most certainly put kids on the nice list. But first, students need to put on their "listening ears." Using the templates provided, students can make their own "elf listening ears." Follow the instructions provided. Once students are finished, review The Elf on the Shelf[®] story you read last week.

What do the kids remember about the story?

What is the scout elf's job (to watch and listen)? Remind students that just like an elf, we must listen.

What are the rules about the scout elf?

What did we name our scout elf? Why did we name it?

As you speak, ask students to wear their "listening ears" just like The Elf on the Shelf[®]. Children cannot speak (just like the elf) when they are wearing their ears. As children raise their hand, call on them one at a time to answer the questions you have asked. When it is their turn to speak—because you have called on them—then they may take off their ears. But they should put them back on quickly when it is time for them to listen again. The students should recount some of the details in the story as they recall the story. Students should take turns practicing the art of "conversation."

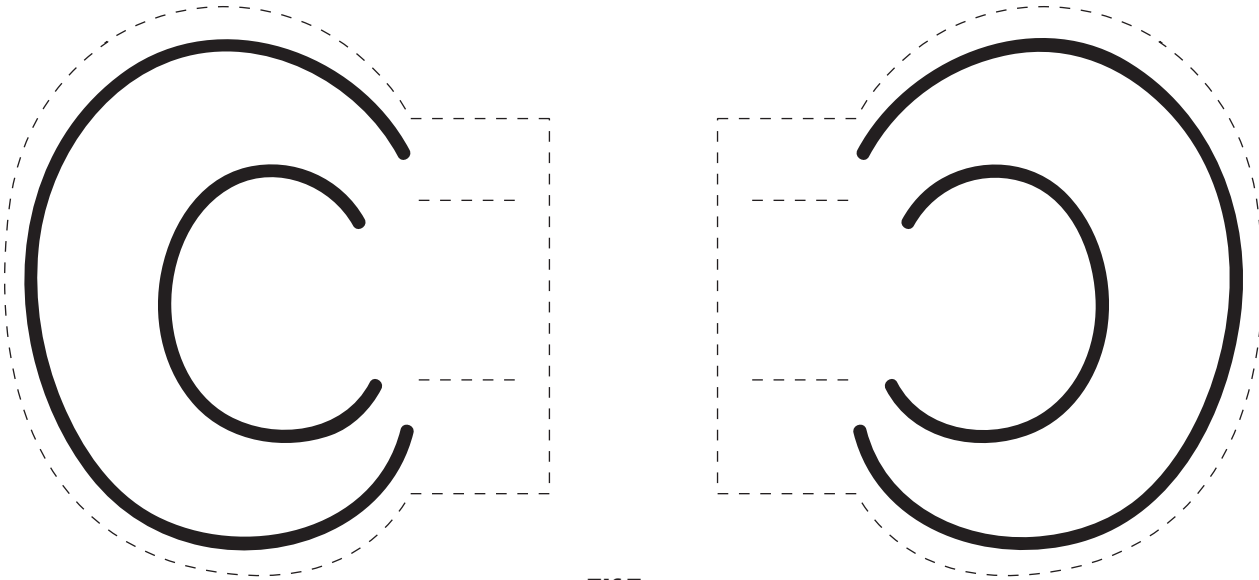
Then, you can break the students into pairs and they can take turns listening to each other, a habit that is sure to get them on the nice list. I know your classroom elf will be pleased to tell such nice things to Santa. This time, though, allow students to talk about your classroom elf. They could discuss places he/she has hidden, things he/she has done, the elf's name, and any other fun elf memory they may have.

Activity/ Follow up:

Once the kids are finished being "good listeners" and practicing the art of conversation, reward them with a "Good Listener" Honorary The Elf on the Shelf[®] badge. The students can color it and wear it.

Instructions to make The Elf on the Shelf® hat and ears:

1. Tape the hat template on the next page to red construction paper.
2. Cut along dotted line, then fold template to create cone shape. Tape ends together.
3. Print the ear and hat band template on this page, and cut along the dotted line.
4. Glue or tape white strips to base of red hat to create white trim.
5. Cut a 1/4 inch horizontal slit, 1/2 inches above the base of the hat on opposite ends of the hat. Slide the headband or string through each of the slits of the hat, then center hat on the headband or string.
6. Cut out ears. Cut along the dotted line to make a slit next to the ears. Slide them on each end of the headband or string. Position ears about 1 inch below the hat.



Elf Ears



Bands for Base of Hat



Fold



Glue White Bands Here

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Honorary Good Listener Badge