



Lessons from Scout Elf School:
Funny Business





Note to Teacher

In the stories from Scout Elf School, silliness and humor are important skills to develop for elves to bring BIG cheer to their families. In this activity, students will exercise their wit by employing various conventions including homophones, puns and spoonerisms to create comedic moments while focusing on the act of writing and revision.

Core Curriculum Standards

CCSS.ELA-L.K.4 / CCSS.ELA-L.1.4 / CCSS.ELA-L.2.4

CCSS.ELA-L.3.4 / CCSS.ELA-L.4.4 / CCSS.ELA-L.5.4

Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade level reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.

CCSS.ELA-L.3.5 / CCSS.ELA-L.4.5 / CCSS.ELA-L.5.5

Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

Activity Instructions

Review literary devices that can help develop young writers' comedy skills.

- Homophones: two words that sound alike but have different meanings
 - Ate/eight, see/sea, write/right
- Puns: jokes that use homonyms for humor
 - What is a Scout Elf's favorite type of music? *Wrap*.
 - What does Santa say when gardening? *Hoe hoe hoe*.
- Spoonerisms: when vowels, consonants or sounds are switched, making a funny jumbled phrase
 - The feather outside is wrightful.
 - Scout Elves love to eat belly jeans.
 - Mrs. Claus is caking bookies in the Sweet Shop.
 - Scout Elves practice their welling spords at Scout Elf School.



Beginning Learners

- Use the **Homophone Sound Sorter** worksheet for students to practice deciphering the meaning of common homophones.
- Host a North Pole Joke-a-Thon for students who wish to participate. Students may use jokes from the **Ha-Ha Holiday Jokes** printable, if they wish.

Progressing Learners

- Use the **Ha-Ha Homophones Worksheet** printable to practice the art of humor using homophones.
- Host a North Pole Joke-a-Thon for students who wish to participate. Students may use jokes from the **Ha-Ha Holiday Jokes** printable, if they wish.

Advanced Learners

- Use **A Trilly Sip to the Porth Nole: A Spoonerism Story** to practice recognizing spoonerisms and using context-clues to decipher meaning. Students can then try to write their own spoonerism stories!
- Host a North Pole Joke-a-Thon for students who wish to participate. Students may use jokes from the **Ha-Ha Holiday Jokes** printable, if they wish.