



# The Elf on the Shelf<sup>®</sup>

## TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER

### Second Grade

#### Demonstrate understanding of the story: The Elf on the Shelf<sup>®</sup>: A Christmas Tradition

*CC standards:* Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

#### Materials:

- The Elf on the Shelf<sup>®</sup> Gift Box set (with Elf) wrapped with a bow and gift tag from “Santa”
- Computer and printer
- Illustration worksheet copied for the class
- Markers or colored pencils

#### Lesson:

Bring a wrapped book to the class. Make sure to use glittered wrapping paper or a bow and play up the idea that the book is a present from “Santa” complete with Christmas Magic from the North Pole! Then ask the students “What do you think Santa sent to us?” You can even give them a hint after a few tries that it is a book. Let them guess again to build suspense. After a few more guesses allow a student to unwrap the “Gift from Santa.”

Use the cover of the box set to introduce the Authors and the illustrator and emphasize the roll of each: Authors write the words and tell the story. Illustrators draw the pictures to help tell the story. Remind children that the authors and illustrator actually “work for Santa.”

Then without opening the box set. Ask students to tell you:

1. Who do you think this story is about?
2. What do you think this story is about?
3. Where do you think this story takes place?
4. When do you think the story takes place?
5. Why do you think the story was written and sent from Santa?

After the students guess at the answers, read the book aloud and let the students determine whether or not they were right based on nothing more than the cover illustrations and the title. As you read, point out the answers to the questions you asked earlier. Also, point out when the illustrations help to tell the story; as in, the elf flying from a home to the North Pole or the kids naming the elf.

#### Q & A

1. **Who do you think this story is about?** The Elf on the Shelf (“A friendly scout elf”) and Santa Claus
2. **What do you think the story is about?** The elf being sent from Santa to “watch and report and all that you do.”
3. **Where do you think the story takes place?** The North Pole and your home “To Santa I’ll fly to the North Pole right through the dark sky” and “I’ll be back at your home before you awake.”
4. **When do you think the story takes place?** (This is a trick question! Because the story is taking place now! It is your class and their belief in the elf that will bring the story to life.)
5. **Why do you think the story was written and sent from Santa?** To answer the question “Have you ever wondered how Santa knows if you’re naughty or nice each year as you grow?” Santa wants to know!



# The Elf on the Shelf<sup>®</sup>

## TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER

### Second Grade

Now it's time to officially adopt your classroom elf. As a class, nominate and then vote on names. Once you and your class have decided on a name for your elf, incorporate technology by logging on to the website [www.elfontheshelf.com](http://www.elfontheshelf.com) to register your classroom elf's name and receive a letter from Santa that you can print out about your elf.

Leave the elf in the box with the lid open, and when the students leave the classroom, "Free the elf!" He/She now has Christmas Magic and can start watching and reporting to Santa in your classroom. You can also construct a sign or draw on the board and leave a note from the elf that says his or her name.

#### **Activity/Follow up:**

Since illustrations are an important part of story telling, let the students choose one of the sections of the story and let them re-illustrate it. You may use the worksheet provided. They should add the correct storyline text under their picture. (For extra fun—separately assign a different page of the story to each of the students. They should re-illustrate the entire story and then you can string the pictures together and create your own book using the story. Hang them in your classroom and be sure to note that illustrations help to determine characters, setting and plot. Be sure their illustrations move the plot of the story along.)

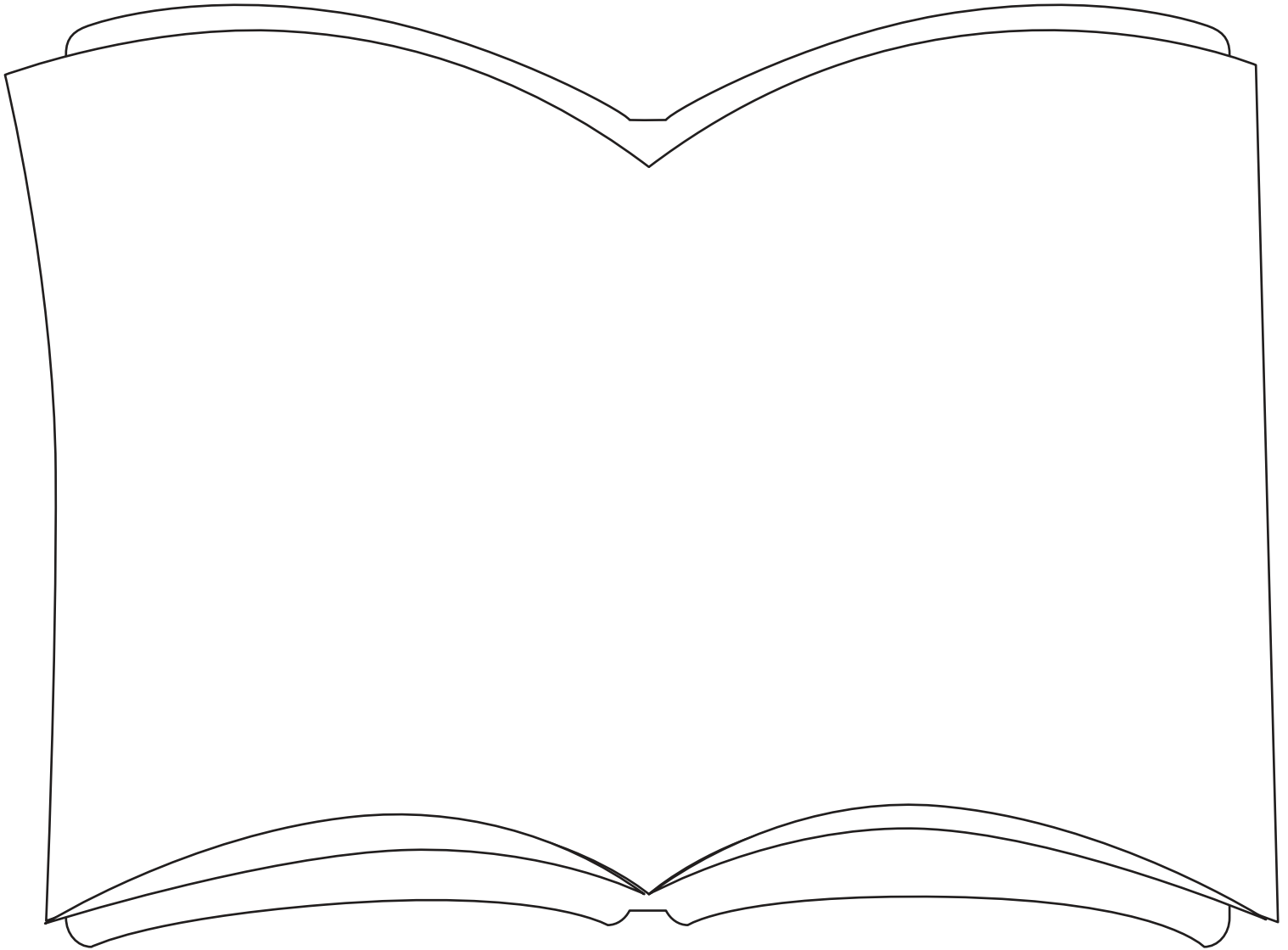
# Second Grade

Demonstrate understanding of the story:  
*The Elf on the Shelf®: A Christmas Tradition*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Since illustrations are an important part of story telling, choose one of the sections of *The Elf on the Shelf®* and re-illustrate it to help tell the story. Then, re-write the text from the story in the lines provided.



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---