HOW TO CATCH SANTA

Book Companion + STEM Trap


My name

Cut out the 6 parts. Cut on the lines.

chimney cookies bell rope box boots

Put them in a row. Then glue them on page 11.

Draw the trap you want to make.




My name

Finish the sentences.

chimney cookie bell rope boots trap

To catch Santa, I made a

My trap has a

Santa will see the

Draw your trap.

6 CUT PARTS · 21 PAGES

Bright Path Sped

How to Catch Santa: Start Here






What's inside

- **Meet the trap** (page 3), a **word bank** with trace-and-write lines for 6 words (page 4)
- **Engineering journal**: question and brainstorm (page 5), plan (page 6), create and improve with a test tally (page 7), and Sam's filled-in journal, an invented student (page 8)
- **Trap blueprint** (page 9), **cut the 6 parts** (page 10), **glue them into the boxes** (page 11), and color the big trap (page 12)
- **Count the cookies** on 4 ten-frames and draw 6 (page 13); **retell** first, next, then, last (page 14)
- **Tell about your trap**, point and say, with sentence starters and I-need buttons (page 15)
- **Writing** on three levels (pages 16-18): trace and draw, fill in, or write freely
- A class data page (page 19), a family note (page 20) and credits, with what's next (page 21)

About the book

This is a companion for use with the picture book *How to Catch Santa*. This resource is not affiliated with or endorsed by the author, illustrator or publisher of the book. Read your copy of the book aloud first. Every page here is our own.

How the engineering works

Children ask a question, brainstorm, plan a trap, make it, test it and improve it. The test tally (page 7) counts how many times the trap works out of 5 tests. Sam's journal (page 8) is filled in by an invented student so a child can see what each part looks like. Pretend play only: use paper, tape and pretend cookies, and keep real food out of the trap.

The craft

One chimney trap, a box propped on a stick, a rope to a cookie plate, and two bells. It is cut into 6 parts (a chimney, a cookie plate, a bell, a rope, a box and boots), each 1.25 in square, cut edge to edge in one strip, so every cut is a straight line. Color the parts or leave them plain, cut along the lines, and glue each part into its named box on page 11. Use card stock.

Three levels (the small shape beside the name line)

- **Circle**: trace and draw (page 16). **Square**: fill in the sentences with the word bank (page 17). **Triangle**: write freely (page 18).
- Easier: a partner holds the glue stick. Harder: add one more sentence on the triangle page.

A five-day plan

- **Day 1**: read the book, then meet the trap and the word bank (pages 3-4). **Day 2**: the journal (pages 5-7).
- **Day 3**: blueprint, cut and glue the parts (pages 9-11). **Day 4**: count, retell and tell (pages 13-15).
- **Day 5**: writing at each child's level (pages 16-18), then send home the family note. You need crayons, scissors, glue sticks and card stock.

PREVIEW

My name _____

Look at the trap. Point to the chimney.



Find the bells. Find the cookies.



chimney



cookies



bell



rope

how to catch Santa

PREVIEW

My name _____

Ask a question. Draw three ideas.

Question

Ideas

PREVIEW

My name _____

Make it. Test it. Make it better.

Create. I made my trap. I tested it 5 times.

Test	Caught?	What changed
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Caught in 5 tests: _____ times

Improve. How I will make it better.

PREVIEW

My name _____

Label the parts. Write the word on each line.



1	chimney	_____	4	rope	_____
2	cookies	_____	5	box	_____
3	bell	_____	6	boots	_____

Draw one more part for your trap.

PREVIEW

My name _____

Glue each part in its box. Use the names.

chimney

cookies

bell

rope

box

boots

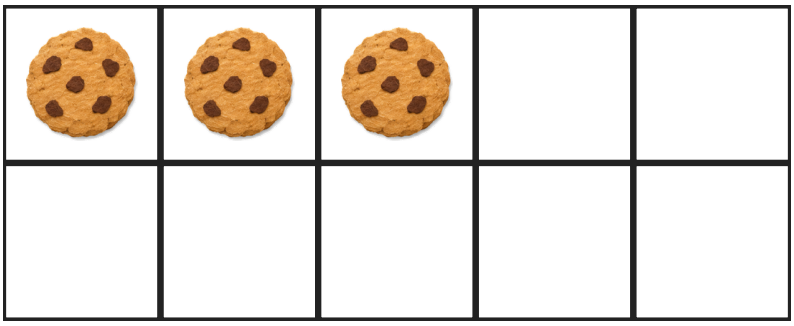
PREVIEW



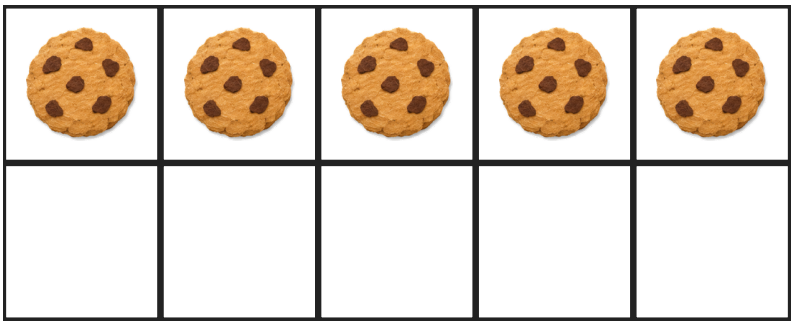
My trap is done.

My name _____

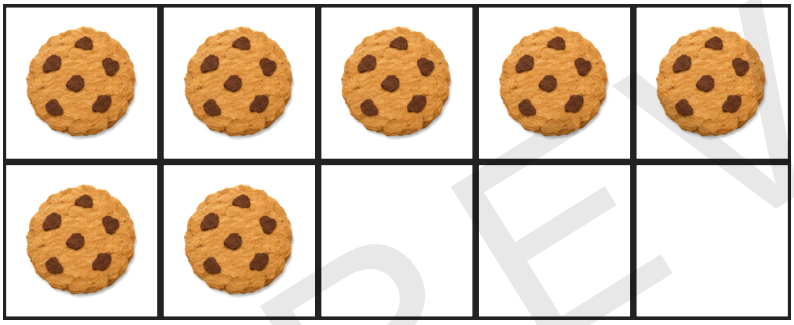
Count the cookies. Write the number.



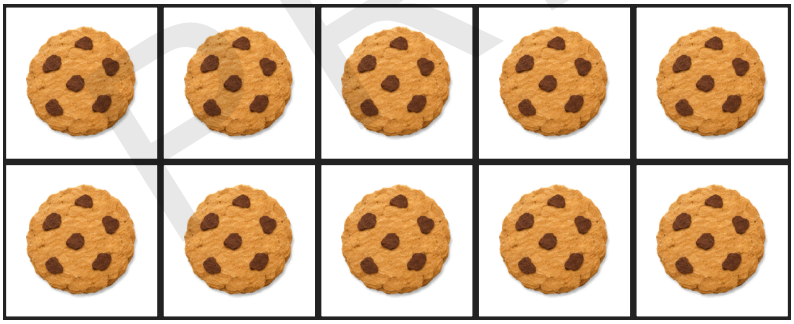
How many?



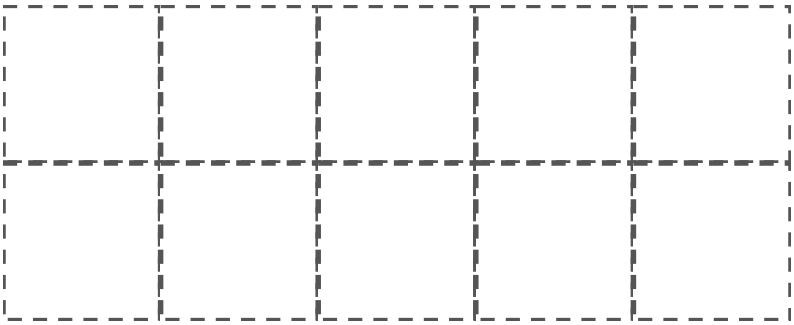
How many?



How many?



How many?



Draw

6

PREVIEW

My name _____

Tell a friend about your trap.

Point. Say what you see.



I see a chimney.



I see cookies.



I see a bell.



I see a rope.

Say it. Then write a word.

My trap has a _____

The cookies are in the _____

I made it with _____

Point to tell me.



I need glue



I need scissors

Help, please

I am all done

PREVIEW

My name _____

Finish the sentences.

chimney cookie bell rope boots trap

To catch Santa, I made a _____

My trap has a _____

Santa will see the _____

Draw your trap.

PREVIEW

Who Did What This Week

One row per child. Mark each activity done and write the number of times the trap caught it.

Class: _____ Week of: _____ Teacher: _____

Student	Question	Plan	Tests	Improve	Retell	Count	Writing

Count answers, top to bottom: 3, 5, 7, 10; the last frame is 6 cookies drawn by the child.

Test tally: the example journal (page 8) shows 3 caught in 5 tests. Write each child's number in the Tests column.

On the retell and writing pages, note the level the child used (circle, square or triangle). Ideas that match the story are right, and so are new ideas.

Next week we will: _____

PREVIEW