



## Welcome to Laughing All the Way!

Enjoy one quick game per day to sprinkle in smiles, giggles, and connection all season long.

You can go in any order! No right or wrong way to play.

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### Here are some ideas for how to use this printable version:

- **Make a mini booklet:** Print and cut the cards, then staple them together or hole punch and place on a key ring to flip through to create your own little countdown booklet.
- **Use the calendar page as a reminder to use the app:** Print just the calendar page and place on the fridge for a visual reminder to play each day! Check off the days as you go.
- **Create a surprise draw:** Print, cut, fold, and place the cards in a big hat, bucket, or jar — draw one each day for a fun surprise!
- **Add to your Elf on the Shelf tradition:** Print, cut, and hide a card with your elf each night!

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**Note:** There are 24 main games and 9 "bonus games" to choose from if you want a little extra fun on certain days! There are also extra prompts at the end of this document (these extras are also woven throughout the days on the [app version\\*](#)).

\*Please check your email for a followup with instructions for installing the app



If you'd like to print these cards out and make a booklet out of them, use this card as the cover! Game instructions on next page.

## HOW TO PLAY EACH GAME:

- **Who Can Sound Like:** Take turns using only sounds to act out the prompt. No right or wrong answers — just for fun!
- **You Are:** Use your body, voice, and facial expressions to become the character or thing in the prompt.
- **Make This Face:** Freeze your face in a dramatic expression that matches the prompt — try not to make any sound!
- **Would You Rather:** Take turns answering each question. For extra fun, explain why you chose your answer!
- **Plot Twist Story:** Use the story title to create a silly tale together! Start with “Once upon a time...” then trade off every few sentences. For a challenge, try to find a way to include the three “plot twists” somewhere in your story.
- **Truth or Merry Mischief:** Pick Truth to answer a question or Merry Mischief to complete a playful dare!
- **Merry Mad Libs:** Fill in the blanks with your silliest ideas, then read your hilarious holiday story out loud!



### WHO CAN SOUND LIKE...

- an elf who just burned their tongue a little bit on hot chocolate
- a baby polar bear trying to growl for the first time
- reindeer hoofs on the roof (and the reindeer are super excited because it's the first house of the night!)



### MAKE THIS FACE:

- You just looked up in the sky and saw Santa's sleigh and he waved at you
- You're just about to open a giant present but then the box starts wiggling and making strange noises...
- Something just poked you in the back and you turn around to see it was a reindeer's antler and Rudolph is staring at you



## YOU ARE...

- A baby penguin waddling across the slippery ice for the first time
- A tired but happy elf who just made 3,645 toys and is collapsing on the floor from exhaustion
- The star getting lifted up and put on top of the tree — so excited to show off how bright it can shine



## WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...wear jingle bells around your ankles all year long that jingle wherever you go OR hear the song "Jingle Bells" on repeat all year round?
- ...get around everywhere by riding in Santa's sleigh OR by riding on a reindeer?
- ...have a magical mug of hot cocoa that refills itself whenever you snap OR a magical plate of sugar cookies that refills whenever you say "Cookies please!"?



## PLOT TWIST STORY: “THE VERY SHY SNOWMAN”

- Suddenly, a little girl ran by. She was carrying a giant box of cookies, but then she tripped and the cookies went flying...
- Just then, a sweet little old lady walked up and said, "Pardon me, but I think this belongs to you!" She was holding a sparkly, golden ornament with words painted on it that said...
- Then a voice started singing "We Wish You A Merry Christmas." It was the most beautiful singing anyone had ever heard. It was getting louder and louder, until they realized where it was coming from...



## WHO CAN SOUND LIKE...

- a grandma taking a bite of the cookies she just baked and realizing she forgot the sugar
- Santa laughing but he's trying to laugh quietly so he doesn't wake up the sleeping kids
- a squirrel who accidentally fell asleep in a Christmas tree at the tree farm and is waking up in some random person's house



## MAKE THIS FACE:

- The snowman you just finished building just said, "Sorry to bother you, but do you think you could make my nose a little less crooked?"
- You're smelling a very strong pine tree smell and you just realized it's coming from your own armpit
- You just knocked an ornament off the tree and caught it JUST before it hit the ground



## YOU ARE...

- A snowflake falling down from the sky and landing on top of a giant snowman and being so excited to be part of it
- A cold candy cane that accidentally got left out in the snow and then a little kid finally comes and picks you up
- A jar of sprinkles getting sprinkled all over the Christmas cookies



## WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...be able to build a snowman that lasts year-round even when it's hot outside OR make paper snowflakes that turn into real snowflakes?
- ...be able to snap your fingers and make it snow outside OR snap your fingers and automatically decorate the whole neighborhood?
- ...your laugh sound like a deep, jolly Santa laugh OR like a little silly high-pitched elf?



## PLOT TWIST STORY: “THE CASE OF THE MISSING CHRISTMAS PAJAMAS”

- Just then, a little squeaky, mischievous laugh could be heard from under a nearby bush.
- “Help! Help! I don’t know how to stop this thing!” shouted a voice, and they turned to see a man on a snowboard being pulled by a donkey galloping as fast as he could...
- Suddenly, the smell of cinnamon and apple cider wafted through the air, and that could only mean one thing...



### YOU ARE:

- An ice skater doing the most amazing ice skating trick of all time
- A snowball rolling down a hill, getting bigger and bigger until you crash in a big fluffy Christmas tree
- A gingerbread cookie that is sad nobody picked it off the plate and then it finally gets picked



### WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...have everything you eat for a day be gingerbread spice flavored OR turn into a magical gingerbread cookie for a whole day?
- ...have to change your name to Frosty OR have the song "Frosty the Snowman" play whenever you walk into the room?
- ...have to permanently dye your hair candy-cane striped OR only wear candy-cane striped clothes year-round?



### WHO CAN SOUND LIKE...

- Two turtle doves cooing back and forth telling each other a funny story
- A gingerbread cookie that comes to life and is so excited it's real
- Mrs. Claus humming a carol but then she accidentally sits down on a pinecone



### MAKE THIS FACE:

- You just realized you ripped your pants right down the bottom when you were making a snow angel
- It's snowing outside and you stick out your tongue to try to catch the snowflakes but then you realize it's actually snowing mini marshmallows
- You just realized it's so cold outside you have little snotsicles hanging out of your nose



## PLOT TWIST STORY: "THE DAY RUDOLPH'S NOSE COULDN'T STOP CHANGING COLORS"

- "This is a catastrophe!" cried a voice from across the room. "I've lost my lucky candy cane I've been saving for 50 years!"
- A gust of cold wind blew in along with a note that had a riddle on it that read: "Noses are red, gumdrops are blue, what is the thing that makes you truly YOU?"
- Suddenly, an elf named Larry came running up, out of breath, saying, "I've done it! My invention finally works! Quick! Come see!!"



## WHO CAN SOUND LIKE...

- A professional chicken caroler bawking "Jingle Bells" for a crowd
- A little kid tasting a candy cane for the first time
- A French hen looking everywhere for its two best French-hen-friends because they're playing hide-and-seek



## MAKE THIS FACE:

- You just smelled the most delicious gingerbread cookies baking in the oven and they're going to be done in five minutes
- You just burped and it sounded JUST like "Silent Night" and everyone is very impressed — especially yourself
- You're almost asleep on Christmas Eve but you THINK you just heard sleigh bells jingling outside



## YOU ARE...

- A lucky, but stinky, pair of Christmas socks getting washed in the washing machine
- The one lightbulb on the Christmas tree that keeps going out because you're just so tired
- Jack Frost running around nipping at everyone's nose (*no actual nose-nipping please*)



### WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...live in a gingerbread house OR live next door to Santa's workshop?
- ...instantly grow a Santa-style beard every time someone says your name (and it disappears after 30 seconds) OR have your nose light up like Rudolph's for 2 minutes every time someone says your name?
- ...have a partridge that lives in a pear tree and squawks to wake you up every morning OR have three French hens that live in your bathroom and always get in your way?



### WHO CAN SOUND LIKE...

- A jolly mommy snow owl hooting for her babies to come home for dinner
- A donkey singing its favorite Christmas carol (but can only sing the words "hee-haw")
- Six geese a-laying eggs and honking to each other about how proud they are



### MAKE THIS FACE...

- You just looked in the mirror and realized you've grown pointy elf ears and you're not sure if you're dreaming or not
- You just opened a gift from your Great Aunt Mildred — it's a Christmas sweater that has her face embroidered on it and plays polka music when you press the button
- Your nose just started lighting up red like Rudolph



### WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...shrink down to the size of an ornament OR grow to the size of a Christmas tree for a day?
- ...have tiny snowflakes flutter down all around you every time you feel sleepy OR have sprinkles sprinkle down around you whenever you get excited?
- ...be the official cookie taste-tester of the North Pole OR be the official toy-tester at Santa's workshop?



## TRUTH OR MERRY MISCHIEF?

Take turns picking TRUTH or MERRY MISCHIEF.

For TRUTH, simply answer the question.

For MERRY MISCHIEF, complete the challenge if you dare!

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**TRUTH:** If you could only ever listen to one Christmas song, what would you choose?

**MERRY MISCHIEF:** Step outside and sing "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!" at the top of your lungs!

**TRUTH:** What's the best Christmas gift you ever got OR the best gift you ever gave someone?

**MERRY MISCHIEF:** Build a snowman out of pillows and give it a name.

**TRUTH:** If you were an elf, what's your name and job in Santa's workshop?

**MERRY MISCHIEF:** Act like a partridge in a pear tree. Flap and squawk!

**TRUTH:** Are you a candy cane, a gingerbread cookie, or peppermint bark? Explain!

**MERRY MISCHIEF:** Run around the room and say in a gingerbread voice, "Run, run as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

**TRUTH:** If you could only eat one holiday food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

**MERRY MISCHIEF:** Make up an original holiday joke!



## MERRY MAD LIBS!

Pick the silliest words you can think of to fill in each blank below, then read your festive masterpiece aloud for a good laugh.

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Exclamation ( e.g. "Wow!" ) | 11. Feeling             |
| 2. Something you can feel      | 12. Someone famous      |
| 3. Body part                   | 13. Part of a house     |
| 4. Verb ending in -ing         | 14. Body part (plural)  |
| 5. Color                       | 15. Body part (plural)  |
| 6. Color                       | 16. Verb ending in -ing |
| 7. Number                      | 17. Verb                |
| 8. Animal                      | 18. Food                |
| 9. Something you can hold      | 19. Adjective           |
| 10. Food                       | 20. Verb                |

"(1) \_\_\_\_\_!" Do you feel that little (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in the air? It sure is starting to feel like Christmas!

I can feel it in my (3) \_\_\_\_\_ — that jolly, warm excitement for the holiday season.

Why, just yesterday, I was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ around downtown and was dazzled by all the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ decorations.

I even saw a (7) \_\_\_\_\_-foot-tall inflatable (8) \_\_\_\_\_ wearing a Santa outfit and holding a (9) \_\_\_\_\_! Instant holiday spirit!

Then I stopped to grab a nice hot cup of (10) \_\_\_\_\_-nog and felt (11) \_\_\_\_\_ when I heard a remix of "Jolly Old (12) \_\_\_\_\_" and "Up on the (13) \_\_\_\_\_."

Before I knew it, my (14) \_\_\_\_\_ were dancing by themselves and I was singing at the top of my (15) \_\_\_\_\_. Nobody minded — they were (16) \_\_\_\_\_ along too!

My favorite part of the season is time with family. I love (17) \_\_\_\_\_ together while eating spiced (18) \_\_\_\_\_ and laughing about all the (19) \_\_\_\_\_ memories of Christmases past.

I hope you have a wonderful holiday — and don't forget to (20) \_\_\_\_\_ as much as you can in the new year!

## BONUS GAMES!

Here are some more festive little games to sprinkle in throughout the month!



### SERIOUS SANTA

Have a staring contest while saying Ho-Ho-Ho in different silly ways but without laughing!



### TINSEL TWISTERS

Say these tongue twisters five times fast:

- Santa's short suit shrunk
- Red lolly yellow lolly
- Toy boat.



### SANTA SAYS

Play Simon Says but as Santa Says. Say "Ho Ho Ho, Santa says..." before each instruction.



### HOLLY JOLLY HANDSHAKE

Create a creative holiday-themed handshake.

Ideas to incorporate:

- candy-cane claps
- snowman snaps
- jingle-bell jumps.



### HOLIDAY MIND MELD

Count down from three, then try to say the same holiday word at the same time.

Keep going until you match!



### VERY MERRY VENTRILOQUISM

Try to say these holiday phrases while smiling without moving your lips:

- KRIS KRINGLE
- I LIKE SINGING SONGS
- DO YOU LIKE CANDY CANES?



### JINGLE JARGON

Make up an elf language.

Have a gibberish-elf conversation or try to translate it.



### SILENT NIGHT SINGING

Lip-sync a carol without sound while others guess.

Bonus points for an extra expressive face!



### BAWK THAT CAROL

Bawk a Christmas carol like a chicken while others guess the song.

Try your best to keep a straight face.



## BONUS PROMPTS

If you blast through a day's prompts or just want a little extra holiday magic, here's a cozy stash you can pull from anytime!

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### WHO CAN SOUND LIKE:

- an arctic wolf trying to howl its favorite Christmas carol
  - a gingerbread cookie getting decorated and it tickles
  - a hungry chipmunk who snuck into a bakery and just found the biggest blueberry muffin
  - an elf having a really crazy dream and talking in their sleep
  - a cat meowing an original Christmas poem
  - a whale saying "Merry Christmas" to another whale in whale-language
  - a bear who is hibernating for the winter but is having a hilarious dream and laughing in its sleep
  - a goat who just ate fourteen pumpkin pies and now it has a tummy ache
  - a T-rex roaring for joy because he just got exactly what he wanted for Christmas
  - a cranky bulldog who can't find his favorite bone that he buried last Christmas but then he finds it
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### MAKE THIS FACE:

- You're the prettiest sugar cookie on the cookie tray and you are so proud
- You just looked in the mirror and realized you had frosting all over your face all day and nobody told you
- You just won the international cookie decorating competition and won a million dollars and a lifetime supply of cookies
- You're an ornament on the tree who got placed in the very front of the tree for the first time and you're so proud
- You just realized you sat on candy-cane-flavored slime earlier and it's been stuck to your bottom all day
- You are on a walk in the neighborhood and you just came across a real snowman in your neighbor's yard, but it hasn't even snowed
- You just tripped and landed in a pile of spaghetti that's covered in sprinkles and syrup but it's surprisingly delicious
- You're almost asleep on Christmas Eve but you think you just heard sleigh bells jingling outside
- You just took a bite of a Christmas cupcake but then you realized it wasn't real, it was a candle
- You just solved a 1,000-piece puzzle of Santa's face and you're feeling very proud
- You just saw Santa riding by on a skateboard and he did a backflip on it



## MORE BONUS PROMPTS

If you blast through a day's prompts or just want a little extra holiday magic, here's a cozy stash you can pull from anytime!

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### YOU ARE:

- A string of Christmas lights getting untangled
  - A winter scarf getting knitted by the world's fastest knitting granny
  - A piece of wrapping paper that's just a little too short and you're trying your best to stretch to fit around the box
  - A ribbon getting curled over and over again until it's super bouncy and curly
  - A bag of popcorn getting popped on Christmas Eve
  - A bouncy ball that just fell out of a stocking and is bouncing all over the room
  - All the whipped cream getting squirted out of the whipped cream can
  - A piece of a Christmas puzzle that someone is trying to smush into the wrong spot and they're trying to make you fit but you don't
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### WOULD YOU RATHER:

- ...have to sprinkle gingerbread crumbles on everything you ever eat  
OR spread a thin layer of frosting on every bite of everything you eat
- ...wake up to it snowing in your bedroom  
OR a magic reindeer in your bedroom
- ...have a magical stocking that refills with little toys year-round (but they disappear by the end of the day)  
OR a pile of snow to play with year-round that never melts
- ...turn into a flying reindeer just for the night of Christmas Eve  
OR turn into an elf for a whole week of December
- ...have to wear a Christmas scarf year-round that grows a little bit longer each year  
OR wear pointy elf shoes and the toes get a little more pointy each year
- ...be able to snap your fingers and have any Christmas treat you imagine appear in your hand  
OR wiggle your nose and have any little toy appear in your hand
- ...be able to perfectly toot the melody of any Christmas carol  
OR have your toots sound exactly like bells jingling
- ...have licorice for hair  
OR a gumdrop as a nose
- ...have your sweat be sparkly and smell like sugar cookies  
OR have your tears be sparkly and taste like syrup



Hang this up, mark each day, and let it remind you to play, play, play!



## **A Note from Mia:**

"Laughing All the Way" was born from a simple wish: to help families slow down and find connection in the middle of the holiday rush.

In a season that so often revolves around doing, buying, and checking things off the list, I wanted to create something that brings us back to simply being *together*: laughing, imagining, and noticing the little moments of joy that make up the best parts of life.

Thank you for your support and for inviting a little piece of Playful Heart into your home this season.

From our family to yours, wishing you a new year filled with warmth, laughter, and moments that remind you how good it feels to play.

Cheering you on always,

A handwritten signature consisting of a stylized heart symbol followed by the name "Mia" in a cursive script.

P.S. If this brought more play and joy into your home, I'd love to help you carry that same energy into the new year!

The **Playful Heart Bundle** includes the family apps that inspired these daily prompts, plus the *Little Moments for Big Laughs* collection of easy, silly ideas for connection to keep this spirit of connection through fun going long after the holidays.

It's a one-time purchase with lifetime access (and new prompts added regularly) so your family always has easy ways to connect. No prep, no brainpower, just fun.

Scan the QR code below to grab the full bundle and keep the laughter coming all year long.

