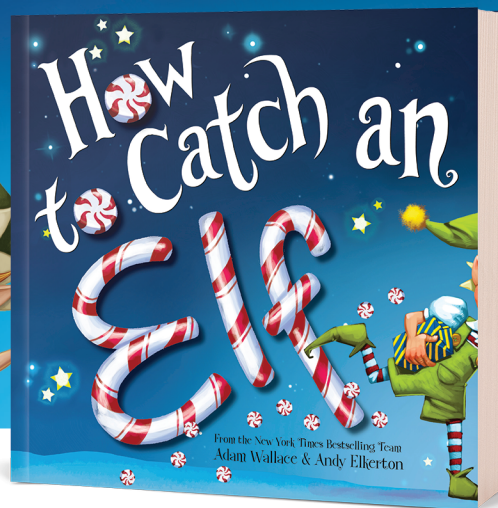


How to Catch an Elf

Elf-Catching Event Guide



Ring in the holidays with an Elf-Catching party!

The holidays are just around the corner, and there's no better way to start them off than by catching your very own holiday elf! Invite your patrons for some fun, food, and crafts as they make their very own elf traps!

DECORATE

Have your patrons help you decorate! Attached you will find a page full of fun ornaments to cut out and color. Add glitter or sequins to really make them sparkle! Place them around by using tape or cut a hole for ribbon!

CRAFT: Tissue paper wreath!

You'll need lots of green tissue paper, a paper plate, scissors, glue, a pencil, and a ribbon.

- Cut the green tissue paper into lots of 2-inch squares. Cut a circle out of the middle of your paper plate. Put a little glue on the paper plate. Using the pencil, wrap a square of tissue paper around the eraser end and stick it to the glue. Continue doing this until the plate is full and you have a fluffy green wreath! Use the ribbon to hang it!

You can find a helpful guide for the wreath here:

<http://www.happinessishomemade.net/kids-christmas-craft-tissue-paper-wreath/>

FOOD & DRINK

ELF BISCUITS: You'll need $\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar, 1 cup chopped pecan and 1 sleeve of graham crackers. First, arrange your graham crackers flat on a baking sheet. Add the butter, sugar & pecan together and bring them to a boil for 2 minutes. Pour the hot mixture over all the crackers and bake at 300 degrees for 12 minutes. Let them cool, then break up the crackers. Enjoy as a sweet treat, or use in the elf traps!

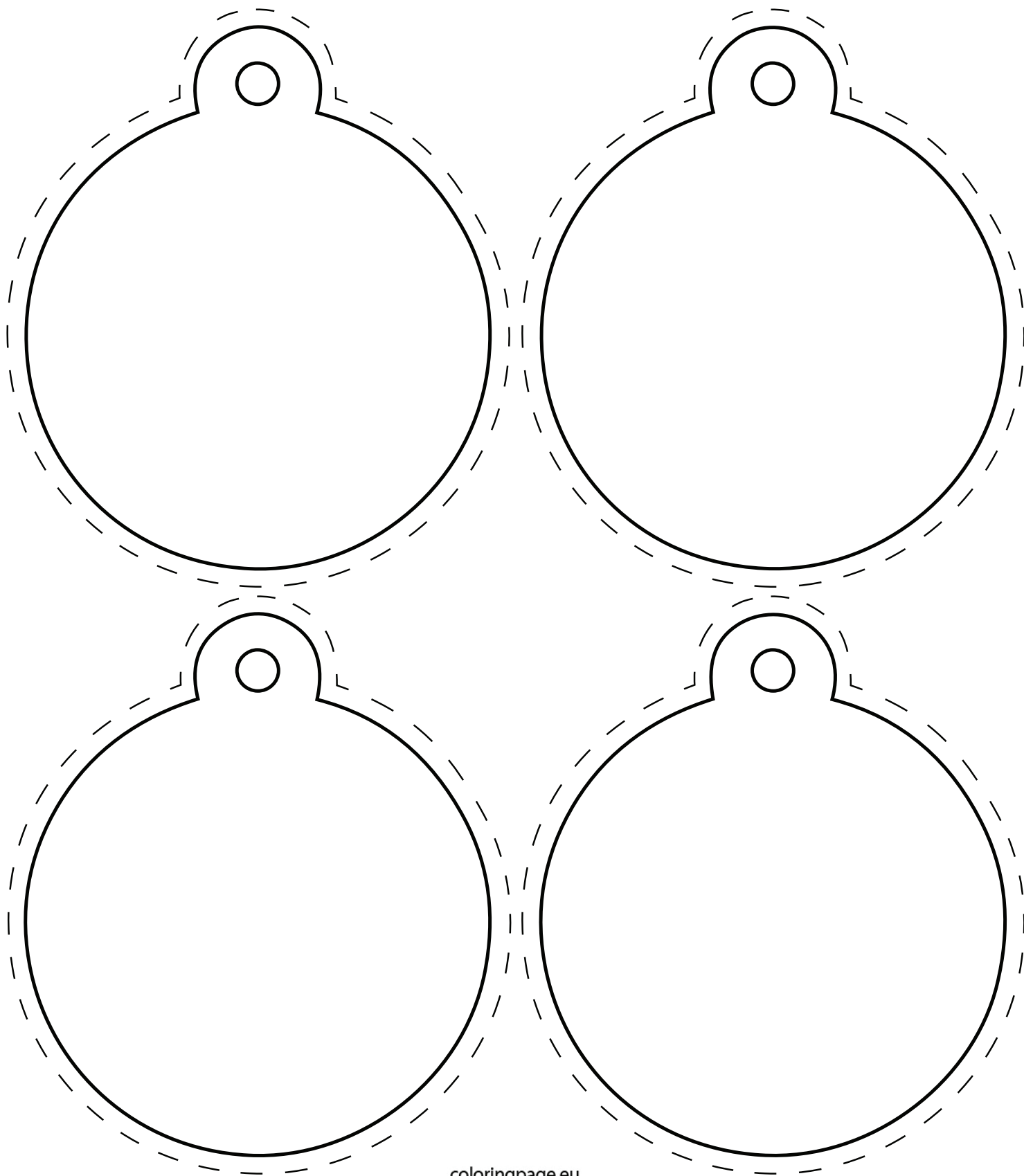
SNOWMAN ON A STICK: You'll need wooden skewers, white powdered doughnuts, jelly beans (especially orange!), and a few chocolate chips. To make, take 2 or 3 doughnuts and put them on the skewers by sliding the skewer through the cakey part of the doughnut. Once you have the doughnuts on, stick an orange jelly bean in the hole of the top one for a nose, two colorful beans for buttons in the other doughnuts, and use the chocolate chips for eyes and a mouth.

HOT CHOCOLATE: Make a big batch of hot chocolate. Have marshmallows, cinnamon, whipped cream, and candy canes ready to add!

APPLE CIDER FLOAT: You'll need original apple cider, sparkling apple cider, and vanilla ice cream! Put a scoop of ice cream in the bottom of your cup, then add in equal parts original and sparkling cider. Add apple slices, cinnamon, and caramel sauce before enjoying!

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You're Invited!



Join us for a special event featuring snacks, crafts,
and a special reading of *How to Catch an Elf*, where you'll
get to make your very own elf trap!

Date

Time

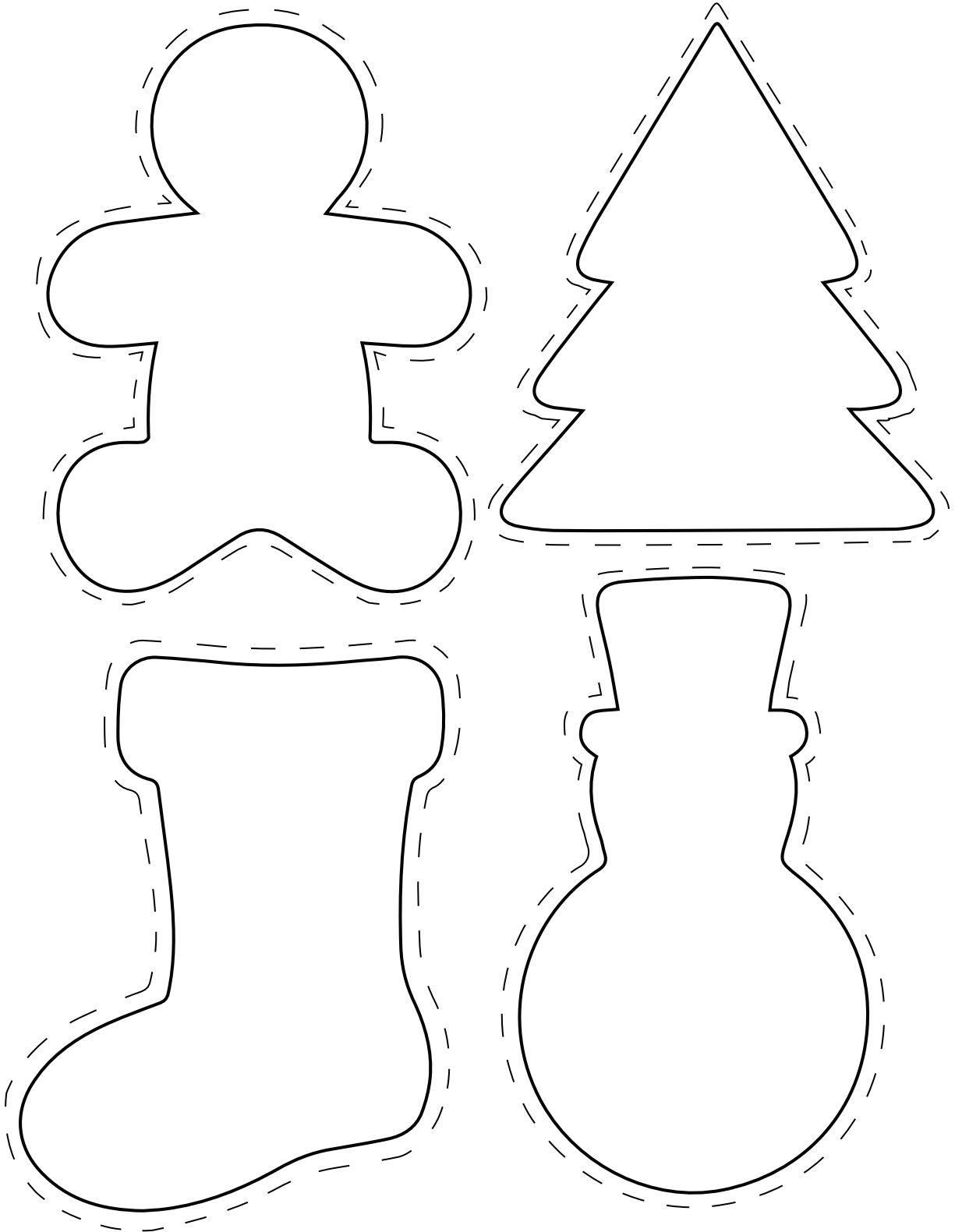
Place

Extra Information





ELVES LOVE SWEETS! Color this page of fun holiday cookies to use in your elf trap!



How to Catch an Elf

GIFT BOX TRAP

YOU'LL NEED:

- An empty tissue box
- Wrapping paper or construction paper
- Tape
- Scissors
- Markers or holiday stickers
- A Popsicle stick
- Candy, elf biscuits, or the colored cookie cutouts

Wrap your tissue box like it's a present using wrapping paper or construction paper. Cut a hole out of the paper where the hole is in the box. Decorate the box using markers, stickers, or anything else you think would attract an elf! Prop the box up by using the Popsicle stick (you might need to cut it in half). Lure the elf in by leaving a trail of sweets to the box! Wait for the morning to see if you caught an elf!

CANDY JAR

YOU'LL NEED:

- A glass jar
- Wrapping paper or construction paper
- Tape and glue
- Scissors
- Popsicle sticks
- Candy, elf biscuits, or the colored cookie cutouts

Wrap the top of your jar in wrapping paper, but leave the bottom of the jar unwrapped so you can see the candy at the bottom. Using the Popsicle sticks and glue, create a ladder to lean against the jar. Write a note that says "Holiday Candy" and tape it to the jar. Put treats in the bottom of the jar and wait for your elf to fall in when he tries to get the sweets!

ELF SNATCHER 3000

Use your imagination and create your very own elf catcher! Use bottles, paper towel tubes, cups, tape, ribbon, tinsel, glue, string, building blocks, Popsicle sticks, boxes, and anything else you think would help you make your very own unique elf trap!

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ELVES COME IN ALL SHAPES, SIZES, AND COLORS!
Draw a picture of what you think your holiday elf will look like!



Additional Ideas for More Holiday Fun!

SNOWMAN SLAM

YOU'LL NEED:

- 6 white Styrofoam cups
- Black and white construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- White socks

Create a snowman by cutting out eyes and a mouth from the black paper, creating a carrot nose using the orange paper, and gluing them to the Styrofoam cup. Stack the cups in a pyramid shape. Roll the socks into a tight ball. Roll the ball into the cups and see if you can knock them all over!

MERRY FISHMAS

YOU'LL NEED:

- Lots of candy canes
- Stick or chopstick
- String (about 1–1½ feet)
- A mug

Tie the string to one end of the stick and tie the other end of the string to the straight end of a candy cane. Fill the mug with the other candy canes so the ends curve out from the mug. Using the candy cane fishing rod, try to fish out as many candy canes as you can!

BOW RUN

YOU'LL NEED:

- A bag of holiday package bows
- Three buckets or boxes

Place two buckets (or boxes) on one side of a room, with the third bucket on the other. Pour all the bows in the third bucket. Have two children start at the bow bucket and place a bow on their heads. Have them race to the opposite side of the room, without touching the bows, and dropping their bows in their boxes. Race back and forth until all the bows are on the other side! Whoever was able to carry over the most bows wins!

SNOWMAN SCRAMBLE

YOU'LL NEED:

- Gloves, hats, scarves, or any clothes you think a snowman might wear
- Orange construction paper
- String

Create two carrot noses by cutting out two quarter circles from the construction paper and rolling them up into cones. Use the string to tie it to the nose of the child playing. Divide the children into two teams. At your signal, have them run to the pile of clothes and dress their snowmen as fast as they can! The snowmen cannot help. Once done, the snowman runs back to you, and the first one to arrive fully dressed wins!