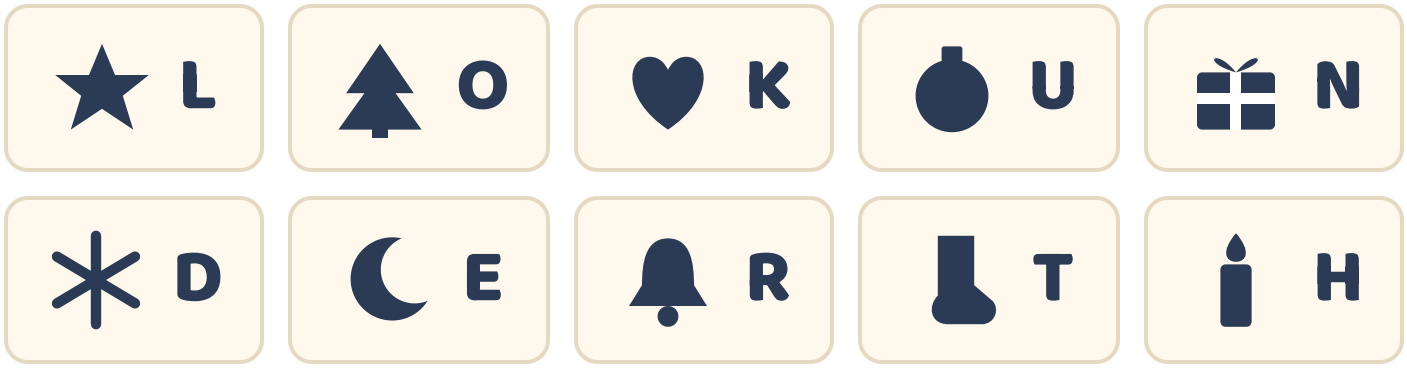
The Picture Code

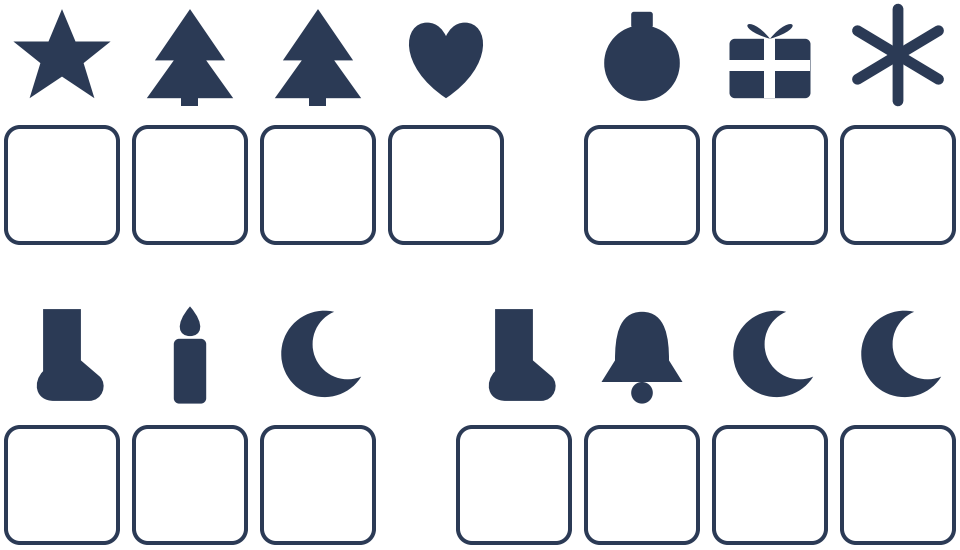
An elf left a note for you, but it is written in Christmas pictures. Use the key to swap each picture for its letter, then write the letter in the box underneath.

Code breaker: _____

The code key



The secret note



Done? Now go and do what the note says. A grown-up might have hidden a surprise!

For home and classroom use. Please do not resell.

The Gift Tag Code

Three gift tags, one secret plan. Every letter on the tags moved ONE step forward in the alphabet (A became B, B became C). Move each letter one step back to read the plan.

Code breaker: _____

Your alphabet helper

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Example: I moves one step back to H, and B moves back to A.

The gift tags

- **I P U**
  ☐ ☐ ☐
- **D P D P B**
  ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
- **U P O J H I U**
  ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

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The Number Code

Santa's helpers use numbers instead of letters: A is 1, B is 2, all the way to Z, which is 26. Find each number in the key and write its letter in the box.

Code breaker: _____

The number key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

The message

3	8	5	3	11		25	15	21	18

19	20	15	3	11	9	14	7

Extra challenge: write your own name in the number code and see if someone in your family can crack it.

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Make Your Own Secret Code

Invent a symbol for every letter: a tiny snowman, a dot, a squiggle, anything. Draw it under the letter. Then write a secret Christmas message for someone and give them this page as the key.

Code breaker: _____

My code key

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

My secret message, written in my code

Message for: _____ From: _____

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Answer Key

Fold this page back before you print the set for the kids, or keep it on your phone.

PUZZLE 1 · THE PICTURE CODE

LOOK UNDER THE TREE

PUZZLE 2 · THE GIFT TAG CODE

HOT COCOA TONIGHT

PUZZLE 3 · THE NUMBER CODE

CHECK YOUR STOCKING

Did your kids love cracking codes?

The Christmas Mystery Party Kit turns codes like these into a whole party: six clue stations, six suspects and the missing presents to find. Printable, for 4-12 kids aged 8-10. Find it at **lydoscreative.com** or in the LydosCreative shop on Etsy.

Setting up Puzzle 1? Hide a small treat or a note under the tree first, so the answer leads somewhere real.

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