

Christmas Context Clues Worksheets

FIND THE CLUE



23 pages · 42 context-clue sentences



A Christmas-dressed context-clues kit built so a child always knows what is being asked: read a sentence's own clue, test a given meaning against it, sort fits from doesn't-fits, then write a clue of their own.

THREE STEPS

- 1 **Look at the Helper together**
Page 6 shows one sentence tested against two given meanings, side by side: one fits the sentence's own clue, one does not. Read both cards with the child before the first practice page.
- 2 **Pick a page type and a set**
Three page types, easiest to hardest: Circle, then Sort, then Write Your Own. The chart says which page for which child.
- 3 **Check it, record it, send it home**
The answer keys are pages 14 and 15. Date each page on the tracker (page 16), and send the home page (page 18). A filled example is on page 19.

WHICH PAGE, WHEN

WHEN...	USE...
Learning what a context clue is	Helper, page 6
Can test a meaning against a clue, needs to read and circle	Circle Fits or Doesn't Fit, pages 7, 8, 9
Ready to sort and categorize	Sort Fits the Clue, pages 10 and 11
Ready to write an original clue sentence	Write Your Own, pages 12 and 13

Everything inside (23 pages)

- **8 student pages** in 3 page types plus a Helper, 1 dot to 3 dots
- **42 context-clue sentences** across Circle and Sort, all invented, grade-appropriate and set at Christmas / winter break
- **2 cut-and-sort pages** with mixed Fits and Doesn't Fit cards
- **2 answer keys** with every item's real answer, generated from the same banks as the pages
- **1 tracker, 1 team note, 1 home page, 1 filled example, 1 phrase bank**
- **1 back page**

What makes it different

Every meaning text in the file is used exactly once — a meaning a child has seen marked Fits the Clue never shows up later as a Doesn't Fit answer, so the only way to answer is to read the new sentence's own clue.



My name: _____

Date _____

**Fits the Clue**

“The glistening snow covered the yard, sparkling like tiny diamonds in the sunlight.”

Given meaning: “sparkling brightly”

The sentence says the snow was “sparkling like tiny diamonds” — that clue matches the meaning.

“Grandma wrapped a cozy blanket around Mia while they sipped cocoa by the fire.”

Given meaning: “warm and comfortable”

The sentence says the fire and the blanket kept Mia warm — that clue matches the meaning.

Doesn't Fit the Clue

“The glistening snow covered the yard, sparkling like tiny diamonds in the sunlight.”

Given meaning: “completely dark and dull”

The same sentence says “sparkling like tiny diamonds” — that clue does NOT match this meaning.

“Grandma wrapped a cozy blanket around Mia while they sipped cocoa by the fire.”

Given meaning: “freezing cold and uncomfortable”

The same sentence says the fire and the blanket kept Mia warm — that clue does NOT match this meaning.

The one question every page asks

Read the sentence. Find the clue words already in it — words that tell you what is happening, how big or small, how it felt, or what happened as a result. Then ask: does the given meaning match that clue, or not?





My name: _____

Date _____



Read each sentence and the given meaning. Circle Fits the Clue or Doesn't Fit the Clue.

1. Jake felt **grumpy** when his little sister knocked over his tower of wrapped presents.

Given meaning: "full of cheer and excitement"

☐ Fits the Clue

☐ Doesn't Fit

2. The **glistening** snow covered the yard, sparkling like tiny diamonds in the sunlight.

Given meaning: "sparkling brightly"

☐ Fits the Clue

☐ Doesn't Fit

3. After playing in the snow for an hour, Leo's **soaked** mittens dripped water onto the kitchen floor.

Given meaning: "completely dry and warm"

☐ Fits the Clue

☐ Doesn't Fit

4. Dad was **frantic** when he could not find the gift tags, dashing from room to room.

Given meaning: "calm and totally relaxed"

☐ Fits the Clue

☐ Doesn't Fit

5. The **humongous** pile of wrapped presents under the tree reached almost to the ceiling.

Given meaning: "extremely large in size"

☐ Fits the Clue

☐ Doesn't Fit

6. Grandma wrapped a **cozy** blanket around Mia while they sipped cocoa by the fire.

Given meaning: "warm and comfortable"

☐ Fits the Clue

☐ Doesn't Fit

Remember: look for clue words already in the sentence — what happened, how it felt, or what it was like — and test the given meaning against them.





My name: _____

Date _____



Cut out the cards. Glue each one in the right bin: Fits the Clue or Doesn't Fit the Clue.

Fits the Clue

Doesn't Fit the Clue

Cut on the dashed lines.

The festive house was covered top to bottom in lights, ribbons, and shiny ornaments. "bare and completely undecorated"	The sparkly wrapping paper caught the light every time someone carried a gift across the room. "dull and completely plain"	Before going outside to build a snowman, Theo bundled up in a thick coat, mittens, and a scarf. "dressed warmly in heavy clothing"	The baker pulled a tray of plump, round gingerbread cookies out of the warm oven. "round and a little bit fat"
By the end of the holiday dinner, everyone felt stuffed and could not eat another bite. "so full of food there is no room for more"	The old cabin was drafty, letting cold air sneak in around every window. "perfectly sealed with no air leaks"	Wrapped in three blankets on the couch, Mia felt snug and did not want to move. "uncomfortable and much too cold"	The windows were completely frosted over, so no one could see the snow falling outside. "perfectly clear, like glass with nothing on it"
Rows of twinkling lights lined the porch, blinking on and off in the dark. "shining with a flickering sparkle"	Jade's fingers felt chilled after she packed snowballs with her bare hands for ten minutes. "cold to the touch"	The crackling fire popped and hissed as the family gathered around it in their pajamas. "making small snapping, popping sounds"	By afternoon the snow on the sidewalk had turned slushy, wet, and hard to walk through. "dry, light, and powdery"





My name: _____

Date _____



Pick a word. Write a sentence that gives a CLUE to what it means.

FROSTY

Means: “cold and covered with a thin layer of ice”. Write a sentence with “frosty” in it that gives a clue to that meaning.

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☐ My sentence uses the word. ☐ My sentence shows a clue to the meaning.

GIDDY

Means: “excited and a little silly from happiness”. Write a sentence with “giddy” in it that gives a clue to that meaning.

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.....

☐ My sentence uses the word. ☐ My sentence shows a clue to the meaning.

Need a clue to add? Try showing: what happened · how it felt · what it looked like · what someone did because of it.





Circle Fits or Doesn't Fit, pages 7, 8, 9. Item numbers are the numbers printed to the left of each sentence; the word and the given meaning are the same ones printed on the student page.

Set A

ITEM	WORD	GIVEN MEANING	ANSWER
A-1	grumpy	full of cheer and excitement	Doesn't Fit
A-2	glistening	sparkling brightly	Fits
A-3	soaked	completely dry and warm	Doesn't Fit
A-4	frantic	calm and totally relaxed	Doesn't Fit
A-5	humongous	extremely large in size	Fits
A-6	cozy	warm and comfortable	Fits

Set B

ITEM	WORD	GIVEN MEANING	ANSWER
B-1	overjoyed	extremely happy and pleased	Fits
B-2	shimmering	sparkling and gleaming	Fits
B-3	speedy	moving very fast	Fits
B-4	icy	warm like a cozy summer day	Doesn't Fit
B-5	drained	full of energy and ready to run	Doesn't Fit
B-6	famished	no longer hungry in the slightest	Doesn't Fit

Set C

ITEM	WORD	GIVEN MEANING	ANSWER
C-1	merry	quiet and a little bit grumpy	Doesn't Fit
C-2	towering	extremely tall	Fits
C-3	wobbly	steady and perfectly balanced	Doesn't Fit
C-4	steaming	giving off hot steam	Fits
C-5	dreary	bright and cheerful	Doesn't Fit
C-6	toasty	pleasantly warm	Fits

How to use this key

Checking done — mark the tracker (page 16). A filled example is on page 19.





Use this page between team meetings, or to send home, without writing a note from scratch. Everything below is observable, with room for your own wording and numbers from the tracker (page 16).

CLINICIAN / TEACHER

STUDENT

MARKING PERIOD

What we worked on this week

What went well

Next focus

Anything else for the team meeting

A filled-in line, for reference

“This week we practiced Circle Fits or Doesn’t Fit, Set A and B. Correctly identified 5 of 6 in Set A and 6 of 6 in Set B. Next focus: Sort Fits the Clue, page 1.” That is the level of detail this page is built for — every blank is a number or a word your team already uses, never a label.

QUESTIONS? BEST WAY TO REACH ME

SIGNATURE, IF YOUR SCHOOL ASKS





Starters for a session note, a progress update, or the questions to ask before the pencil moves. Each one is an observation with a blank for the number or the word — the count comes off the tracker or the page itself, never from memory.

Describing accuracy

- Correctly identified ____ of ____ meanings as Fits the Clue or Doesn't Fit.
- Correctly sorted ____ of ____ cards into the right bin.
- Wrote a sentence with a usable clue for ____ of ____ words.
- Checked work against the answer key with ____ of ____ correct on the first try.

Describing what the student did

- Needed [visual cue / hand-over-hand / a model] to sort a card.
- Explained why a meaning fit or did not fit, in their own words.
- Pointed to the clue words in the sentence before answering.
- Re-read a sentence before choosing, without being asked to.

For next steps

- Ready to move to [Sort Fits the Clue / Write Your Own].
- Needs more practice testing a meaning against a clue before writing original sentences.
- Can now use this skill when reading a book or an article.
- Showed this skill outside of the lesson on ____.
- Ready for a new set (A, B or C) of the same page type.

Talk-first questions, any page

- What clue words are already in this sentence?
- Does this meaning match what the sentence says?
- Is this meaning Fits the Clue or Doesn't Fit? How can you tell?
- Could you guess the meaning without a dictionary, just from the clue?

For the Write Your Own page

- Wrote a sentence that gives a clue to what ____ means.
- Added an event or a feeling, not just a restated definition, for ____.
- Used the given word correctly in an original sentence.
- Needed a model sentence read aloud before writing their own.

