

# Georgia Festival of Trees 2023 Reindeer Games Volunteer Training

## General Instructions:

- A shift supervisor will meet you at the ticket table at the beginning of your shift and direct you to your station. Please wait by the ticket table until you've received your assignment.
- **Guests with wristbands can participate in unlimited activities.** Please verify that each child has a wristband.
- If a guest does not have a wristband, you will need to collect their ticket. Take 1 ticket from the participant and place it in the used ticket receptacle provided.
- No tickets are required for Santa letter-writing or giant floor games (checkers/chess, Jenga, Connect 4)

## Games & Prizes

- At a game station, take ticket or verify the guest's wristband, explain the game, and give participants the necessary equipment to play the game.
- Award a prize after game completion as noted below:
  - Bowling – roll the ball at the pins and win a prize for playing.
  - Snowball Toss – toss 'snowballs' into a basket and win a prize for playing.
  - Plinko - drop 1 Plinko chip into the Plinko board. Prizes are awarded based on where the chip lands.
    - **ONLY 1 TRAIN TICKET CAN BE WON PER INDIVIDUAL**
  - Reindeer Ring Toss – toss rings over antlers and win a prize for playing.

## Free Play, unmonitored games include:

- Giant Connect 4
- Giant Checkers & Chess
- Giant Jenga

## Bubble Station

- Verify wristbands or collect one ticket for each participant and place it in a used ticket receptacle.
- Assist the participant to stand on the stool in the center of the bubble machine.





- Pull the bubble hoop up to drag a large bubble around the participant.
- Each participant gets one chance to stand in a nice bubble; if the bubble pops, you should do it again to ensure each child gets a good chance for a bubble.
- Encourage parents/guardians to take photos to share.
- Keep an eye on bubble liquid levels and add more bubble solution as necessary.

### **Santa Letter Writing**

- Participants write a letter to Santa and post it in the post office.
- Once the letter is written, each child can drop in in the slot on the side of the post office and press the button to activate the conveyer belt to move the letter into the post office bin.
- No tickets are required for this activity.
- No prizes are given for this activity.
- If parents would like to receive a copy of their child's letter, have them write their email address on the back of the paper.
  - As time permits, our office volunteers will scan and email it to the parent.

### **Elf Phone Booth**

#### **Booth Attendant**

- Verify each guest's wristband or collect 1 ticket.
- Help child enter the Elf Phone Booth and pull the phone from the cradle.
- The phone will automatically connect with an Elf.
- Each conversation should last approximately 60-90 seconds.
- Monitor the phone call and ensure the call ends in a timely manner.
- Thank the child for visiting the Elf Phone Booth.

#### **North Pole Elf**

- Elf Phone Booth elves will work in pairs to allow for breaks to prevent fatigue.
- Elves will have a 60-90 second conversation with each child.
- Most children will have questions and engage in conversation easily.
  - If there is a lag in the conversation, use our prepared conversation starters to help the conversation move along (found on page 7 of this training document).





- Have fun with the children and create a magical moment as they get to believe they are talking with a real elf at the North Pole. These are memories that will last a lifetime.
- Thank them for calling and wish them a Merry Christmas.

## Face Painting

- Verify each guest's wristband or exchange 1 ticket for a number. Call number of next participant.
- Use the very simple image sheet to allow kids to pick the image they want.
- All face paints must be applied with q-tips or other disposable materials.
- Change out paper and water rinses as needed.

### Face Painting Design Choices



# REINDEER GAMES

## Crafts

- Participants with wristbands have unlimited access to crafts. For participants without wristbands, each craft is one ticket – take the ticket and put it in the used ticket receptacle provided.
- Give the participant the necessary supplies to complete the craft and assist as necessary.
- Keep the table stocked with supplies.
- Find extra supplies under the table or behind the nearby pipe & drape and ask your supervisor for assistance as necessary.
- Crafts Include:
  - o Wrapping Paper Art
  - o Snowflake Ornament
  - o Cork Reindeer Ornament
  - o Scratch & Reveal Ornament
  - o Beaded Candy Cane Ornament
  - o Ornament Painting

### Reindeer Cork Ornament Station:

1. Use the glue gun provided to create a small glue dot for this craft. Please ask for assistance as needed.
2. Place a glue dot on the small cork “snout” and press lightly only cork body.
3. Use another glue dot to attach the pompom nose to the snout.
4. Glue a long pipe cleaner to the back of the cork with a glue dot and bend it up.
5. Twist 2 small pipe cleaners around each of the long ones to make the antlers.
6. Use a glue dot to glue the red ribbon in a loop on the top.
7. Glue the google eyes above the snout and enjoy!







### Snowflake Ornament Station

1. Select between 24 and 30 beads and 3 pipe cleaners.
2. Twist all 3 pipe cleaners together so they cross in the middle.
3. Spread them out into the shape of a star.
4. Alternating colors, add beads to each of the 6 arms.
5. Fold the end of each strand over to make a small loop that will keep the beads from falling off the pipe cleaner.



### DIY Wrapping Paper Station:

1. Select a sheet of paper.
2. Using markers and stickers, create your own custom wrapping paper designs.
3. Use to wrap a gift for a very important person. Also makes terrific Christmas Art for your family to enjoy.





# REINDEER GAMES

## Scratch & Reveal Ornament Station

1. Select an ornament shape.
2. Using the wooden sticks, remove the top (black) layer to reveal colors underneath.
3. Be creative or use traditional patterns.
4. Insert the provided string into the hole at the top to create a hanger for the ornament.





## Elf Phone Booth Conversation Starters

If the child seems to be shy or reluctant to engage in conversation, here are a few questions you can ask to engage them:

- Who is your favorite reindeer?
- What do you want for Christmas?
- Have you been naughty or nice?
- What grade are you in?
- If you could be one of Santa's elves, what would you like to do?

**You could also introduce yourself and tell the child all about your life as one of Santa's Elves.**

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### **Bif**

Hi, I'm Bif, a Mailroom Elf! I have a very important job. I make sure Santa gets all your letters! I feel very lucky that Santa and you trust me with the mail. I know how important your letters are to him. I've been helping Santa for many, many years. He has never missed a letter yet. This hasn't been easy! We have a lot of really heavy snowstorms up here. But rest assured, no matter what the weather, letters to Santa must get through!

When I'm not in the Mailroom, I love playing with toys—especially trains. It is so much fun to watch them go around and around. I also like to read, but it is really hard without my glasses. Without my reading glasses, all the words look funny.

You know that I love helping boys and girls send their letters to Santa. So stop by and see me in the Mailroom if you get a chance. If you send Santa a letter, I'll make sure he gets it!

### **Bif's Personal Information and Favorites**

Height: 3ft, 9in  
Age: 823  
Education: Ph.D. in Mail Sortation  
Hobbies: Skiing, Bobsledding, Reading  
Special Skill: Making sure Santa gets all his mail  
Favorite Food: Candy Canes  
Favorite Color: Santa Red  
Favorite Toy: Tiny Trains  
Favorite Season: Christmas

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### **Bonnie**

Hi, I'm Bonnie! I love creating new crafts for the boys and girls. It makes me so happy to see them having fun with toys we make here at the North Pole. I also like to read lots of books—especially mystery books. Nothing is better than reading a book in front of a warm fire, with a cup of hot chocolate!

It is getting really close to the “BIG DAY”! All of us are pitching in to help each other make sure Santa has the toys for all the good boys and girls. I like helping others—it makes me feel really good inside.

### **Bonnie's Personal Information and Favorites**

Height: 3ft, 7in  
Age: 305  
Education: Craft Designer  
Hobbies: Ice Skating, Reading  
Favorite Food: Hot Chocolate  
Favorite Color: Pink  
Favorite Toy: Santa's Secret Village Board Game  
Favorite Season: Christmas

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### **Sally**

Hi, my name is Sally! I'm a little elf! I'm just learning about being an elf. I want to help everyone out, but I'm not quite big enough yet. I have learned that I'm supposed to be good all day long.

My favorite toys are dolls. They are so cuddly and fun. I also love to play with the baby reindeer—especially Raymond. He is so cute! We get to play in the snow and in the Reindeer Barn.

I also like to watch Mrs. Claus and the elves bake cookies, cakes and pies. Sometimes Mrs. Claus lets me lick the icing out of the bowl—boy is that good!

### **Sally's Personal Information and Favorites**

Height: 2ft, 9in  
Age: 77  
Education: Attending Pre-Elf School  
Hobbies: Asking why, playing with baby reindeer  
Special Skill: Making others feel good  
Favorite Food: Cinnamon Toast  
Favorite Color: Purple  
Favorite Toy: Dolls  
Favorite Season: Christmas

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### **Will**

Hi, I'm Will the Weatherman Elf! I tell Santa what the weather is going to be like on Christmas Eve all over the world! I try really hard to tell Santa exactly what type of weather to expect.

I studied very hard in school to become a Snowologist. I love school because I learn things—and that makes me very smart. I hope you study lots too!

I spend most of my time in the Weather Station. That is where all my complex weather forecasting equipment is located.

### **Will's Personal Information and Favorites**

Height: 3ft, 4in  
Age: 323  
Education: Snowology  
Hobbies: Correct weather forecast  
Favorite Food: Raindrop Surprise  
Favorite Color: White  
Favorite Toy: Frosty-Weather-Meter-Reader  
Favorite Season: Christmas

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### **Burt**

Hi, I'm Burt, the head elf in Santa's Workshop! I make sure all the toys you boys and girls ask Santa for are made right and on time! I have lots and lots of help from all the other elves. Santa gives me your list of toys, and I make sure they get made.

During the Christmas season I don't have much time to play. But when I do, I love to build things with my Secret Village Tool Kit. It's the only way we could ever make all these toys in time for Christmas! By the way, if you haven't sent Santa your list, go to the Post Office and send it now.

### **Personal Information and Favorites**

Height: 4ft, 2in  
Age: 567  
Education: Master of Toy Production  
Hobbies: Volunteer Elf Rescue Team, Reindeer Trainer  
Special Skill: Making sure toys are built  
Favorite Food: Red Santa Lollipop with White Sprinkles  
Favorite Color: Brown  
Favorite Toy: Tool Kit  
Favorite Season: Christmas

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Occasionally, a child may ask you a question about Santa. Read below for ways to tactfully address their questions without spoiling any Christmas magic.

**Question: How does Santa watch every girl and boy around the world to make sure they're being good?**

Answer: He has the help of millions of elves. Elves are everywhere watching kids at home and when they're out and about. Whether it's your Elf on the shelf or ones hiding at the grocery store, they all report back to Santa at the North Pole before Christmas arrives. These elves help Santa keep his naughty and nice list up to date during the holiday season. But elves aren't the only ones that help Santa know if you've been good all year. Parents, teachers, coaches, bus drivers, and babysitters all report back to Santa throughout the year, too.

**Question: How does Santa have time to deliver presents all around the world in one night?**

Answer: Santa actually has more than 24 hours to deliver all his gifts. The Earth's tilt and all the different time zones around the world means that Christmas morning arrives at different times across the earth. When kids are getting ready for bed on Christmas Eve in New York, children in China have already opened their presents.

**Question: How does Santa get into houses that don't have a chimney?**

Answer: While Santa's preferred method of entry is through the chimney, a lot of homes don't have one. When Santa can't go through the chimney to get inside, he uses the front door. In fact, many families without chimneys leave a spare key out for Santa so he can get in a little bit easier.

**Question: How does Santa fit down the chimney?**

Answer: Santa's big belly and his big bag of presents is obviously too big to fit down a chimney. But luckily, Santa is full of magic. One of his magic powers is to make each home's chimney big enough for him to fit through. That way, he can easily slide down the chimney right into the house and climb back up to his reindeer when he's finished putting the gifts under the tree.

**Question: How does Santa carry all those presents in his bag?**

Answer: Santa only carries the presents for the home he's visiting. Once he gets back to the sleigh, an elf helps Santa refill the bag with presents for the next house.

**Question: Why didn't Santa bring everything I asked for?**

Answer: Sometimes, the presents you wanted weren't in our budget this Christmas. And sometimes Santa takes a look at everything you already have and decides the things you need and the things you don't.





If Santa thinks you have enough toys, he gives some of the things on your list to kids who don't have very many toys to make sure everyone gets a gift on Christmas morning.

**Question: Why are there so many Santas out during Christmas? How do I know which is the real Santa?**

**Answer:** The Santas you see out and about during the holidays are all Santas helpers. They're here to keep track of all the kid's gift lists and to let the real Santa know if you were good while you're with me at the mall or with your Dad at Wal-Mart. The real Santa stays at the North Pole making his list and helping the elves prepare presents for Christmas.

**Question: Why did my friend get a note (or video, letter, special wrapping paper, phone call, etc.) from Santa and I didn't?**

**Answer:** Santa does different things for different kids to make them feel special. If you would like Santa to do something special for you, tell your parents or your Elf. You may just see a special surprise waiting for you on Christmas morning!