



Get Ready To Read

- ✓ Learn about the book
- ✓ Get your brain ready to read
- ✓ Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

Summary

It's the busiest day of the year for five of Santa's most helpful elves. Getting ready for Christmas Eve means the elves have to polish Santa's sleigh, sort Santa's mail, make toys, wrap presents, and much more! Even though the elves have a lot to do, they find time to have fun, eat cookies, and even play in the snow.

Link to What You Know

- How do you help your mom or dad get ready for a party?
- What holiday does Santa celebrate? How do you know?

Important Words to Know and Understand

Clatter – A set of short, loud, sounds



Learn About Comprehension Strategies

- ✓ Think about the text you read
- ✓ Know what to do when you get confused

Why Readers Make Connections While Reading

Readers make connections to better understand a text. There are three types of connections that readers make.

The first type of connection is a **text-to-self** connection. When readers make a **text-to-self** connection, they compare the characters or events in the book to their own lives.

The second type of connection readers make is a **text-to-text** connection. When readers make a **text-to-text** connection, they compare the characters and events in a book to another book that they have read.

The third type of connection readers make is a **text-to-world** connection. When readers make a **text-to-world** connection, they compare the characters and events in the book to something that has happened in the real world.



Make Connections While Reading

- ✓ Does this book remind you of your own life?
- ✓ Does this book remind you of other books you've read?
- ✓ Does this book remind you of things you've heard about in the world?

Time to Read

Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down on your practice page.

Pages 1 and 2 – The elves are getting ready for Christmas, which is just one of the holidays celebrated in December. Make a **text-to-world** connection to tell about the other holidays celebrated in December.

Pages 3 and 4 – The elves are sorting letters to Santa. Make a **text-to-self** connection by telling about a time you wrote a letter to Santa. What did you write in your letter? How does your connection help you as a reader?

Pages 7 and 8 – Mrs. Claus is getting ready for Christmas by baking special Christmas cookies. Make a **text-to-self** connection by telling about the special food you make at Christmas time.

Pages 13 and 14 – This page shows the elves having fun. What are they doing? Does this page remind you of another book you've read? What book? Make a **text-to-text** connection by telling why this page reminds you of the other book.

Pages 17 and 18 – These pages show the elves wrapping presents. What do you know about wrapping presents? Tell why your **text-to-self** connection helps you as a reader.



Notice the Work You Did While Reading

- ✓ Think
- ✓ Talk
- ✓ Reflect
- ✓ Write

Time to Reflect

Think – When readers make connections, they look for the parts in a book that remind them of something they already know a lot about. When you know a lot about something that happened in a book, you'll be able to understand even more. What did you already know about **Five Busy Elves**? How did your prior knowledge help you as a reader?

Talk – Tell your reading partner about the type of connection that you made most often while reading. Explain why your connection helped you. Remember to ask your partner to share their thoughts about the book too.

Reflect – Think about the connections that you made while reading **Five Busy Elves**. Think about the things you and your reading partner discussed. How does making connections help you be a better reader?

Write – Glue your Strategy Slip into your reader's notebook. Write about the work you did while reading **Five Busy Elves**. (Remember to include examples from the book!)



Your Turn to Practice Making Connections with Five Busy Elves

Pages 1 and 2:

The elves are getting ready for Christmas, which is just one of the holidays celebrated in December. Make a **text-to-world** connection to tell about the other holidays celebrated in December.

Pages 3 and 4:

The elves are sorting letters to Santa. Make a **text-to-self** connection by telling about a time you wrote a letter to Santa. What did you write in your letter?

How does your connection help you as a reader?

Pages 7 and 8:

Mrs. Claus is getting ready for Christmas by baking special Christmas cookies. Make a **text-to-self** connection by telling about the special food you make at Christmas time.



Name: _____

Your Turn to Practice Making Connections with Five Busy Elves

Pages 13 and 14:

This page shows the elves having fun. What are they doing?

Does this page remind you of another book you've read?

What book? Make a **text-to-text** connection by telling why this page remind you of the other book.

Pages 17 and 18:

These pages show the elves wrapping presents. What do you know about wrapping presents?

Tell why your **text-to-self** connection helps you as a reader.



Name: _____

Answer Key for Making Connections with Five Busy Elves

Pages 1 and 2:

The elves are getting ready for Christmas, which is just one of the holidays celebrated in December. Make a **text-to-world** connection to tell about the other holidays celebrated in December.

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: I know that there are lots of holidays in December. People celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, and Fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe .

Pages 3 and 4:

The elves are sorting letters to Santa. Make a **text-to-self** connection by telling about a time you wrote a letter to Santa. What did you write in your letter?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: My letter to Santa was about the things I wanted for Christmas.

How does your connection help you as a reader?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: My connection helps me understand the story because I know what is inside the letters the elves are sorting.

Pages 7 and 8:

Mrs. Claus is getting ready for Christmas by baking special Christmas cookies. Make a **text-to-self** connection by telling about the special food you make at Christmas time.

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: I make Christmas cookies with my mom, just like the elves.

We also make a special breakfast for Christmas morning.



Answer Key for Making Connections with Five Busy Elves

Pages 13 and 14:

This page shows the elves having fun. What are they doing?

They are having a snowball fight.

Does this page remind you of another book you've read?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: Yes, it reminds me of another book.

What book? Make a **text-to-text** connection by telling why this page remind you of the other book.

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: This page reminds me of Snowmen at Night because the snowmen in that book have a snowball fight too.

Pages 17 and 18:

These pages show the elves wrapping presents. What do you know about wrapping presents?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: I know that it's hard work to wrap presents because you have to be very careful if you want the present to look nice.

Tell why your **text-to-self** connection helps you as a reader.

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: My connection helps me as a reader because it helps me to know that the elves are hard workers.



Five Busy Elves: Making Connections

Tell how the Christmas holiday in this book is the same and different from the holiday you celebrate in December.

I can tell about the characters, setting, and what happens in stories.

CCSS: RL.1.3

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Making Connections

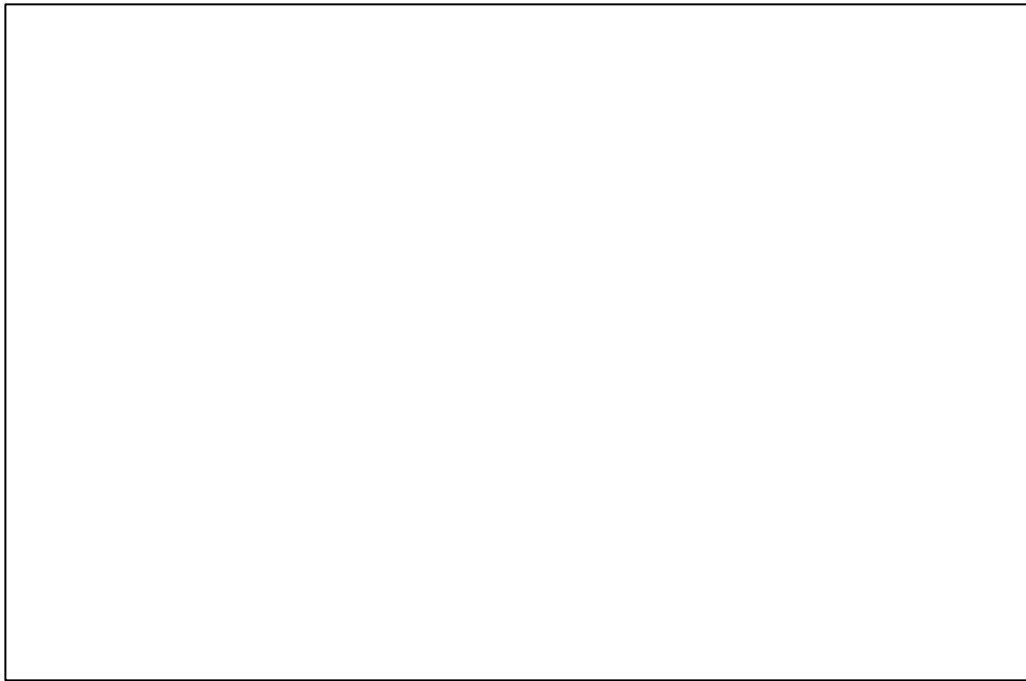
Title: _____

Think about the book. What does the book remind you of?

What type of connection did you make?

Text-to-Self Text-to-Text Text-to-World

Draw a picture of your connection in the box below.



Directions:

1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

Common Core State Standards Correlation

Five Busy Elves Lesson Plans, Resources, and Activities

The lesson plans, resources, and activities for use with *Five Busy Elves* correlate with the following English Language Arts Common Core State Standards for first grade.

Making Connections Lesson Plan and Resources

Reading: Literature

RL.1.1 – Ask and answer questions about key details in text.

RL.1.3 – Describe characters, setting, and major events in a story, using key details.

RL.1.4 – Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feeling or appeal to the senses.

RL.1.9 – Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories.

RL.1.10 – With prompting and support, read prose and poetry of appropriate complexity for grade 1.

Reading: Foundational Skills

RF.1.1 – Demonstrate understanding of the organization of basic features of print.

RF.1.2 – Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).

Writing

W.1.5 – With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed.

W.1.8 – With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

Speaking & Listening

SL.1.1b – Build on others' talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges.

SL.1.2 – Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

SL.1.3 – Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to gather additional information or clarify something that is not understood.

SL.1.5 – Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

Language

L.1.6 – Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts, including using frequently occurring conjunctions to signal simple relationships (eg, *because*).