HOW TO CATCH AN ELF BOOK COMPANION

Trap Plan + Retell + Cut and Paste

PreK-2

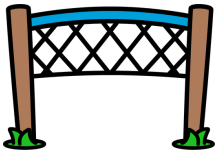
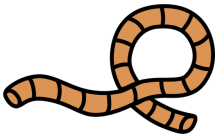
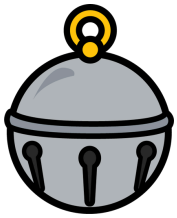


CRAFT + RETELL

26 PAGES

Bright Path Sped

Catch an Elf Companion: Start Here


What's inside

- **Our own trap story** (page 5): a silly story, written by us, about a class that sets a box trap with bait for a pretend elf. The picture trail grows with each part. Read it aloud after the book.
- **Look at the trap things** (page 3) and a **word bank** with trace-and-write lines for 6 words (page 4)
- **Story order** (page 6): 6 cards to cut, 5 to paste in order and 1 that does not belong. **Story map** (page 7): characters, setting, problem and solution. **Elf traits** (page 8): circle words about the elf and say why
- **Word match** (page 9): 6 word cards to cut and paste by their pictures. **Tools or treats** (page 10): 10 pieces to sort. **Rhyme time** (page 11): 4 rhymes to find
- **Elf trap planner**, in three parts: a materials list (page 12), a sketch box with labels (page 13) and test and think (page 14).
- **Retell** on three levels (pages 15-17) and **a note to the elf** (page 18)
- **Elf trap craft**: how to make it (page 19), the finished trap to look at and count (page 20), 6 pieces to color and cut (page 21), the same 6 pieces ready-colored (page 22) and the paste page (page 23)
- A class data page with every answer (page 24), a family letter (page 25) and credits (page 26)

About the book and the story

This is a companion for use with the picture book *How to Catch an Elf* by Adam Wallace. The book is not included. This resource is not affiliated with or endorsed by Adam Wallace, the illustrator or the publisher of the book. Nothing from the book's words or pictures is copied here, and no character from the book is drawn. In general, in the book children plan traps to catch an elf. The story on page 5 is our own and uses its own made-up list: a box trap, a candy cane for bait, a rope, a ladder and a bell, and at the end a gift is left behind. Read your copy of the book, then our story, and talk about how they are alike and different. The story order page uses the first five parts; the sixth is the ending. Every trap here is pretend.

How to use it

Read the book aloud, then our story, then work from the story to the order page, the map, the traits, the word match, the sort and the rhymes. Sorts, matches and rhymes have one right answer (page 24); the planner and retell pages have many. The craft is a trap picture (a box trap with a candy cane, a bell, a hat and a gift), cut into 6 equal squares in three columns and two rows. Color the black-and-white pieces (or use the ready-colored page), cut along the straight lines and paste each piece on its faint twin. The paste boxes are exactly the size of the pieces.

Three levels (shapes by the name line)

- **Circle**: draw what happens and trace the words (page 15). **Square**: finish the retell sentences with a word bank (page 16). **Triangle**: retell the book in your own words (page 17).
- Easier: a partner who holds the glue stick. Harder: add one more sentence on any triangle page.

A five-day plan

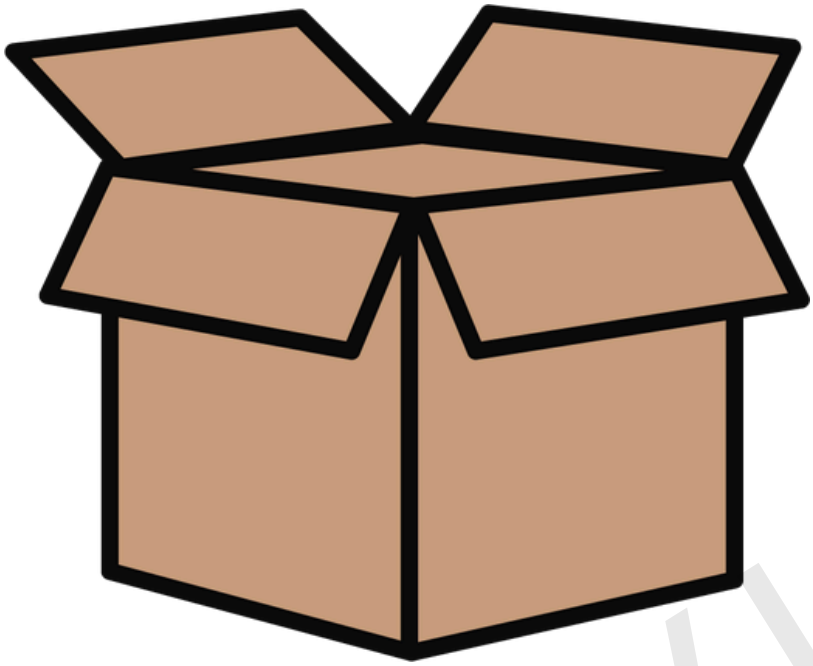
- **Day 1**: read the book, then our story (page 5), look at the trap things and trace the word bank (pages 3-4). **Day 2**: story order, story map and elf traits (pages 6-8).
- **Day 3**: word match, tools or treats and rhyme time (pages 9-11). **Day 4**: the trap planner (pages 12-14).
- **Day 5**: the retell for each child's level and a note to the elf (pages 15-18). Craft any day (pages 19-23). Bring crayons, scissors, glue and card stock.

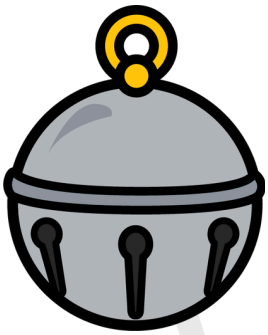
PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____

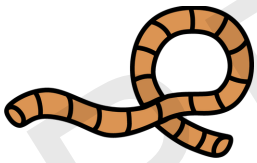
Look at the trap. Point to the trap.



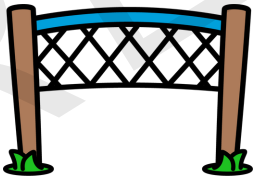




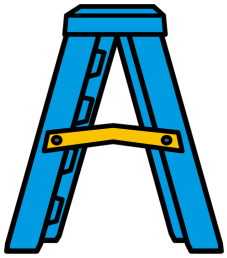
I see these in the story.



rope



net



ladder



candy cane

elf trap

PREVIEW

My name _____

Listen to the story. Look at the pictures.

1



We made a trap out of a box.

2



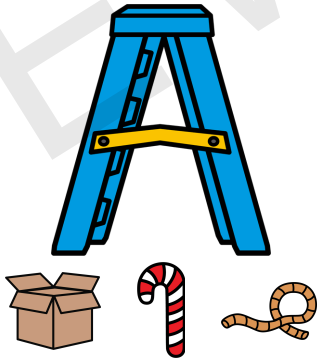
We put a candy cane inside for bait.

3



We tied a rope to the door.

4



We climbed a ladder and hung up a bell.

5



We hid and waited. Jingle, jingle!

6



We peeked. The trap was empty, but there was a gift!

A silly story, made up by us. Just for fun and pretend.

PREVIEW

Preview : Bright Path Sped

My name _____

Draw and write. Fill in the story map.

Characters



Setting





Who: _____

Where: _____

Problem



Solution





Trouble: _____

Fix: _____

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____

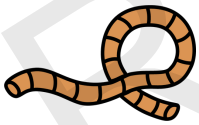
Cut the words. Paste each word by its picture.

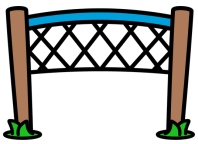
rope	trap	ladder	candy cane	bell	net

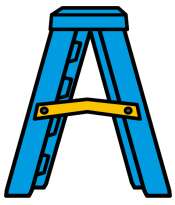












My favorite word is _____

PREVIEW

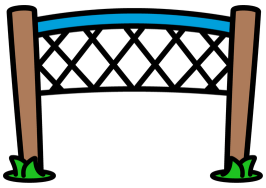
My name _____

Circle the word that rhymes.



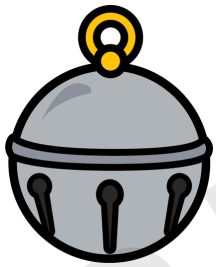
trap

map bus dog



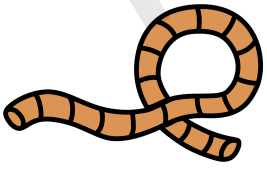
net

pet cup hat



bell

shell bed sun



rope

soap cat pen

Say the words out loud. Listen for the end sound.

PREVIEW

My name _____

Draw my trap. Label the parts.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

My trap works like this:

_____

_____

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____

Finish the sentences. Retell the book.

elf trap net rope ladder gone

The children wanted to catch an _____

They made a _____

They used a _____

At the end, the elf was _____

Draw the part you like best.

PREVIEW

My name _____

Write a note to the elf.



Dear Elf,

PREVIEW

From _____





My name _____

Look at the trap. Count the pieces.



The trap has _____ pieces.

I see the colors _____

Draw a trap of your own.

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Shed

My name _____

Cut out the pieces.





PREVIEW

My elf trap.
Paste on page 23.

My trap has _____

Who Did What, with Answers

One row per child. Mark each activity done and write a word on how it went.

Class: _____ Week of: _____ Teacher: _____

Student	Order	Map	Traits	Match	Sort	Rhyme	Plan	Retell	Craft

Story order: a trap, a candy cane, a rope, a ladder, a bell. The card that does not belong: an elf.

Word match: each word card goes by its own picture (trap, net, rope, ladder, bell, candy cane).

Trap tools: net, rope, ladder, trap, bell. **Bait treats:** candy, cookie, gingerbread, cake, candy cane.

Rhyme time: trap: map; net: pet; bell: shell; rope: soap.

The story map, elf traits, trap planner, retell pages and note to the elf have many right answers; look for ideas that match the book you read, and note the level the child used (circle, square or triangle). The trap craft has 6 pieces in 3 columns and 2 rows.

Next week we will: _____

PREVIEW