

The Elves and the Shoemaker



Supplemental Activity Packet

This packet contains classroom activity suggestions and worksheets to reinforce concepts from the Playbook® story and to go beyond the story into the content areas of Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, Health, etc., as well as Character Development.

Activities range in age appropriateness and skill level so that teachers can choose activities that best suit their particular students. An Answer Key is provided on the last page.

Name _____



Matching Vocabulary

Directions: Use the word bank below to match the definition with the correct word.

1. _____ shabby or very worn; torn
2. _____ artistic ability
3. _____ young movie actress
4. _____ person who mends or makes shoes
5. _____ continuing, existing, or acting for a long or longer than a usual time
6. _____ finely made or soft; dainty
7. _____ feeling certain or sure
8. _____ a sloping timber for supporting a roof
9. _____ something that is bought or sold at a price lower than its value.
10. _____ to take too much interest in another person's affairs; interfere
11. _____ quickly and lightly in motion
12. _____ to run away quickly, lightly and playfully

cobbler

persistent

artistry

tattered

meddle

nimbly

rafter

confident

bargain

delicate

scamper

starlet

Name _____

Antonyms & Synonyms

Antonyms are words that have the opposite meanings. Choose the word that is the opposite of the underlined words.

1. The black and white cat yawned and performed a marvelous kitty stretch.
difficult / great / commonplace
2. You're too tired. You would only ruin them.
save / damage / disappoint
3. The three elves listened quietly for a long time, then, assured the shoemaker and his wife were asleep, slipped out of their hiding places and crept over to the table to see the drawings.
excited / uncertain / knowing
4. The three elves examined the muted colors and subtle design.
dim / completed / bright
5. After a hesitant glance at his workbench, the cobbler blew out the lamp.
eager / quick / worried

Synonyms are words that mean the same. Write your own synonyms to the words listed below.

6. afraid _____
7. special _____
8. peek _____
9. imagine _____
10. clumsy _____



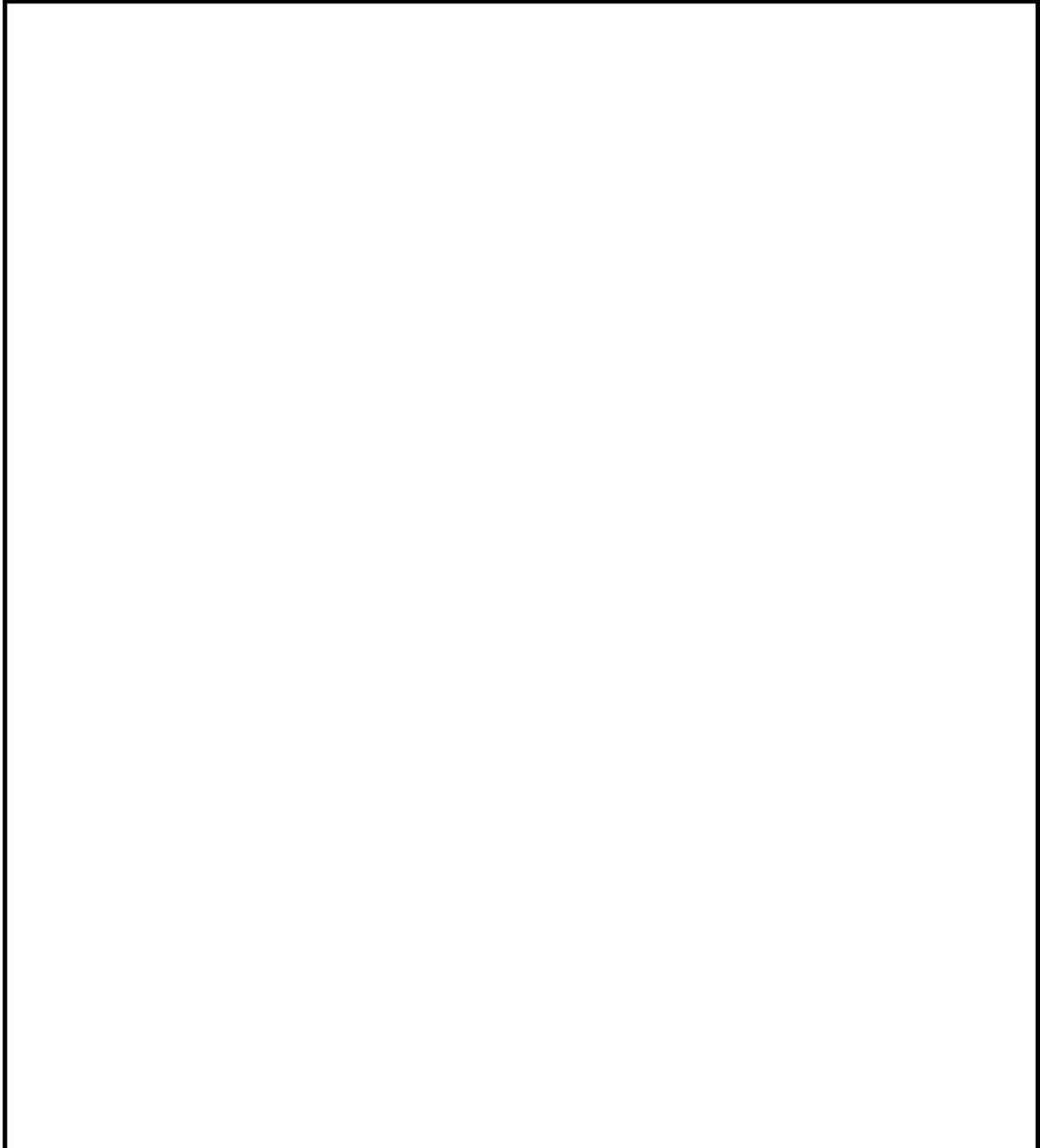
Name _____



Design A Pair of Shoes

Now it's your turn to design a pair of shoes!

Directions: Draw a picture of a pair of shoes as if you were a shoemaker. Use your imagination to create any design you want.



Name _____

Helping Hands



In the story, when the elves saw that the shoemaker needed help, they just started sewing. Many times people help others in need simply as a reaction to seeing the need.

Recall a time when you helped someone else without being asked. Why did you help this person? Did they appreciate what you did? Write your response in the space provided using complete sentences and proper punctuation. Discuss your answers in class.

Besides what you mentioned above, what are some things you can do on a daily basis for your family, friends, or teacher without having to be asked? How do you think they will react to your kindness?

Name _____



The Long & Short of It

To be a good shoemaker, one must know how to measure.

Directions: Fill in the blanks to convert each of the following measurements. Use the conversion chart below as a guide.

1 foot (ft.) = 12 inches (in.) 1 yard (yd.) = 3 feet 1 yard = 36 inches

Convert each measurement to inches.

1. 3 ft. = _____ in.

5. 8 yd. 7 in. = _____ in.

2. 8 yd. = _____ in.

6. 6 yd. 1 in. = _____ in.

3. 2 ft. = _____ in.

7. 2 ft. 5 in. = _____ in.

4. 5 yd. = _____ in.

8. 3 ft. 2 in. = _____ in.

Convert each measurement to feet and inches.

9. 3 yd. 39 in. = _____ ft. _____ in.

10. 1 yd. 13 in. = _____ ft. _____ in.

11. 87 in = _____ ft. _____ in.

12. 75 in. = _____ ft. _____ in.

Name _____

Tell It Like It Is



Directions: Indicate true or false for each of the following statements. If a statement is false, then write the correct answer.

1. In the beginning, the shoemaker thought he only had enough leather to make one more pair of shoes, but he found some more leather in the attic.

2. The shoemaker could not sew very well, but the elves could sew amazingly well.

3. The shoemaker was not able to sew well because of his bad eyesight.

4. The elves were chased away in the beginning because the cat thought they were mice.

5. Altogether, in the story, the elves helped in sewing three pairs of shoes.

6. The shoemaker and his wife were unable to sell the spider shoes, because no one wanted to wear shoes with spiders on them.

7. The shoemaker had thought that he made the first pair of flowered shoes in his sleep.

8. The elves never made the shoes as the shoemaker designed them. They always found some way to make them different.

9. The starlet that came to the shop criticized the shoemaker's work and told him to find another job.

10. The shoemaker and his wife loved the elves and asked them to stay with them.

Name _____

Types of Sentences



An interrogative sentence asks a question. A declarative sentence makes a statement. An imperative sentence states a command. An exclamatory sentence shows strong feeling.

Part A Directions: Read the sentences below. Determine what type of sentence it is. Write interrogative, declarative, imperative, or exclamatory on the line next to the sentence.

1. The cat jumped up on the counter and meowed loudly. _____
2. Who do we know with such sewing skill? _____
3. Our cobbler is quite an artist! _____
4. Finish making the shoes before the shop opens. _____
5. These gold pieces are real! _____
6. They ate a delicious breakfast of fried mushrooms. _____
7. Why don't you make another pair like you made last night? _____
8. Now give them to me! _____

Part B Directions: Identify which groups of words are incomplete sentences and which are complete sentences. Write incomplete or complete on the line.

1. The cobbler stared back at the woman. _____
2. The elves studied the cobbler's drawings and pieces. _____
3. You sewed these shoes in your sleep? _____
4. Another handful of gold coins on the counter. _____
5. Thorns on the rose stems. _____
6. That sounds nice, but won't they be hard to sew? _____
7. The cobbler on his chair. _____
8. Oh, but we must buy a little cream for the cat. _____

Trading Laces

Design your own shoes and have fun with your friends!!!

Craft Materials:

- one pair of shoelaces per friend
- (Avoid synthetic laces; they don't hold the paint or marker as well.)
- fabric paint and brushes
- fine-point fabric markers
- colorful beads, buttons, or bells that will fit on a lace



Time needed: under 1 hour

1. Pre-wash the laces by soaking them in warm, soapy water for 20 minutes. Let them dry completely.
2. Using fabric paint and/or markers, have each person decorate one lace for himself or herself.
3. Next, each person will decorate one lace to trade with a friend.
4. After the friends trade, they'll lace one shoe with their own lace and the other shoe with a friendship lace.
5. Leave about 2 inches at the ends of the laces undecorated for the beads and buttons. If you want to decorate both sides, use a light touch so the paints and markers don't bleed through. Lay the laces flat to dry.
6. To make the designs permanent, some markers or paints may need to be heat-set. Check with your parents before using an iron. Refer to the directions on the markers or paints package.
7. Lace each shoe and then string the beads, buttons or bells onto one or both ends of the lace. Tie a knot to keep the beads from slipping off.

Name _____

Look Into the Past



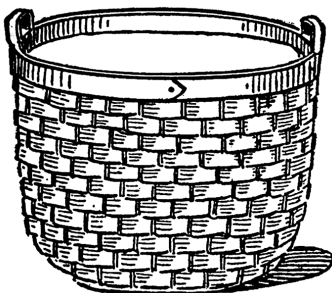
Shoemaking was one of the two or three most popular trades practiced in the 18th-century. The first shoemakers arrived in America at Jamestown in 1610. As early as 1616, the trade was thriving. By the 1660's, the Virginia state lawmakers directed that each county in Virginia must build a tannery and a shoe factory. It also imposed tariffs on leather and shoes exported from Virginia to control businesses making too much money in the local shoe trade. The fees collected went to finance the founding of the College of William and Mary, as required by the tax laws.

Listed below are some of the trades that prospered during the 18th-century. Pick one of these trades or another early historical occupation that interests you. Use books or the Internet to learn as much as you can about the profession you selected. On a separate sheet of paper, write a one page expository summary about your selection. Give facts and information that will help the reader understand the trade. Write about why this trade did so well in the 18th century. You can include opinions. Use complete sentences and proper punctuation. Also remember to site where you found your information on the subject.

basket maker
blacksmith
book maker
brick maker

cabinet maker
carpenter
gunsmith
printer

shoe maker
weaver
wig maker
harness maker



For helpful information about
craftsman trades, visit:

www.history.org
www.britannica.com



The Elves and the Shoemaker

Answer Key For Teacher Use Only



Matching Vocabulary

1. tattered
2. artistry
3. starlet
4. cobbler
5. persistent
6. delicate
7. confident
8. rafter
9. bargain
10. meddle
11. nimbly
12. scamper

Tell It Like It Is

1. False. He did not find any more leather.
2. True.
3. False. He has big fingers.
4. False. The cat was friendly to the elves.
5. True.
6. False. The starlet bought them.
7. True.
8. False. The elves always followed the shoemaker's plans.
9. False. She loved the shoemaker's work.
10. True.

Antonyms & Synonyms

1. commonplace
 2. save
 3. uncertain
 4. bright
 5. eager
 6. frightened, scared
 7. unique
 8. look
 9. think, visualize
 10. awkward
- (5 thru 10: answers will vary)

The Long & Short of It

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. 36 in. | 7. 29 in. |
| 2. 288 in. | 8. 38 in. |
| 3. 24 in. | 9. 6 ft. 3 in. |
| 4. 180 in. | 10. 4 ft. 1 in. |
| 5. 295 in. | 11. 7 ft. 3 in. |
| 6. 217 in. | 12. 6 ft. 3 in. |

Types of Sentences

Part A

1. declarative
2. interrogative
3. exclamatory
4. imperative
5. exclamatory
6. declarative
7. interrogative
8. imperative

Part B

1. complete
2. complete
3. complete
4. incomplete
5. incomplete
6. complete
7. incomplete
8. complete





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