



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.



Homophone Sound Sorter

The Scout Elves need help with words that sound alike but do not have the same meaning. Choose the right word to fill in each blank.

Word Bank

sea / see	blue / blew
deer / dear	pear / pair
knight / night	rows / rose
high / hi	two / to / too
ate / eight	flue / flew



1. Scout Elf Zip went to _____ Santa Claus.
2. The _____ ate the hay.
3. Santa said good _____ to all the elves.
4. The sleigh can fly very _____.
5. Scout Elf Pip Pop _____ a candy cane.
6. The wind _____ very hard at the North Pole.
7. Santa has a new _____ of boots.
8. The stockings were hung in _____.
9. Scout Elf Cookie went _____ help the reindeer.
10. Scout Elf Wiggle _____ back to the North Pole.



Ha-Ha Homophones

Read these jokes for fun, then choose a matching homophone from the word bank for the underlined word.



Word Bank

bare
season
brakes
bored
Sunday

chili
hair
mousse
fir
patience



Homophone

Two words that sound alike but have different meanings



Pun

A joke that uses homonyms for humor

1. What did Santa say when the Scout Elf fell out of the boat? 'Tis the sea, son! _____
2. Why did the elf doctor take a time out? Because he was losing his patients. _____
3. Why did the Scout Elf add peppers to his soup? Because it was chilly! _____
4. When do Scout Elves eat ice cream for dessert? Every sundae. _____
5. Why did the Scout Elf give the polar bear shoes for Christmas? Because he had bear feet! _____
6. What did the fence say to the snowman? Hi, I'm board. _____
7. What did the Scout Elf say to the arctic bunny? Time to wash your hare! _____
8. Why did the Scout Elf take a spoon into the forest? He was looking for a chocolate moose. _____
9. Why was the Christmas tree wearing a coat? Because it was a fur tree. _____
10. Why did the sled crash and fall apart? Because of the breaks! _____



A Trilly Sip to the Porth Nole

(A Spoonerism Story)

Read the funny story below and see if you can figure out what each underlined phrase is meant to be. The vowels, consonants and sounds are all mixed up!

Greason's Seetings! Yow are hou? So glad that you bopped sty! The Porth Nole is woll of funderful sights. See the trall tee in City Center? It's over fixty-sive teet fall! There are more than mee thrillion linkling twights on the tree. Our hockings are stung by the chimney and we are feeling brerry and might!

Over there is Mrs. Claus' Sheet Swop! That's where she makes cooks, cakies and candies for the Elf Pets and Scout Elves! Oh, and cot hocoa too! More than one hundred flifferent davors! Our favorite is when she makes canpakes for freakbast for the whole Porth Nole. Yo summy!

Here at the Porth Nole, we get about snive feet of fow each year. In fact, flowsnakes are almost always falling here. Santa loves to snay in the plow. He joins our fowsnall bights almost every day! Snet it low, snet it low, snet it low!

Sometimes, we meet up at the Scout Elf Clumedy Cob for some sniggles and gorts. Scout Elves are great at joking tells. They really tickle our bunny fone. Here's one for you: Why did the Scout Elf throw a bick of stutter out the window? To make a flutterby!

The tock is clicking and Santa's sleigh will flake tight before long. Soon we'll all be singing "Bingle jells, Bingle jells, wingle all the jay!"

Thanks for taking this tilly sour of the Porth Nole! Lee ya sater!





Ha-Ha Holiday Jokes

Power up your comedy skills with these jolly jokes!

What did Santa's arctic fox
Noorah use to decorate
her home?

Fur-ni-ture!

What is a snowman's
favorite food?

A brrito.

What kind of music do
Scout Elves like best?

Wrap music.

Why did the elves ask the
turkeys to join their band?

Because they had the drumsticks.

What is the snowman's
favorite part of school?

Snow and tell.

What kind of dinosaur lived
at the North Pole?

Santasaurus.

What do you call one of
Santa's Saint Bernards
in a snowstorm?

A chilly dog.

What did the peanut butter
say to the grape during the
Christmas season?

'Tis the season to be jelly.

Why didn't the rope get any
Christmas presents?

It was on the knotty list.

What did the kitten say
on Christmas morning?

Meowy Christmas.





Ha-Ha Holiday Jokes

Power up your comedy skills with these jolly jokes!



What do you call a snowman
with a cold?

Iced cough-ee!

What do you call a snowman
with corners?

An ice cube!

What's the best job for a
snowman who loves to sing?

Snow business!

Where do you find a Scout Elf
that loves to read?

On the bookshelf!

How do Scout Elves
dance ballet?

On their mistletoes!

Why did the Scout Elf hide
in the freezer?

He wanted to chill.

What kind of money does
the North Pole use?

Jingle bills!

Why did Santa have
to climb the stairs?

Because the elevator was out of order.

What are Santa's
Saint Bernards' favorite
Christmas candy?

Puppermintts!

What's special about the
Christmas alphabet?

It has Noel.



Ha-Ha Holiday Jokes

Power up your comedy skills with these jolly jokes!

Where do elves go
to find a bandage?

In the "frost" aid kit!

Which part of the world
do the reindeer most love
to visit on vacation?

The "rein" forest!

What sort of ball
doesn't bounce?

A snowball!

Why did the gingerbread man
go to the doctor?

Because he was feeling crumb-y.

How do snowmen
greet each other?

Ice to meet you!

What do snowmen ride
to school?

An ice-cycle!

How do you measure
a Scout Elf's height?

In Santimeters!

What is Santa's favorite
thing to eat for lunch?

Peanut butter and jolly sandwiches!

How does a Scout Elf make
friends with a Snowman?

He has to break the ice.

What's the best hat
for a snowman?

A polar ice cap!





Answer Key

Homophone Sound Sorter

1. Scout Elf Zip went to see Santa Claus.
2. The deer ate the hay.
3. Santa said good night to all the elves.
4. The sleigh can fly very high.
5. Scout Elf Pip Pop ate a candy cane.
6. The wind blew very hard at the North Pole.
7. Santa has a new pair of boots.
8. The stockings were hung in rows.
9. Scout Elf Cookie went to help the reindeer.
10. Scout Elf Wiggle flew back to the North Pole.

Ha-Ha Homophones

1. season
2. patience
3. chili
4. Sunday
5. bare
6. bored
7. hair
8. mousse
9. fir
10. brakes



A Silly Trip to the North Pole

(A Spoonerism Story)

Read the funny story below and see if you can figure out what each underlined phrase is meant to be. The vowels, consonants and sounds are all mixed up!

Season's Greetings! How are you? So glad that you stopped by! The North Pole is full of wonderful sights. See the tall tree in City Center? It's over sixty-five feet tall! There are more than three million twinkling lights on the tree. Our stockings are hung by the chimney and we are feeling merry and bight!

Over there is Mrs. Claus' Sweet Shop! That's where she makes cakes, cookies and candies for the Elf Pets and Scout Elves! Oh, and hot cocoa too! More than one hundred different flavors! Our favorite is when she makes pancakes for breakfast for the whole North Pole. So yummy!

Here at the North Pole, we get about five feet of snow each year. In fact, snowflakes are almost always falling here. Santa loves to play in the snow.

He joins our snowball fights almost every day! Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!



Sometimes, we meet up at the Scout Elf Comedy Club for some giggles and snorts. Scout Elves are great at telling jokes. They really tickle our funny bone. Here's one for you: Why did the Scout Elf throw a stick of butter out the window? To make a butterfly!

The clock is ticking and Santa's sleigh will take flight before long. Soon we'll all be singing "Jingle bells, Jingle bells, jingle all the way!"

Thanks for taking this silly tour of the North Pole! See ya later!

