PROFESSOR OTTER

Christmas Countdown

Advent Puzzle Calendar

Challenge (2-3)

24 puzzles · December 1 to 24 · Answers in the back

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24

My countdown tracker

Color in a star or add a sticker each day you finish.

1 ☆ **Word Search** Day 1	2 ☆ **Maze** Day 2	3 ☆ **Secret Code** Day 3	4 ☆ **Color by Number** Day 4
5 ☆ **Spot the Difference** Day 5	6 ☆ **Logic Puzzle** Day 6	7 ☆ **Criss-Cross** Day 7	8 ☆ **Secret Code** Day 8
9 ☆ **Color by Math** Day 9	10 ☆ **Seek and Count** Day 10	11 ☆ **Maze** Day 11	12 ☆ **Secret Code** Day 12
13 ☆ **Spot the Difference** Day 13	14 ☆ **Color by Number** Day 14	15 ☆ **Logic Puzzle** Day 15	16 ☆ **Word Scramble** Day 16
17 ☆ **Secret Code** Day 17	18 ☆ **Color by Math** Day 18	19 ☆ **Crossword** Day 19	20 ☆ **Seek and Count** Day 20
21 ☆ **Color by Number** Day 21	22 ☆ **Secret Code** Day 22	23 ☆ **Color by Number** Day 23	24 ☆ **Seek and Count** Day 24

Christmas Word Search

Find every word. Words run forwards, backwards, up, down and diagonally.

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

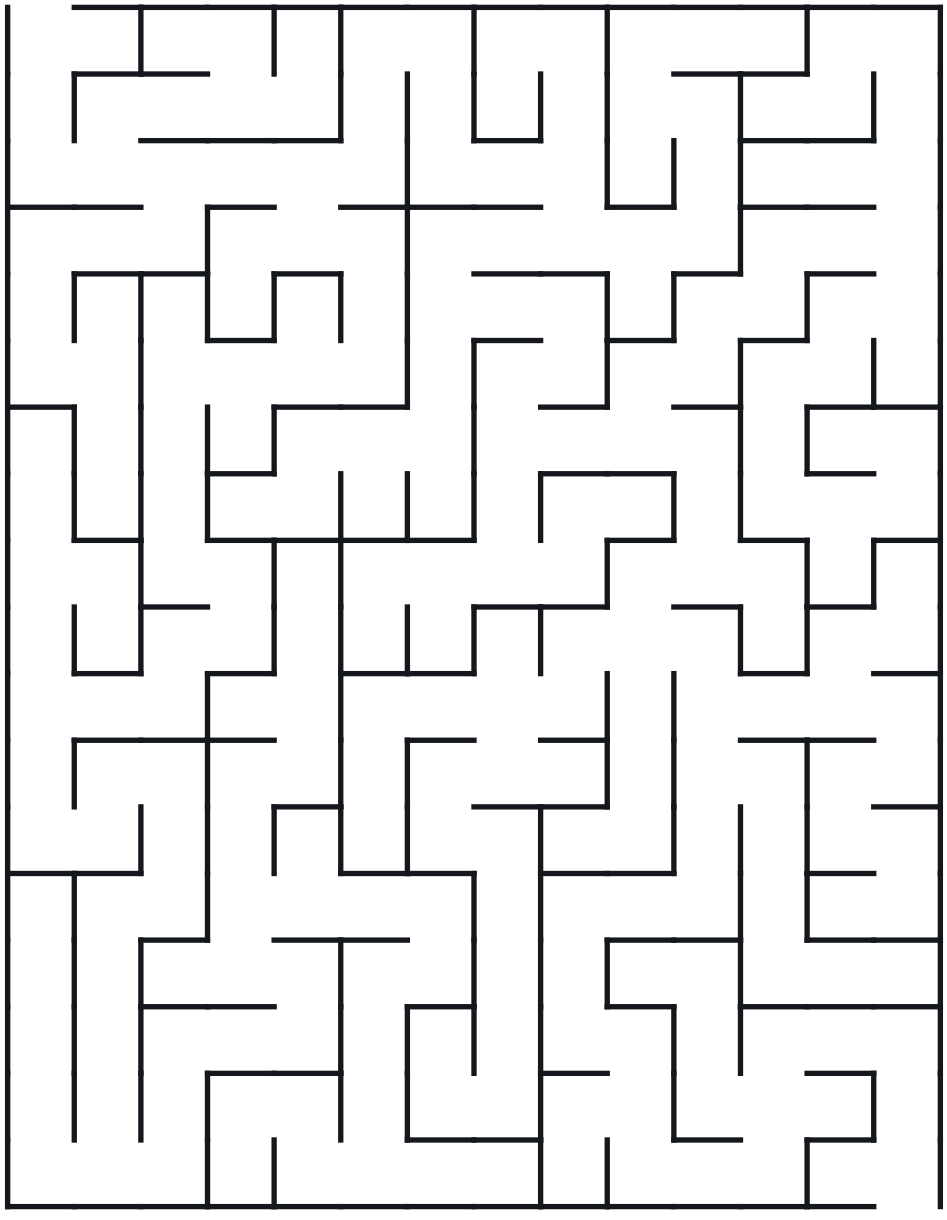
- [ ] CANDY CANE
- [ ] CAROLS
- [ ] CHIMNEY
- [ ] EGGNOG
- [ ] ELVES
- [ ] EVERGREEN
- [ ] GINGERBREAD
- [ ] HOLLY
- [ ] JINGLE BELLS
- [ ] MISTLETOE
- [ ] NORTH POLE
- [ ] ORNAMENT
- [ ] PRESENTS
- [ ] REINDEER
- [ ] SANTA
- [ ] SLEIGH
- [ ] SNOWMAN
- [ ] STOCKING
- [ ] TINSEL
- [ ] WREATH

Sleigh Ride Maze

Challenge · Steer the sleigh from the North Pole through the snowy night to drop gifts at a sleeping house.



Start: North Pole



Finish: Home



Christmas Secret Code: Reindeer Eyes

Challenge · Secret Code

Each code letter stands for a different letter. Look it up in the key and write the real letter under it.

What happens to a reindeer's eyes in winter?

A W O J L O I O C

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

A X L E S L M V

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

Y M N B A M Z N X O

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

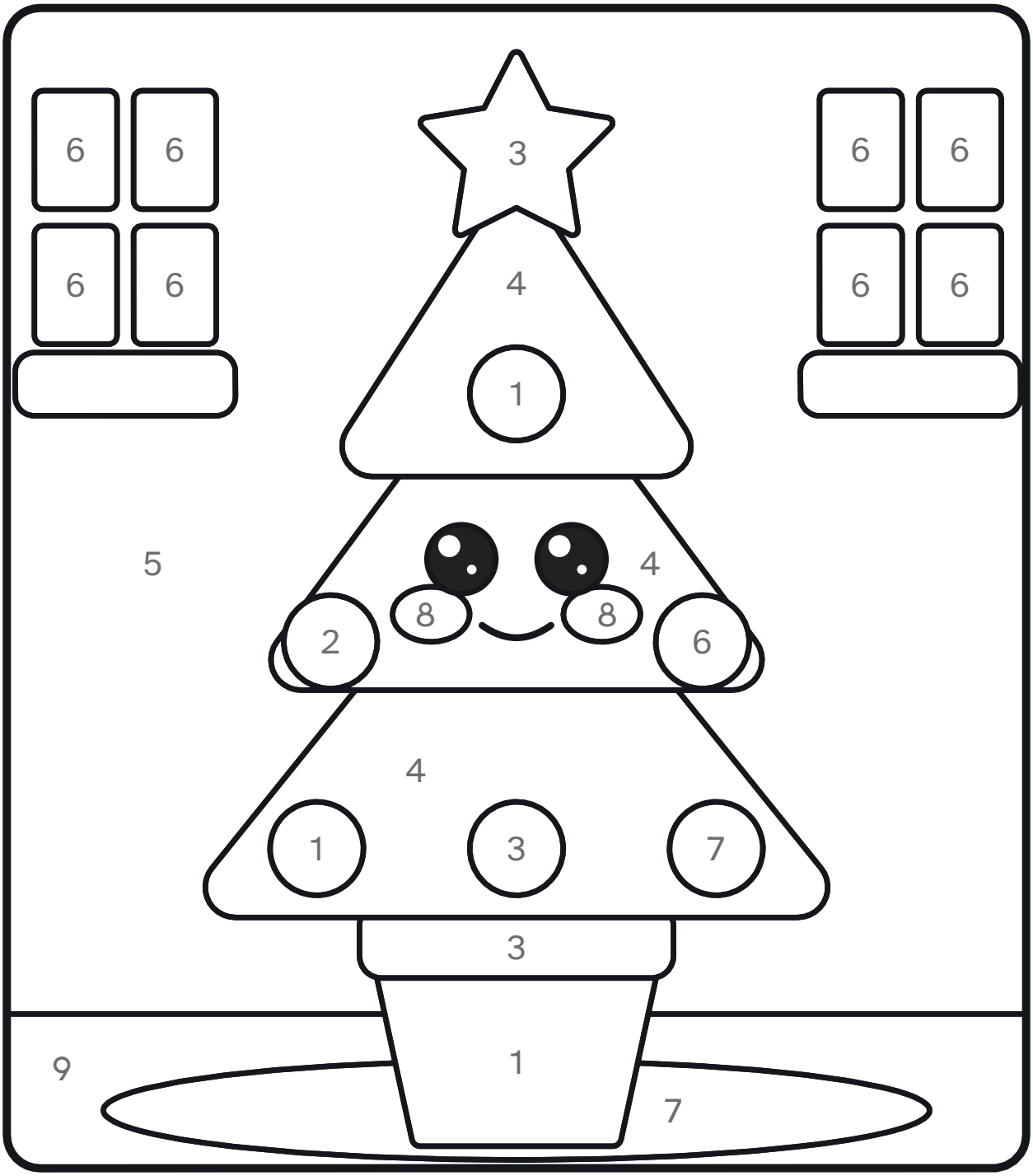
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
T	D	S	K	N	Q	Z	A	Y	I	W	R	O

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

Happy Holiday Tree

Name _____

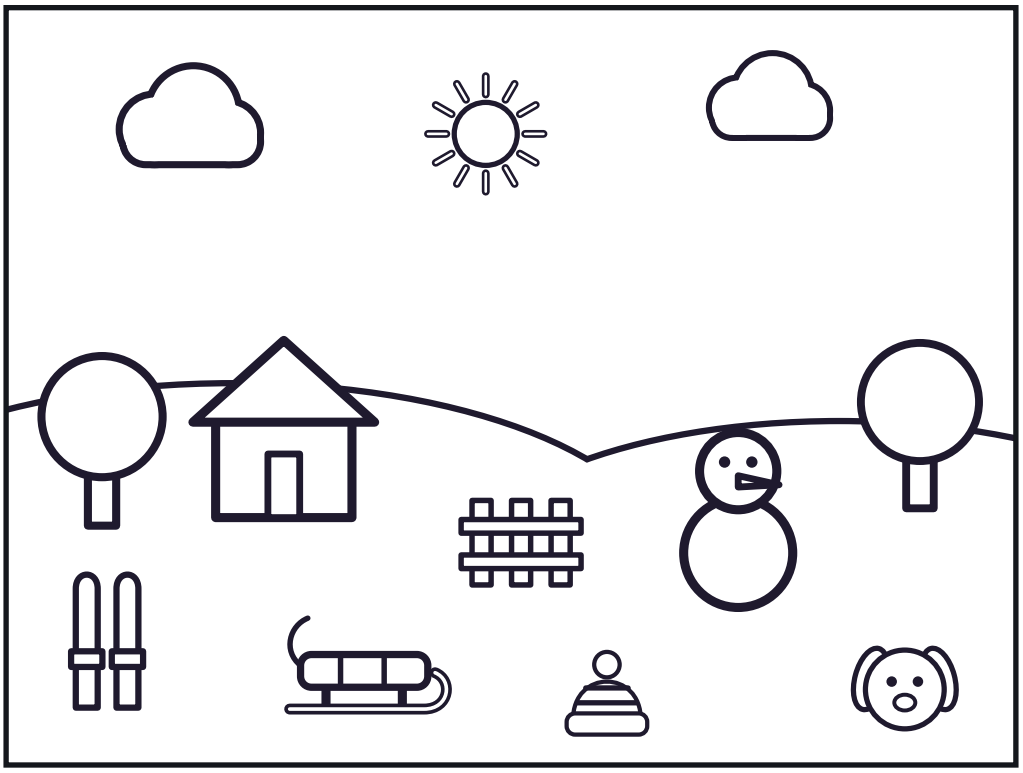
Color by Number · Challenge · Color each space the color of its number.

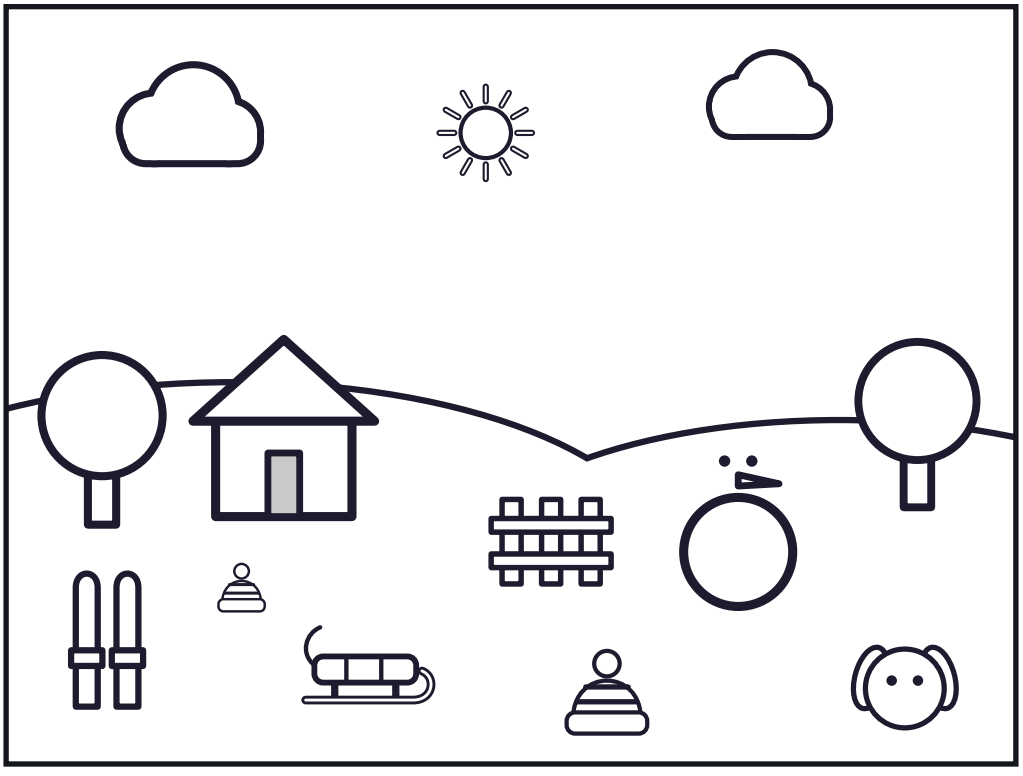


1 Red	**2** Orange	**3** Yellow	**4** Green
5 Light Blue	**6** Blue	**7** Purple	**8** Pink
9 Brown			

Snow Day Sledding Spot the Difference

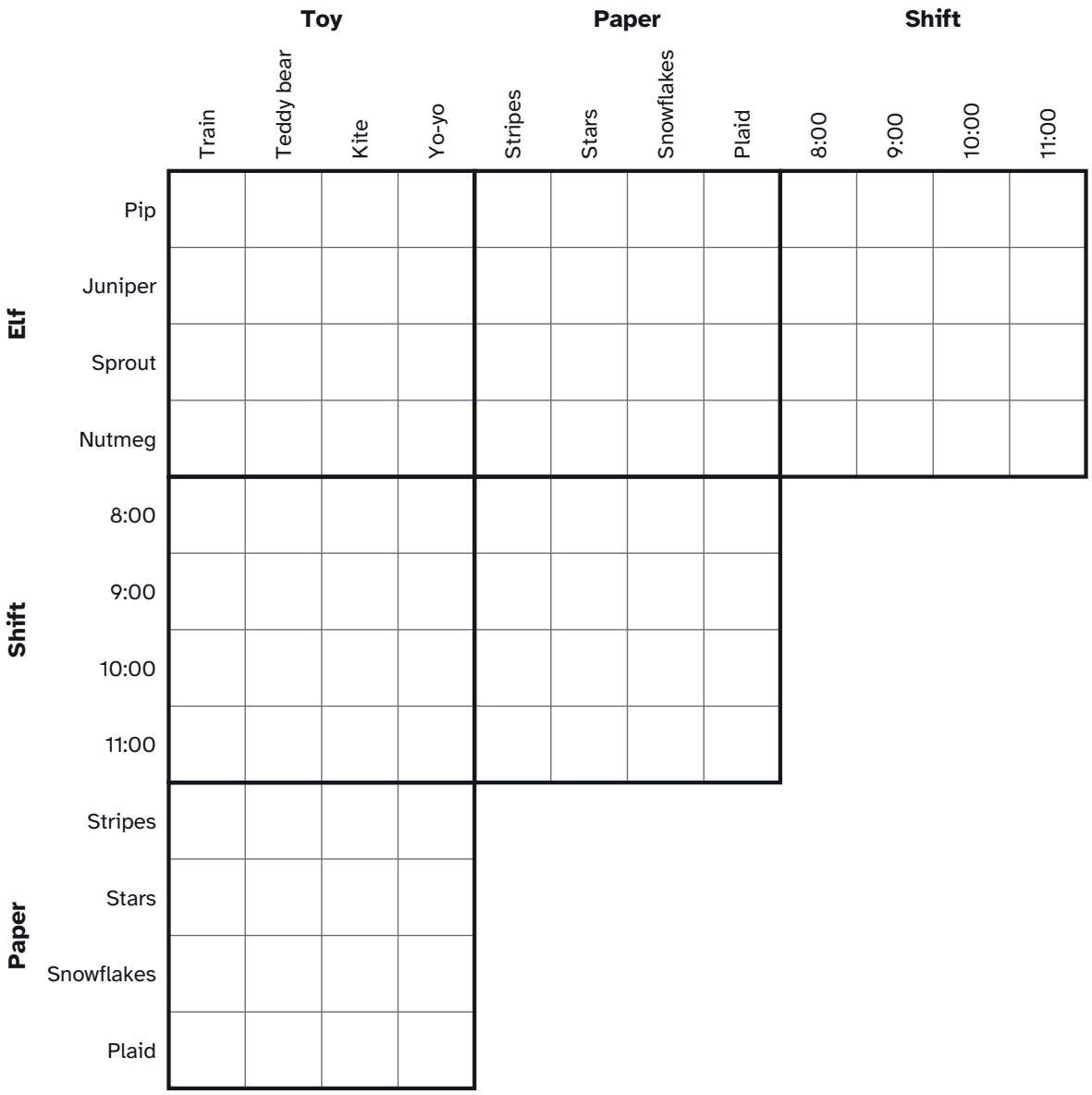
Challenge · Find 8 differences. Circle each one in the bottom picture.





Workshop Elves

Challenge logic puzzle · 4×4 grid · 11 clues



It was the busiest night of the year in the North Pole workshop, and each elf had one toy to build and wrap. Find each elf's toy, wrapping paper and start time.

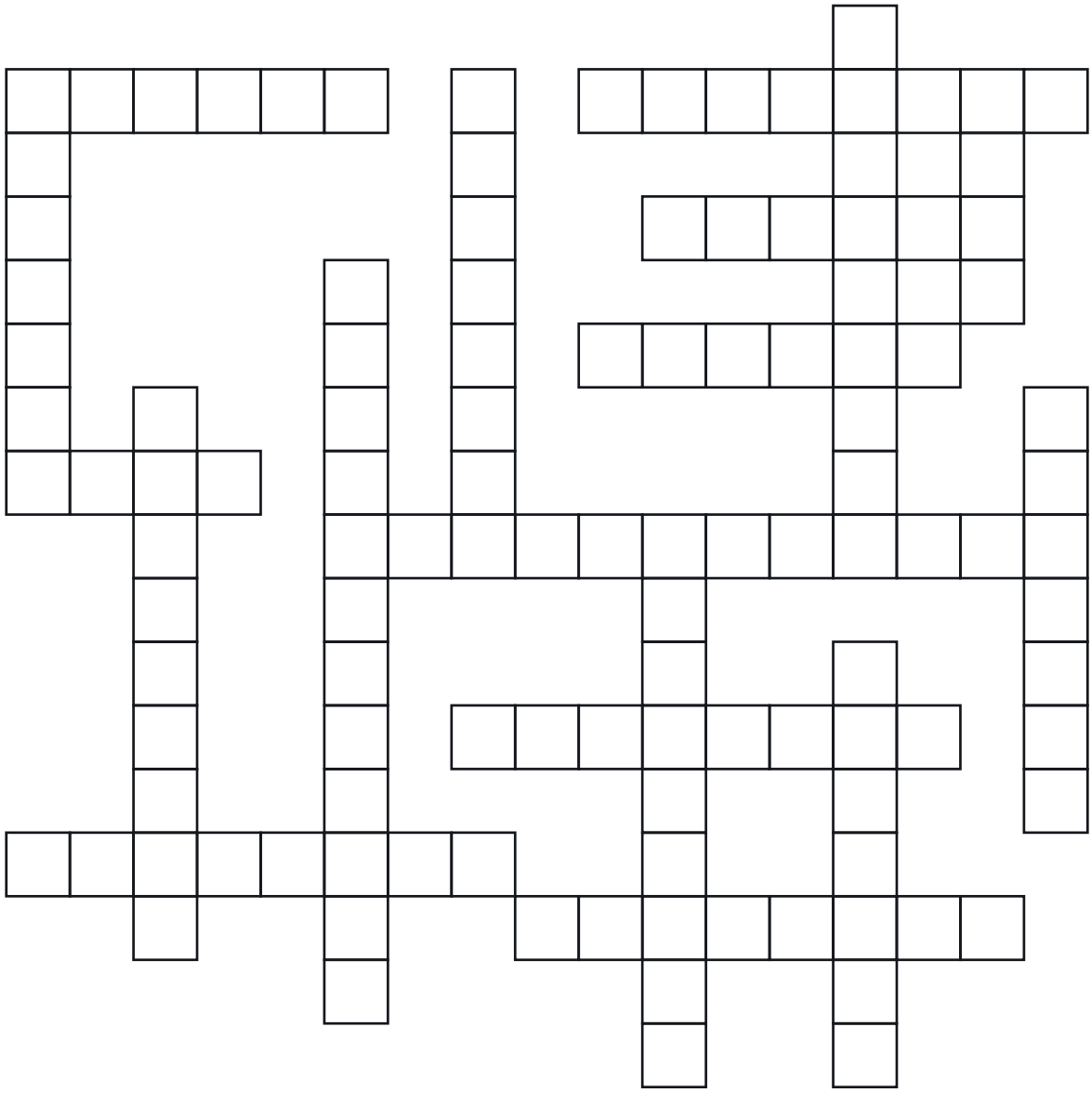
Mark an X where two things cannot go together and a check where they must. Every row and column of a block ends with one check.

Clues

1. The elf who built a yo-yo and Sprout started work one hour apart.
2. The elf who built a wooden train started work one hour before the elf who built a yo-yo.
3. The elf who built a kite and the elf who wrapped with the starry paper started work one hour apart.
4. Sprout wrapped with the striped paper.
5. Sprout started work one hour before Pip.
6. The elf who started work at 10:00 did not build a wooden train.
7. The elf who started work at 10:00 did not wrap with the plaid paper.
8. Juniper did not wrap with the plaid paper.
9. The elf who started work at 11:00 did not build a kite.
10. The elf who built a yo-yo started work at either 9:00 or 11:00.
11. Either Pip or Nutmeg built a kite.

Winter Sports Criss-Cross

Challenge · Fit every word from the bank into the grid.



- ☐ BIATHLON
- ☐ BOBSLED
- ☐ CHAIRLIFT
- ☐ CROSS COUNTRY
- ☐ DOWNHILL
- ☐ GOGGLES
- ☐ HALFPIPE
- ☐ ICE HOCKEY
- ☐ LUGE
- ☐ MOGULS
- ☐ PUCK
- ☐ SKELETON
- ☐ SKI JUMP
- ☐ SKIING
- ☐ SLALOM
- ☐ SNOWBOARD
- ☐ SNOWSHOE
- ☐ SPEED SKATING

Christmas Secret Code: Tree Needles

Challenge · Secret Code

Each code letter stands for a different letter. Look it up in the key and write the real letter under it.

Why was the Christmas tree bad at knitting?

M Y U J K Y

__ __ __ __ __ __

R W I K K M Q T

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

M Y O Q J J R A J O

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

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

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

Penguin

Name _____

Color by Math · Challenge · Addition and subtraction within 20

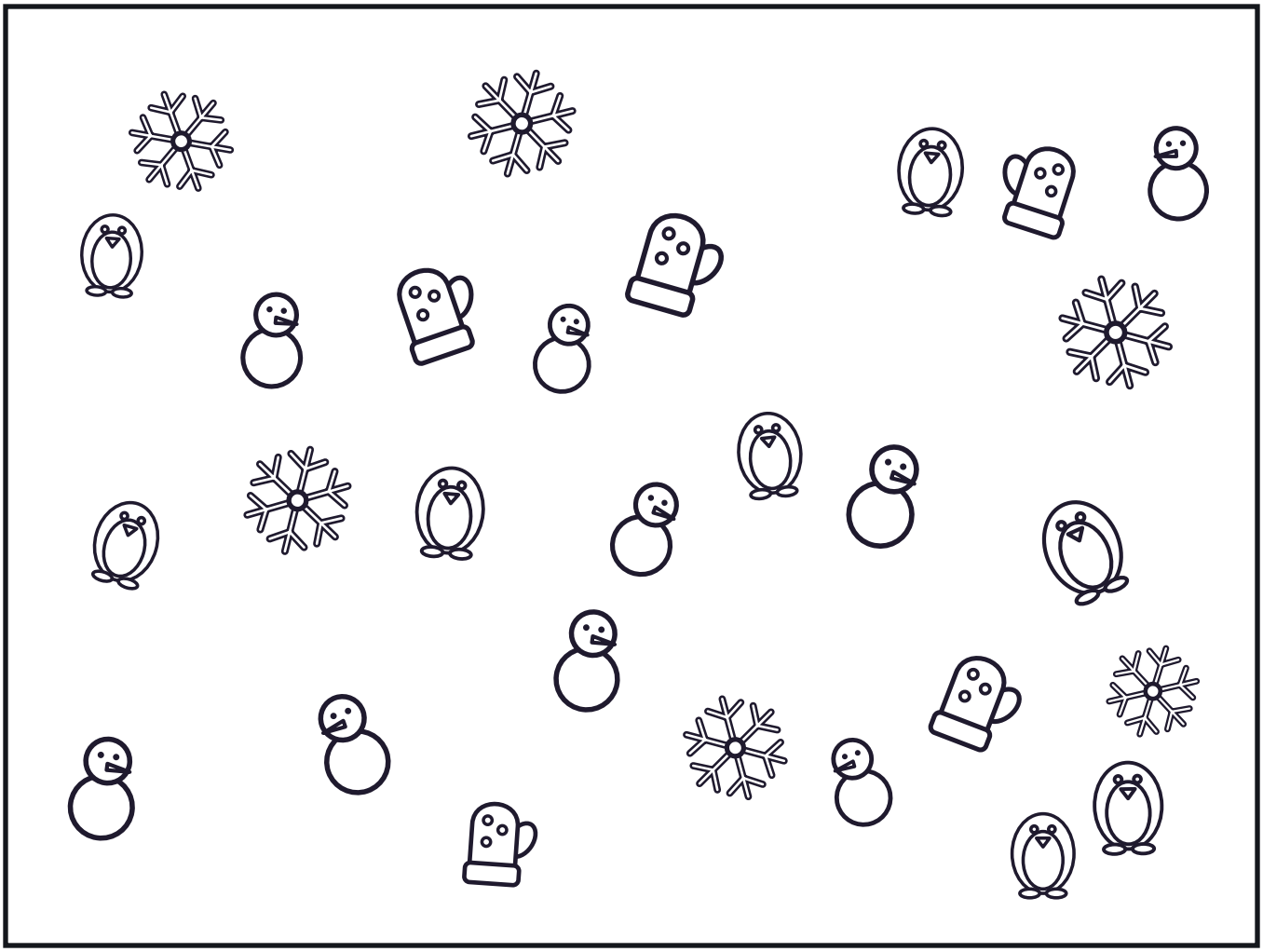
Solve each problem, then color its square with the crayon that has the answer.

					20−5	13+2	12+3	2+13	6+9	19−4					
				8+7	4+11	5+10	11+4	10+5	9+6	7+8	17−2				
			14+1	1+14	16−1					3+12	18−3	4+11			
			16−1	8+7		9+6			2+13		7+8	3+12			
			5+10	20−5			14−9	12−7			14+1	17−2			
		11+4	12+3	1+14			11−6	13−8			6+9	10+5	13+2		
		18−3	19−4									3+12	4+11		
	9+6	2+13	8+7									6+9	12+3	11+4	
7+8	18−3	20−5	13+2									14+1	1+14	16−1	10+5
5+10	19−4	17−2											7+8	12+3	3+12
	5+10	20−5											11+4	19−4	
		16−1											14+1		
		6+9	1+14									8+7	2+13		
			9+6	18−3	4+11	17−2	10+5	13+2	14+1	6+9	11+4	2+13			
		12−7	14−9	11−6							13−8	14−9	11−6		

5 Orange **15** Black

Snow Day Seek and Count

Challenge · Find and count each picture, then write how many in its box.



How many snowflakes? ☐

How many mittens? ☐

How many snowmen? ☐

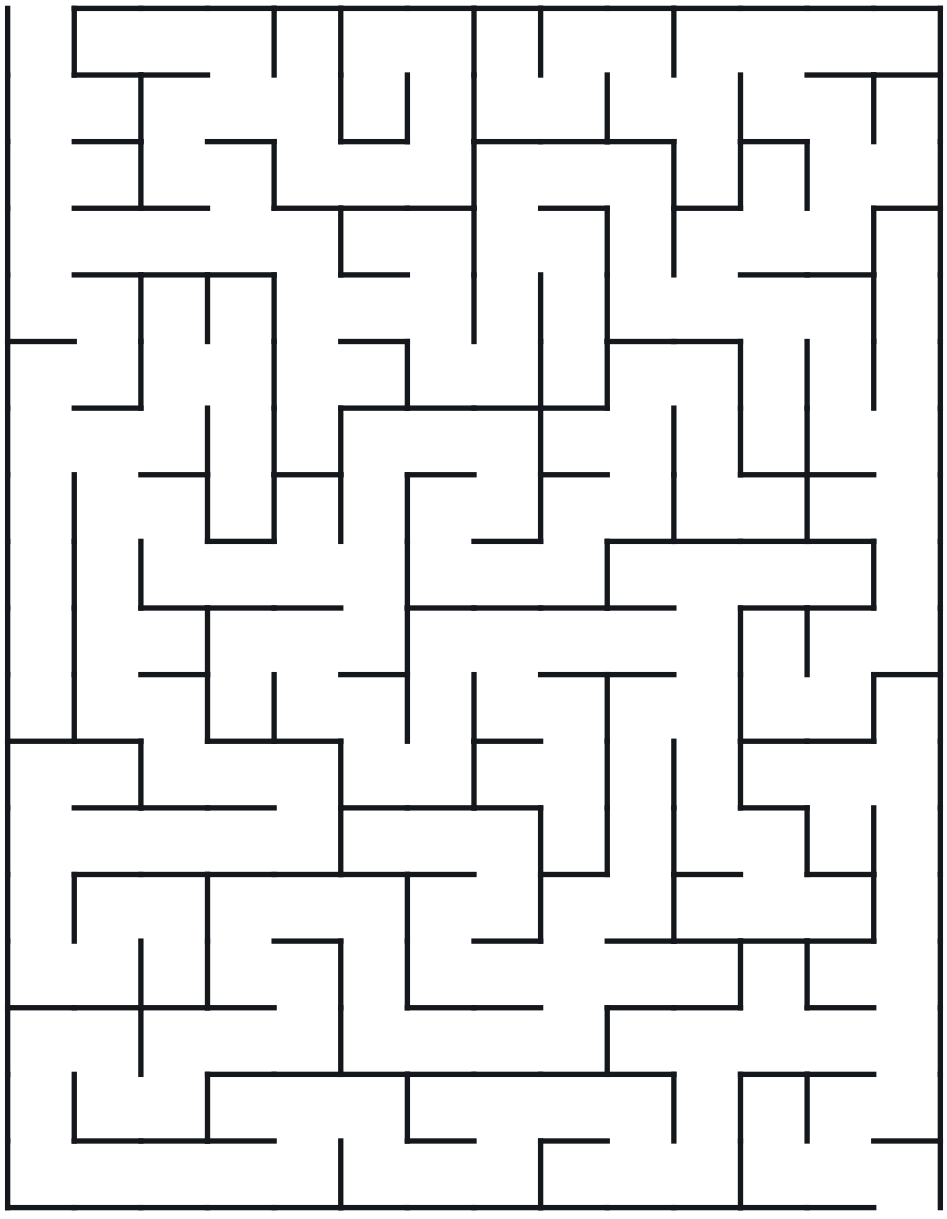
How many penguins? ☐

Penguin's Igloo Maze

Challenge · Slide the penguin across the ice to its cozy igloo.



Start: Penguin



Finish: Igloo



Christmas Secret Code: Gingerbread Doctor

Challenge · Secret Code

Each code letter stands for a different letter. Look it up in the key and write the real letter under it.

Why did the gingerbread man go to the doctor?

U D F V E

__ __ __ __ __

Z D D X N T I

__ __ __ __ __ __ __

K Q A B B P

__ __ __ __ __ __

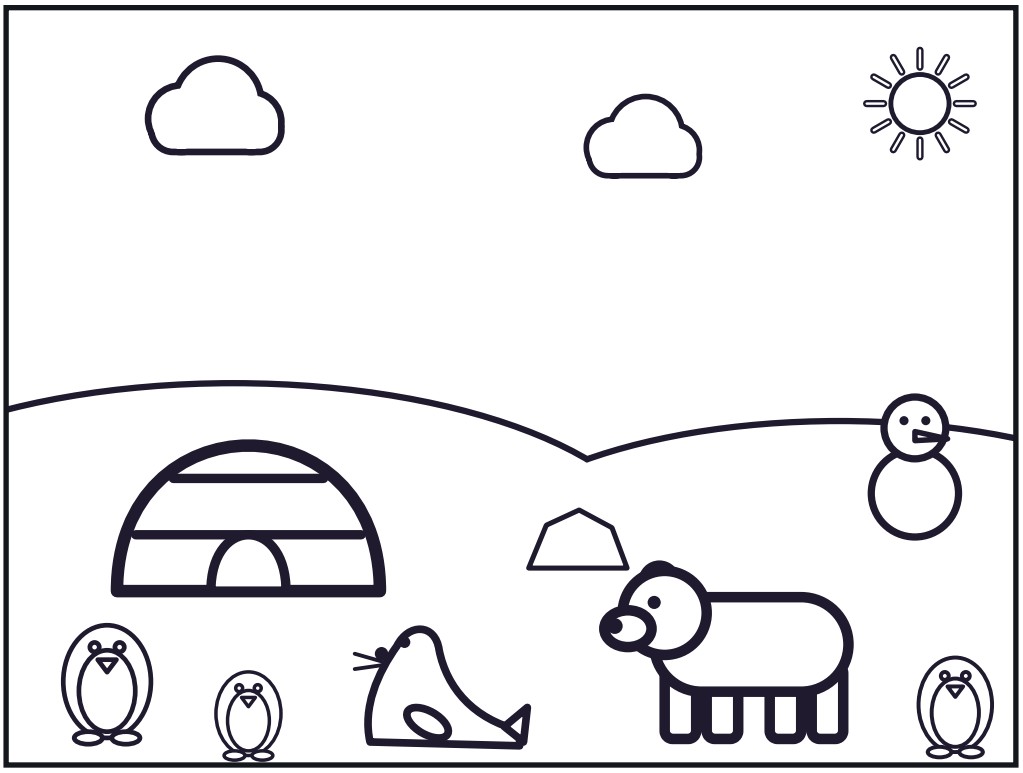
Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

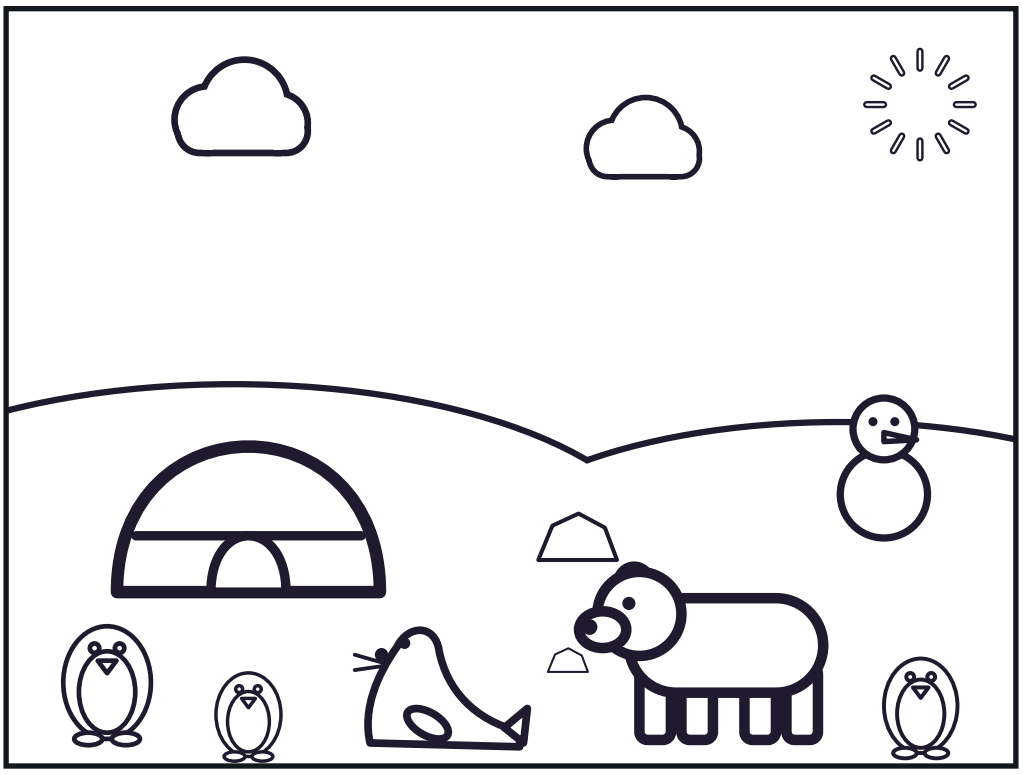
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
U	M	Q	E	S	W	Z	B	G	D	C	J	T

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
I	V	Y	R	P	O	N	H	A	K	L	X	F

Polar Friends Spot the Difference

Challenge · Find 8 differences. Circle each one in the bottom picture.





Rosy Reindeer

Name _____

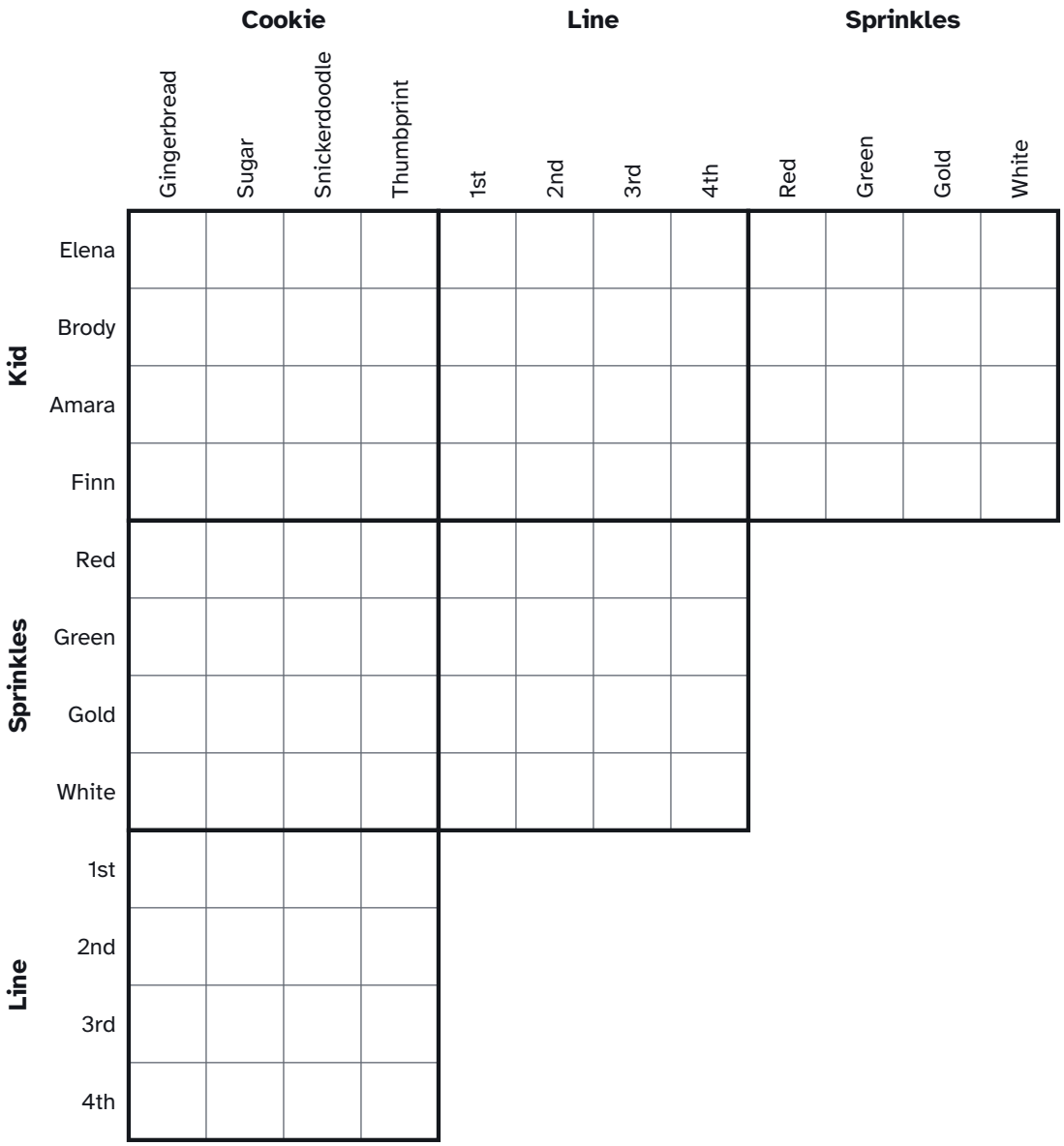
Color by Number · Challenge · Color each space the color of its number.



1 Red	**2** Orange	**3** Yellow	**4** Green
5 Light Blue	**6** Pink	**7** Brown	**8** Black

Christmas Cookie Swap

Challenge logic puzzle · 4×4 grid · 8 clues



The neighbors held a Christmas cookie swap. Each kid baked one batch to share and waited in line to trade. Find each kid's cookie, place in line and sprinkle color.

Mark an X where two things cannot go together and a check where they must. Every row and column of a block ends with one check.

Clues

1. The kid who used white sprinkles did not bake sugar cookies.
2. Elena was in line somewhere ahead of Finn.
3. The kid who baked snickerdoodles was in line right in front of the kid who used green sprinkles.
4. The kid who was third in line baked gingerbread men.
5. The kid who used red sprinkles was either first or second in line.
6. Brody was in line right in front of Finn.
7. The kid who used white sprinkles was in line right in front of Brody.
8. The kid who used white sprinkles was in line somewhere ahead of the kid who used red sprinkles.

Christmas Cookies Word Scramble

Challenge · Unscramble each word. Every word is from the Christmas Cookies list.

1. **B W I O M L X N I G** _____
2. **U G R O S N R W A B** _____
3. **G I N I C** _____
4. **I L R S P N E K S** _____
5. **A G E S N G R P I N** _____
6. **V O T T E N M I** _____
7. **A A P T U S L** _____
8. **I F T N O R G S** _____
9. **N I O A C N M N** _____
10. **I P T N E R E M P P** _____

Christmas Secret Code: Snowman Breakfast

Challenge · Secret Code

Each code letter stands for a different letter. Look it up in the key and write the real letter under it.

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

O N U S U D O

__ __ __ __ __ __ __

V I B Z O U Y

__ __ __ __ __ __ __

V P D Q U Z

__ __ __ __ __ __

Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

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

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

Snowman

Name _____

Color by Math · Challenge · Addition and subtraction within 20

Solve each problem, then color its square with the crayon that has the answer.

4+16	16+4	15+5	2+18	18+2	3+17	11+9	7+13	12+8	6+14	19+1	13+7	14+6	9+11	5+15	8+12
1+19	17+3	1+19	12+8	11+9	13−8	14−9	12−7	11−6	13−8	14−9	14+6	3+17	9+11	16+4	7+13
2+18	5+15	15+5	19+1	8+12	11−6	12−7	11−6	12−7	14−9	13−8	13+7	18+2	6+14	4+16	17+3
15+5	12+8	5+15	4+16	11−6	12−7	13−8	14−9	12−7	14−9	11−6	13−8	6+14	19+1	16+4	11+9
13+7	3+17	18+2	2+18	1+19							14+6	8+12	9+11	7+13	17+3
4+16	13+7	15+5	9+11	5+15		12−7			14−9		6+14	12+8	16+4	18+2	17+3
11+9	2+18	7+13	3+17	1+19			8+11	12+7			19+1	14+6	8+12	18+2	6+14
3+17	11+9	13+7	12+8	14+6							15+5	2+18	8+12	16+4	5+15
4+16	9+11	1+19	7+13	6+7	11+2	2+11	3+10	14−1	17−4	5+8	10+3	17+3	19+1	8+12	5+15
11−5	14−8	7+13	15+5				13−8	11−6				18+2	3+17	13−7	15−9
4+16	17+3	12−6	14−8									13−7	11−5	16+4	6+14
9+11	12+8	19+1	13+7				14−9	12−7				1+19	2+18	11+9	14+6
8+12	6+14													19+1	18+2
11+9	16+4						13−8	11−6						5+15	15+5
1+19	14+6													4+16	2+18
9+11	17+3	12+8											3+17	7+13	13+7

5 Black

6 Brown

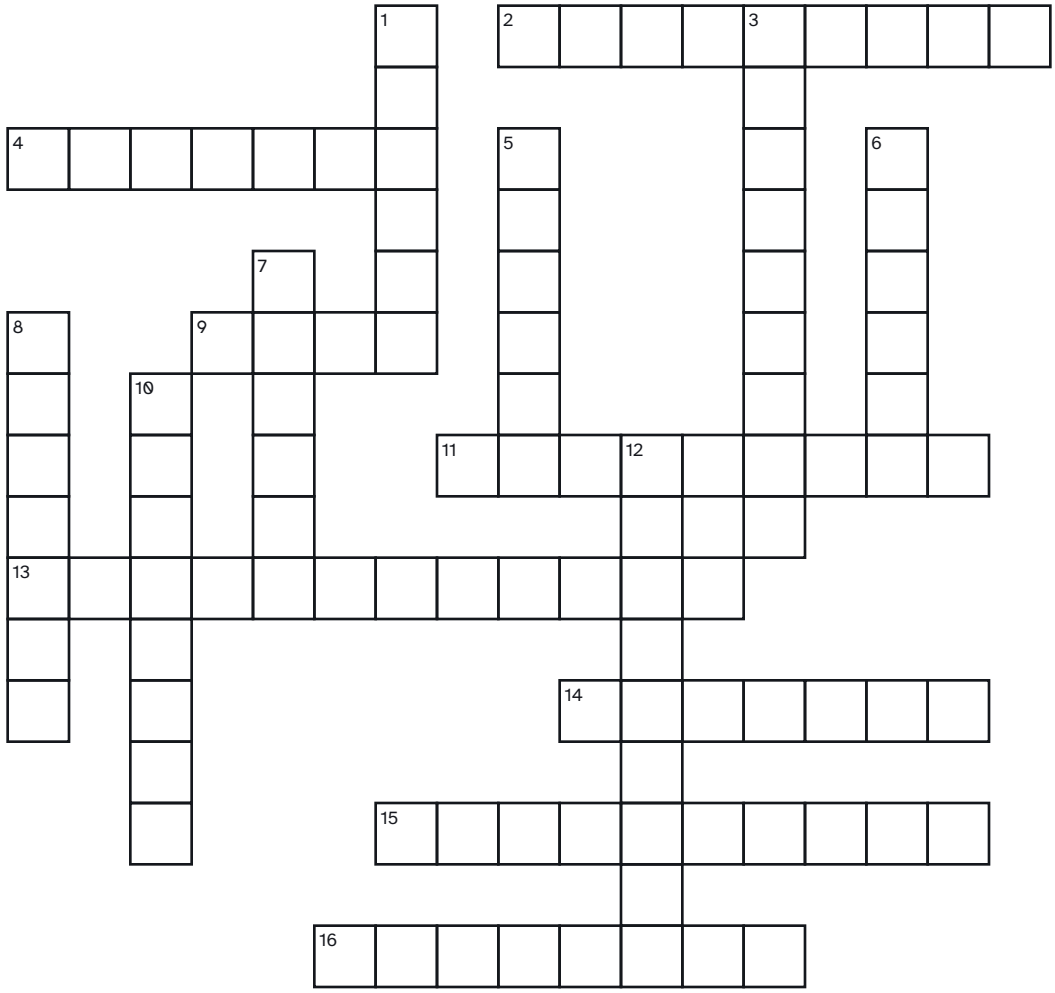
13 Red

19 Orange

20 Light Blue

Arctic Animals Crossword

Challenge · Read each clue and write the answer in the squares.



Across

2 Powerful raptor of the far north

4 Toothed sea mammal with one long tusk

9 Black and white hunter in family pods

11 White honker that breeds on the tundra (2 words)

13 Massive baleen giant that breaks sea ice (2 words)

14 Small rodent of the tundra

15 Seabird with the longest yearly migration (2 words)

16 Ice-breeding pinniped with white pups (2 words)

Down

1 White whale that chirps like a canary

3 Small canine whose fur turns white in winter (2 words)

5 Seabird with a parrot-like striped bill

6 Tusked giant that hauls out on ice

7 Stoat in its white winter coat

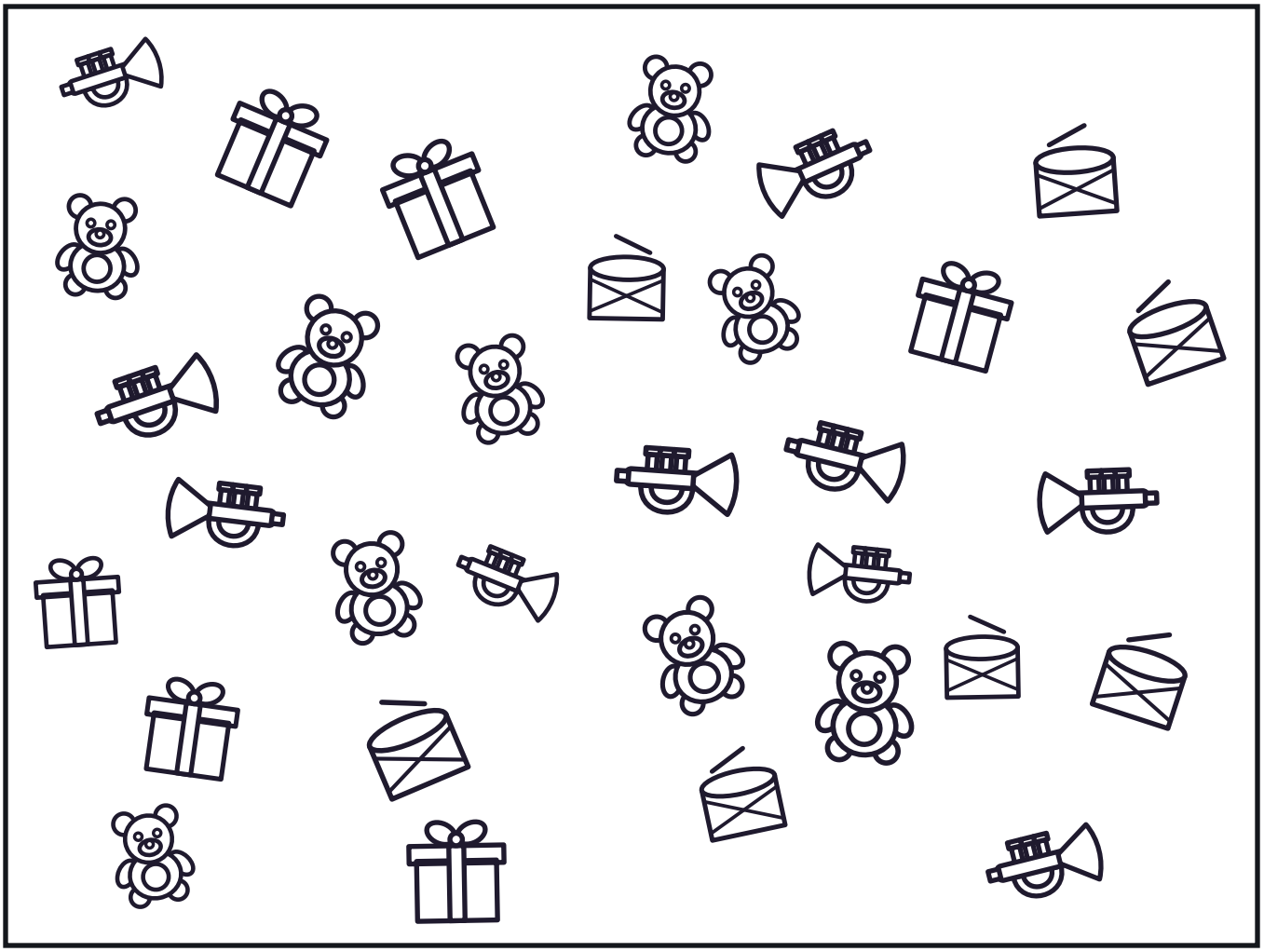
8 Antlered deer of the tundra

10 Big white bird of prey of the tundra (2 words)

12 Fierce, bear-like member of the weasel family

Santa's Workshop Seek and Count

Challenge · Find and count each picture, then write how many in its box.



How many teddy bears? ☐

How many presents? ☐

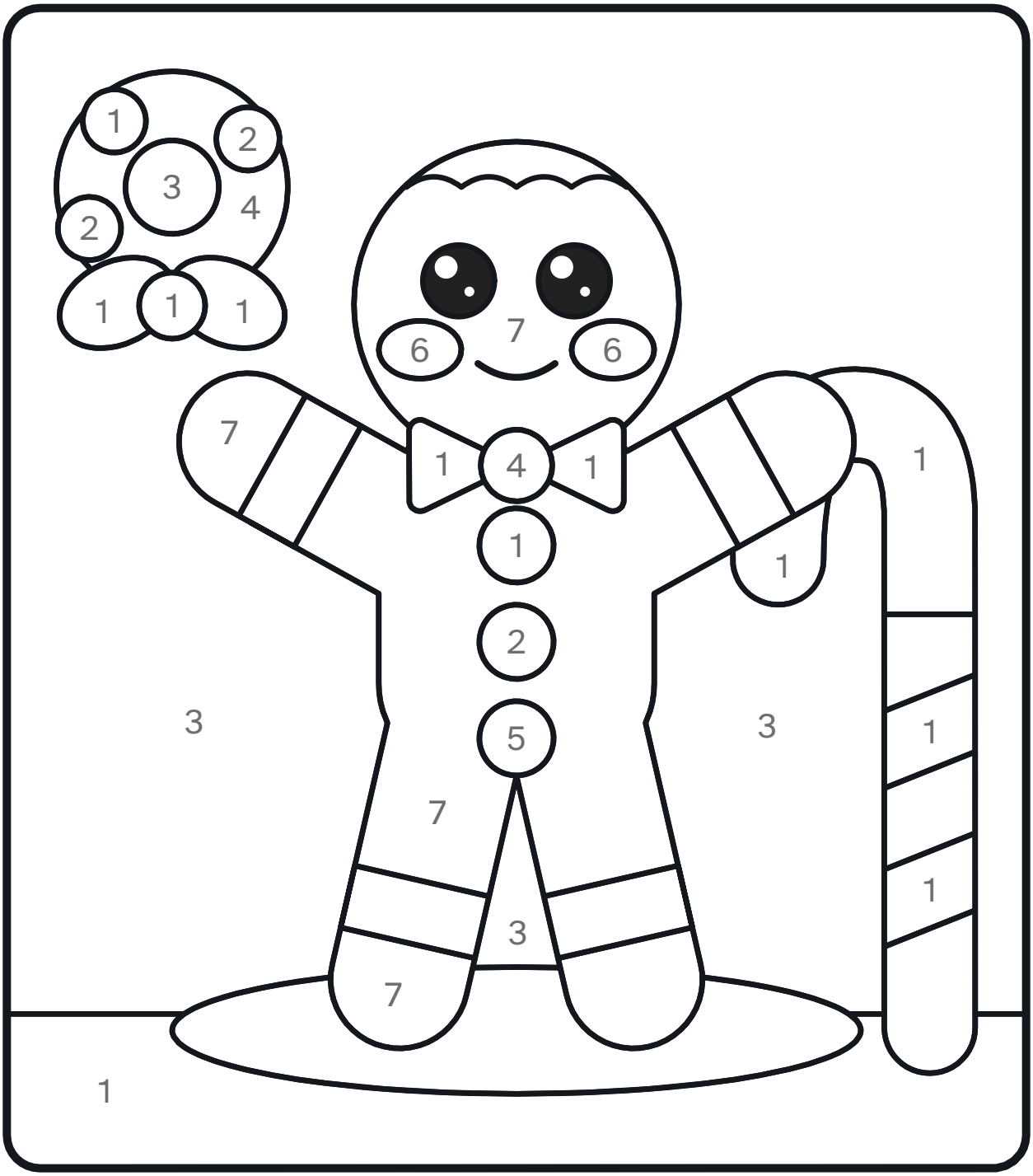
How many drums? ☐

How many trumpets? ☐

Gingerbread Kid

Name _____

Color by Number · Challenge · Color each space the color of its number.



1 Red	**2** Yellow	**3** Light Green	**4** Green
5 Blue	**6** Pink	**7** Brown	

Christmas Secret Code: Elf Music

Challenge · Secret Code

Each code letter stands for a different letter. Look it up in the key and write the real letter under it.

What kind of music do elves like best?

K F L C N E Y L

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

J A D Q S Z O T R

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

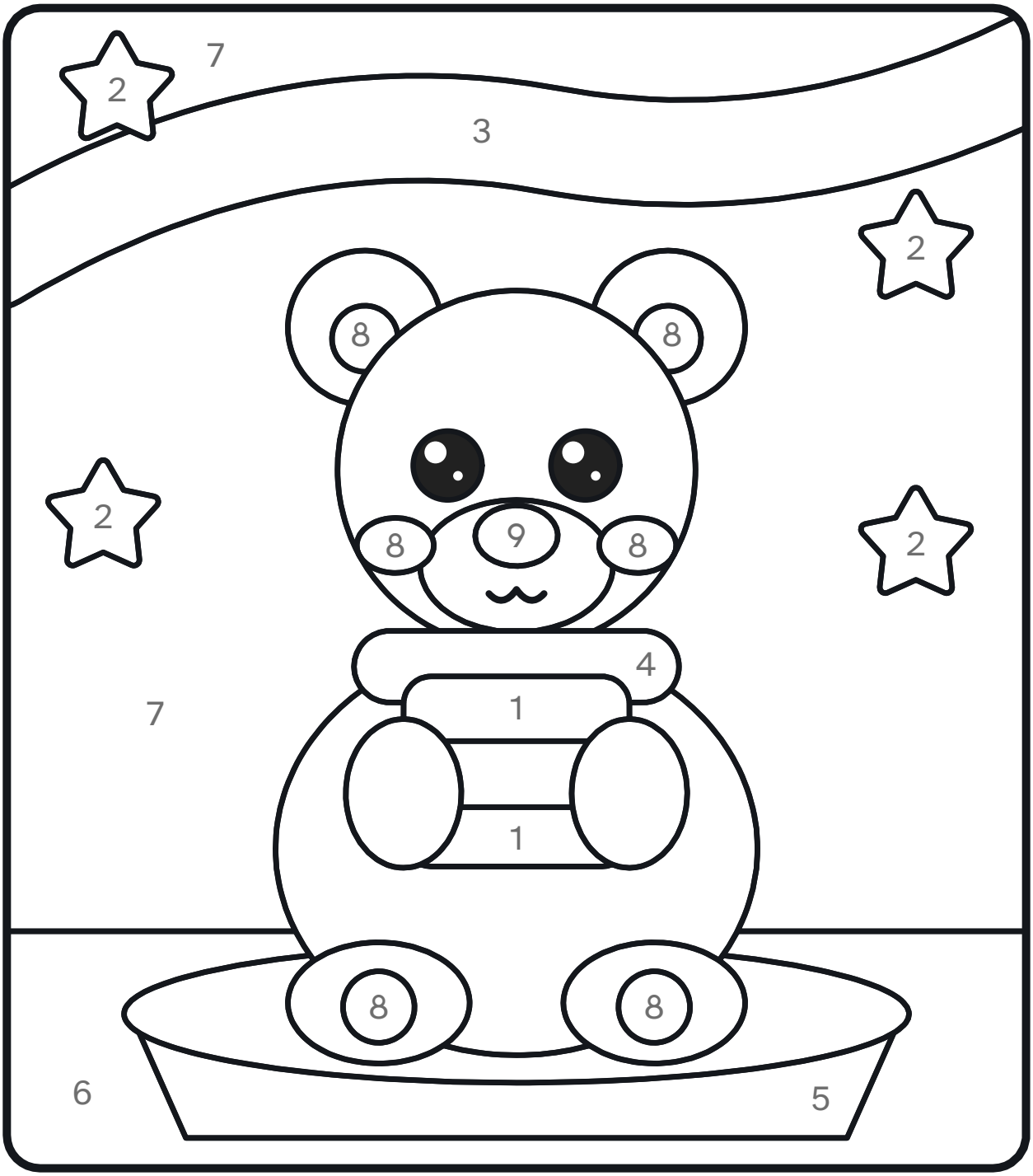
Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

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

Polar Bear Cub

Name _____

Color by Number · Challenge · Color each space the color of its number.



1 Red	**2** Yellow	**3** Light Green	**4** Green
5 Light Blue	**6** Blue	**7** Purple	**8** Pink
9 Black			

Christmas Morning Seek and Count

Challenge · Find and count each picture, then write how many in its box.



How many presents? ☐

How many candy canes? ☐

How many ornaments? ☐

How many stars? ☐

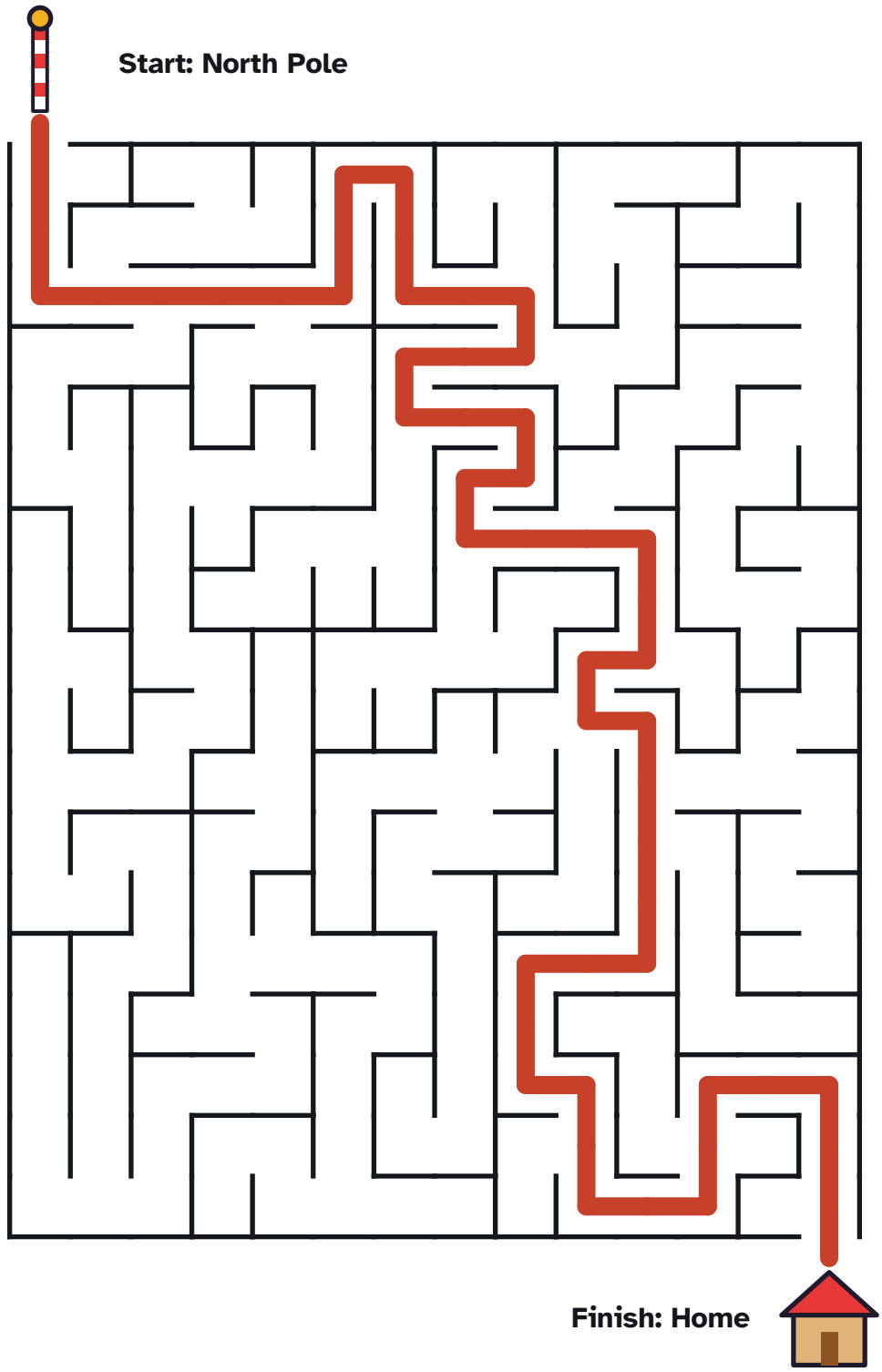
Answer key

Christmas Word Search



Solution

Sleigh Ride Maze



Answers

Christmas Secret Code: Reindeer Eyes

What happens to a reindeer's eyes in winter?

A	W	O	J	L		O	I	O	C
T	H	E	I	R		E	Y	E	S

A	X	L	E		S	L	M	V
T	U	R	N		F	R	O	M

Y	M	N	B		A	M		Z	N	X	O
G	O	L	D		T	O		B	L	U	E

THEIR EYES TURN FROM GOLD TO BLUE

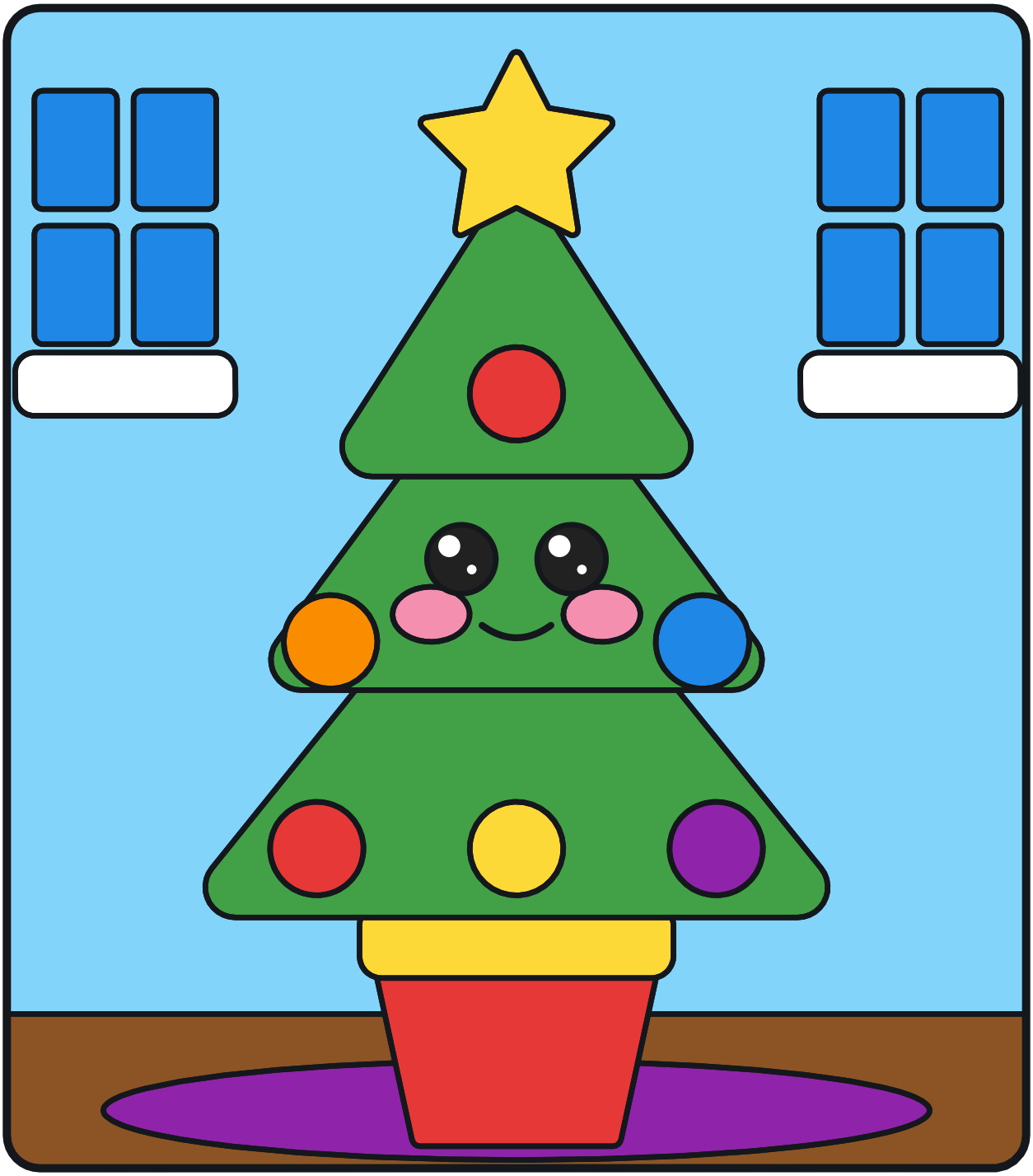
Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

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

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

Answer key

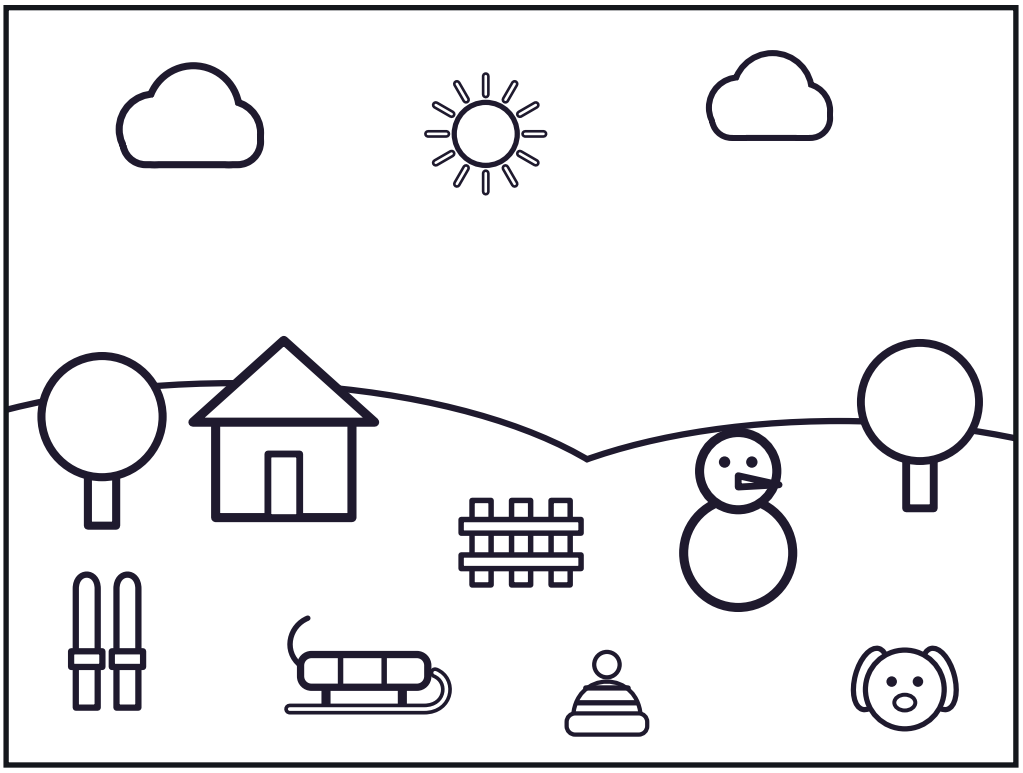
Happy Holiday Tree · Color by Number · Challenge

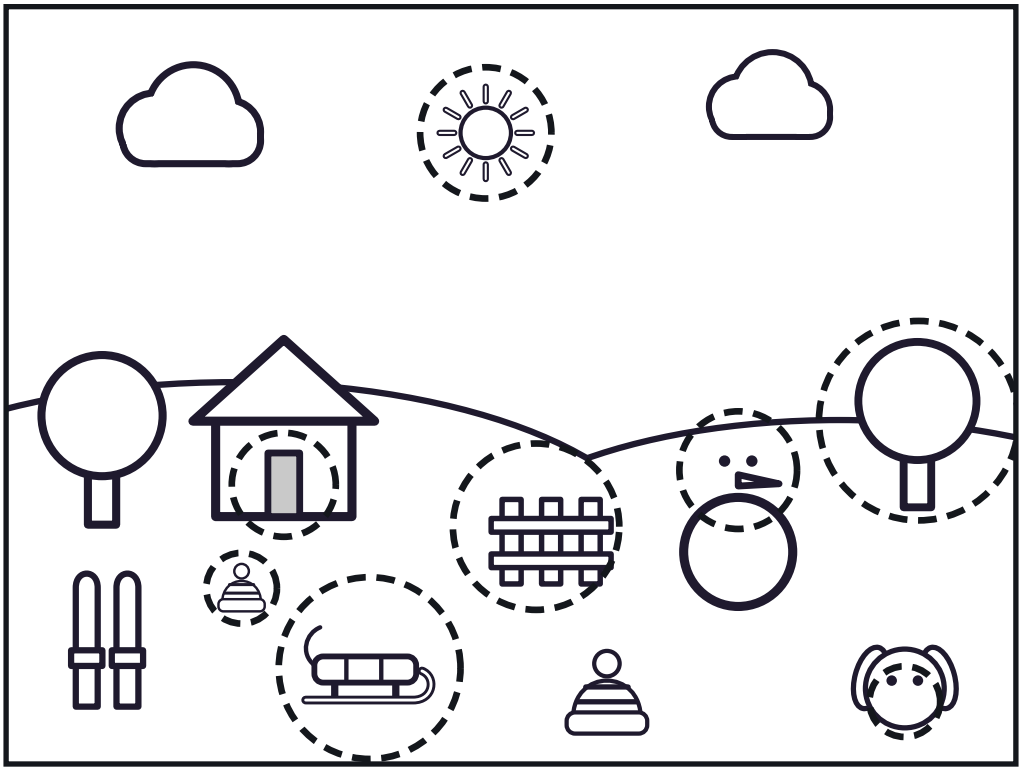


1 Red	**2** Orange	**3** Yellow	**4** Green
5 Light Blue	**6** Blue	**7** Purple	**8** Pink
9 Brown			

Answer key

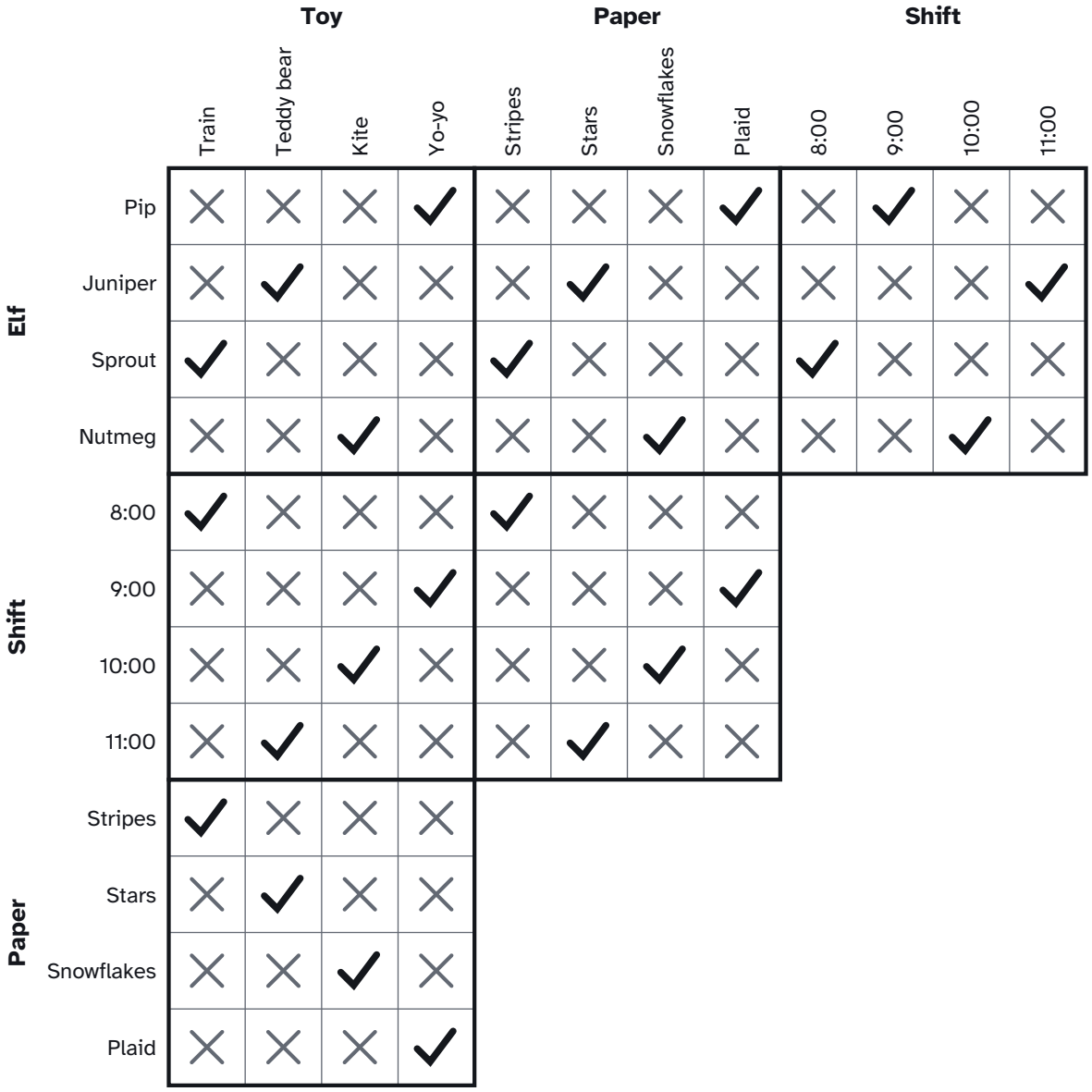
Snow Day Sledding Spot the Difference · 8 differences





Answers

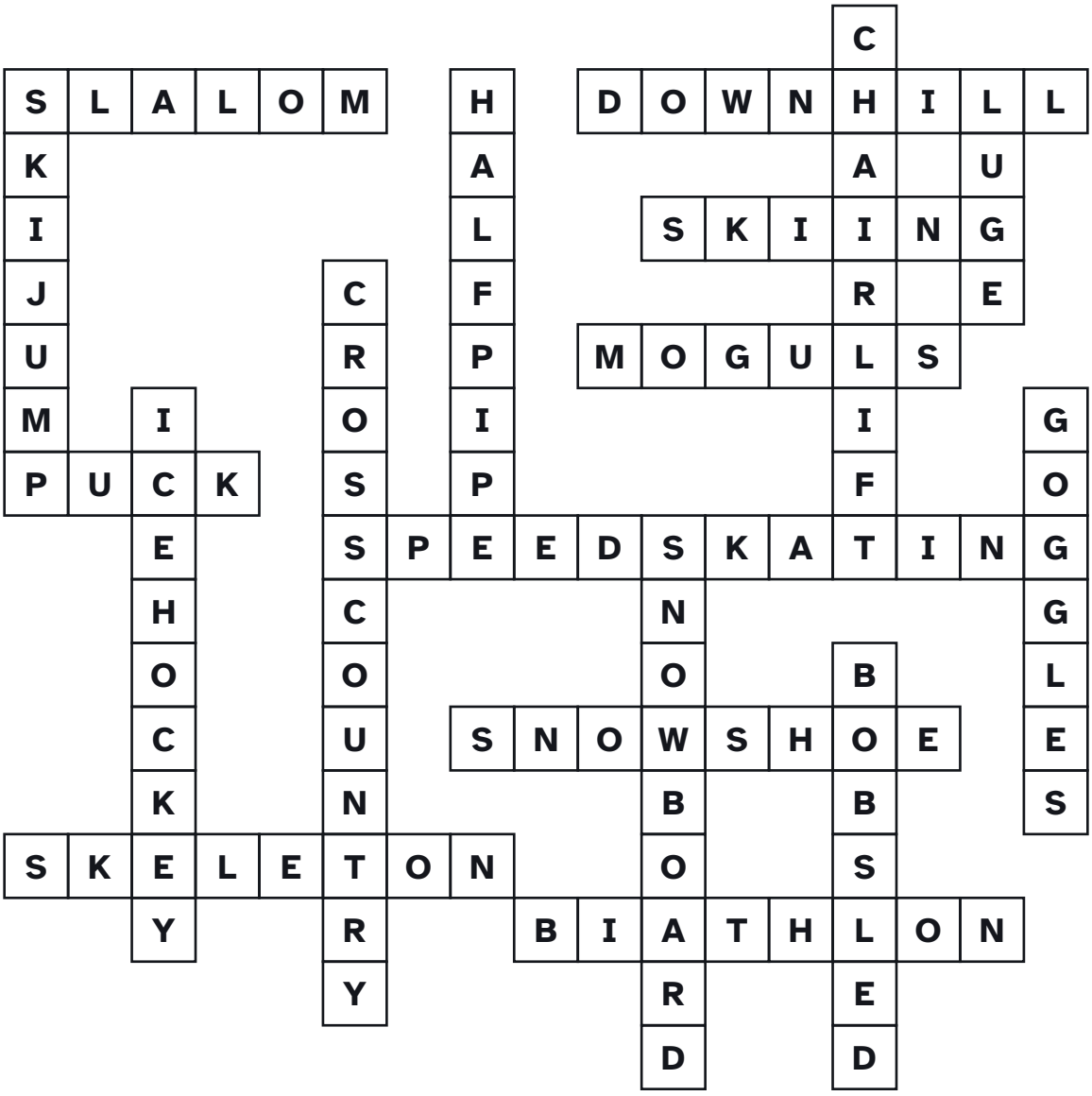
Workshop Elves



Elf	Toy	Paper	Shift
Pip	Yo-yo	Plaid	9:00
Juniper	Teddy bear	Stars	11:00
Sprout	Train	Stripes	8:00
Nutmeg	Kite	Snowflakes	10:00

Answers

Winter Sports Criss-Cross



Answers

Christmas Secret Code: Tree Needles

Why was the Christmas tree bad at knitting?

M	Y		U	J	K	Y
I	T		K	E	P	T

R	W	I	K	K	M	Q	T
D	R	O	P	P	I	N	G

M	Y	O		Q	J	J	R	A	J	O
I	T	S		N	E	E	D	L	E	S

IT KEPT DROPPING ITS NEEDLES

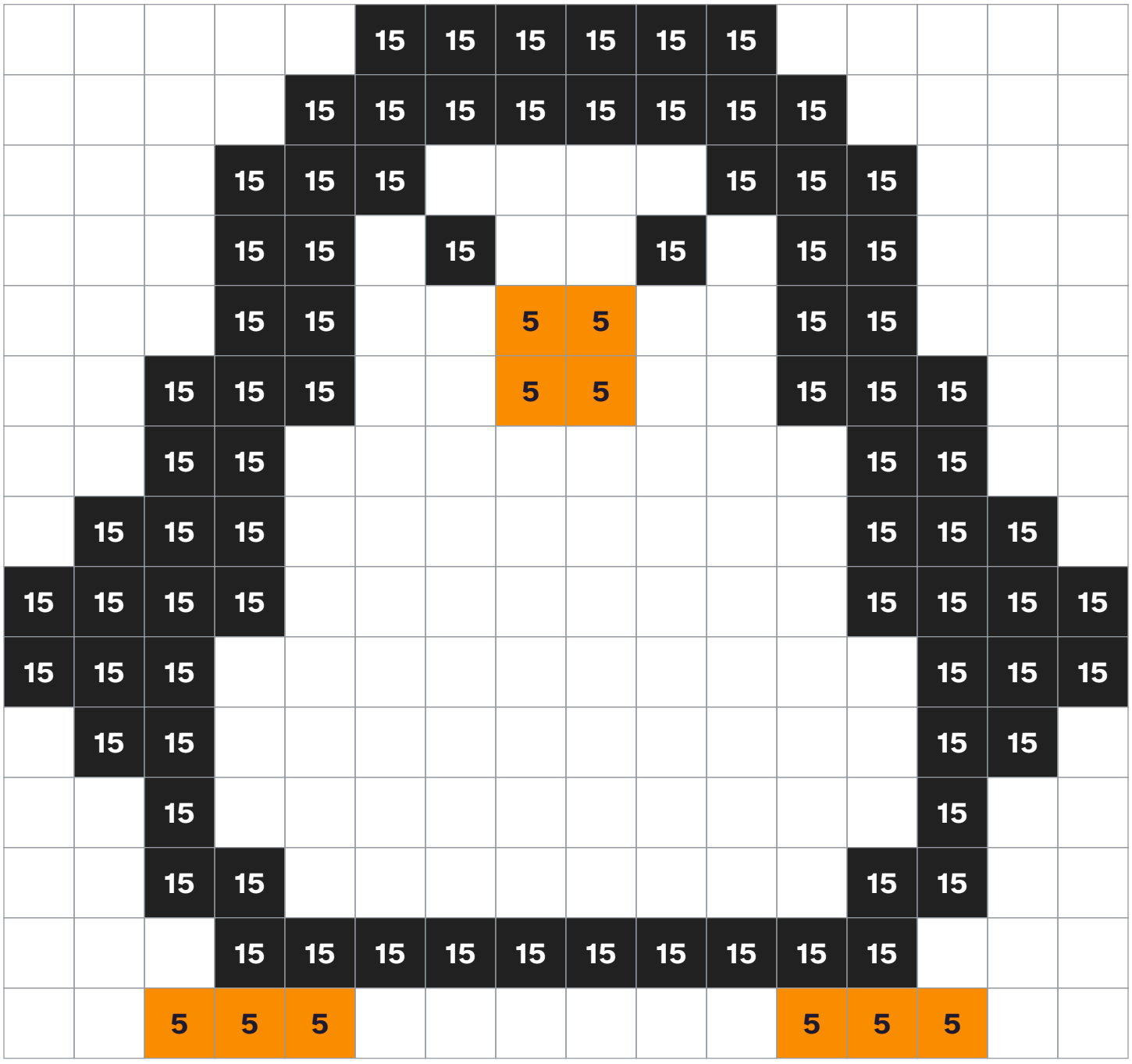
Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

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

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

Answer key

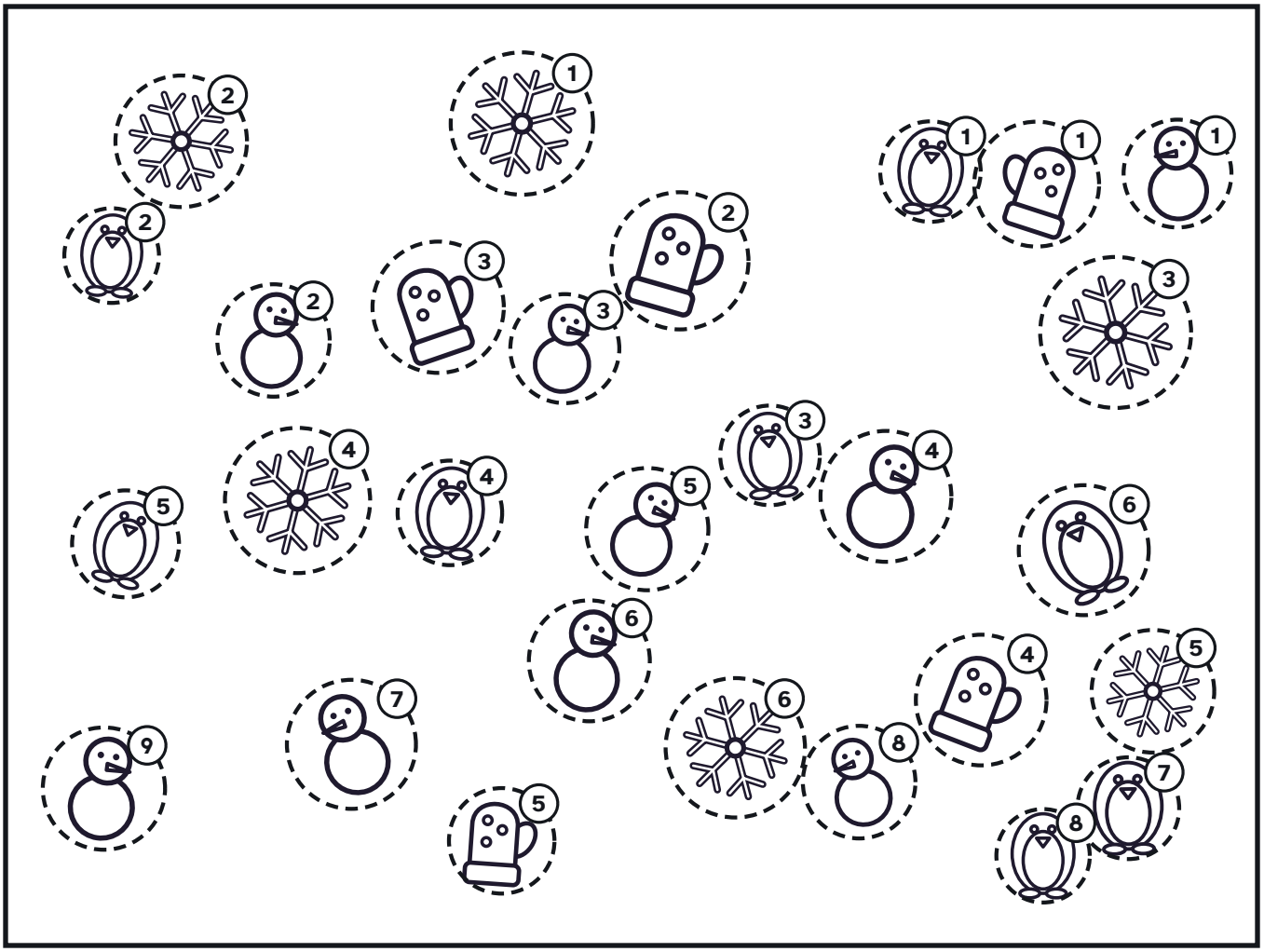
Penguin · Color by Math · Challenge · Addition and subtraction within 20



5 Orange	15 Black

Answer key

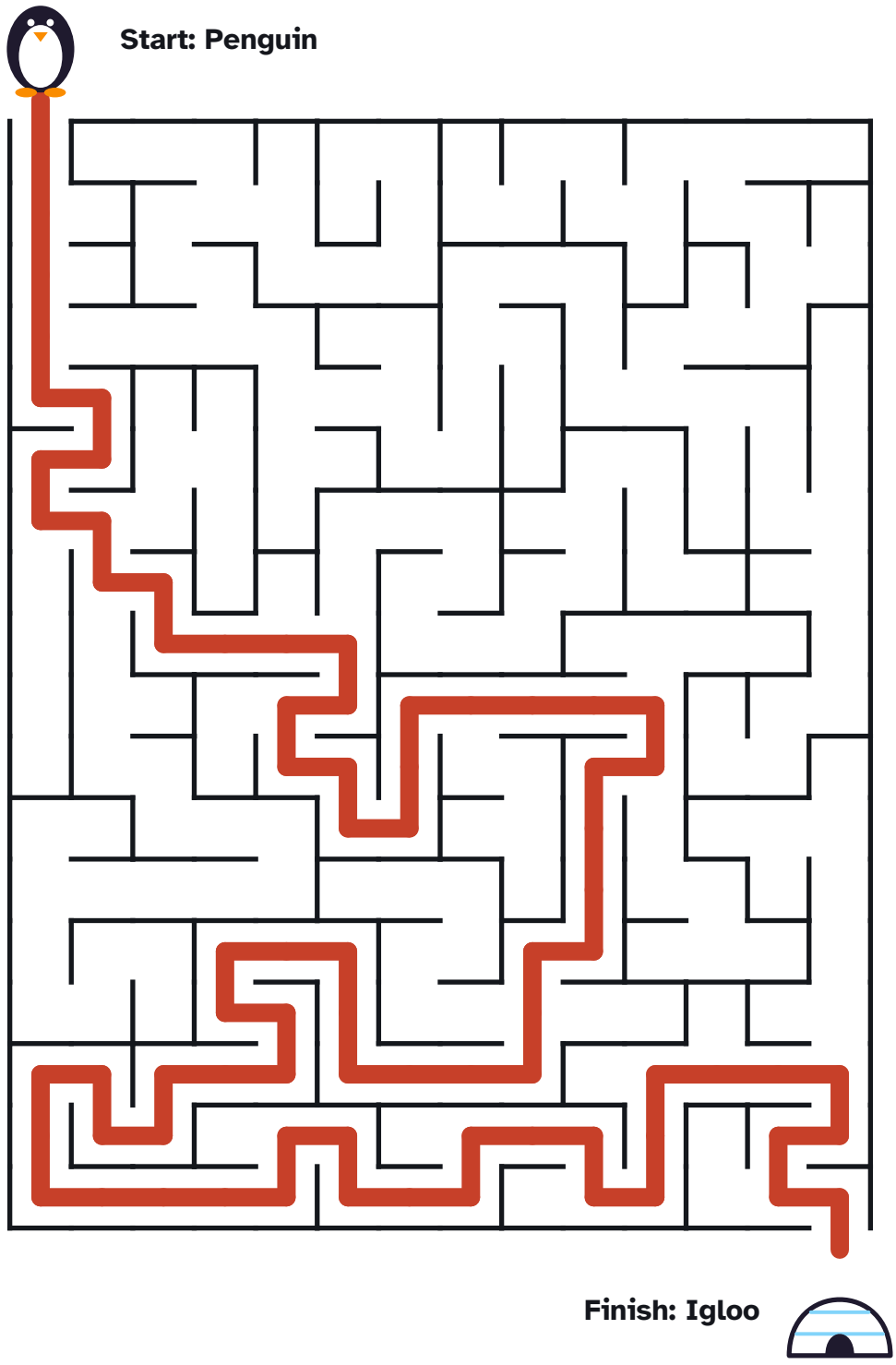
Snow Day Seek and Count · Each counted picture is circled and numbered.



How many snowflakes?	6	How many mittens?	5
How many snowmen?	9	How many penguins?	8

Solution

Penguin's Igloo Maze



Answers

Christmas Secret Code: Gingerbread Doctor

Why did the gingerbread man go to the doctor?

U D F V E

H E W A S

Z D D X N T I

F E E L I N G

K Q A B B P

C R U M M Y

HE WAS FEELING CRUMMY

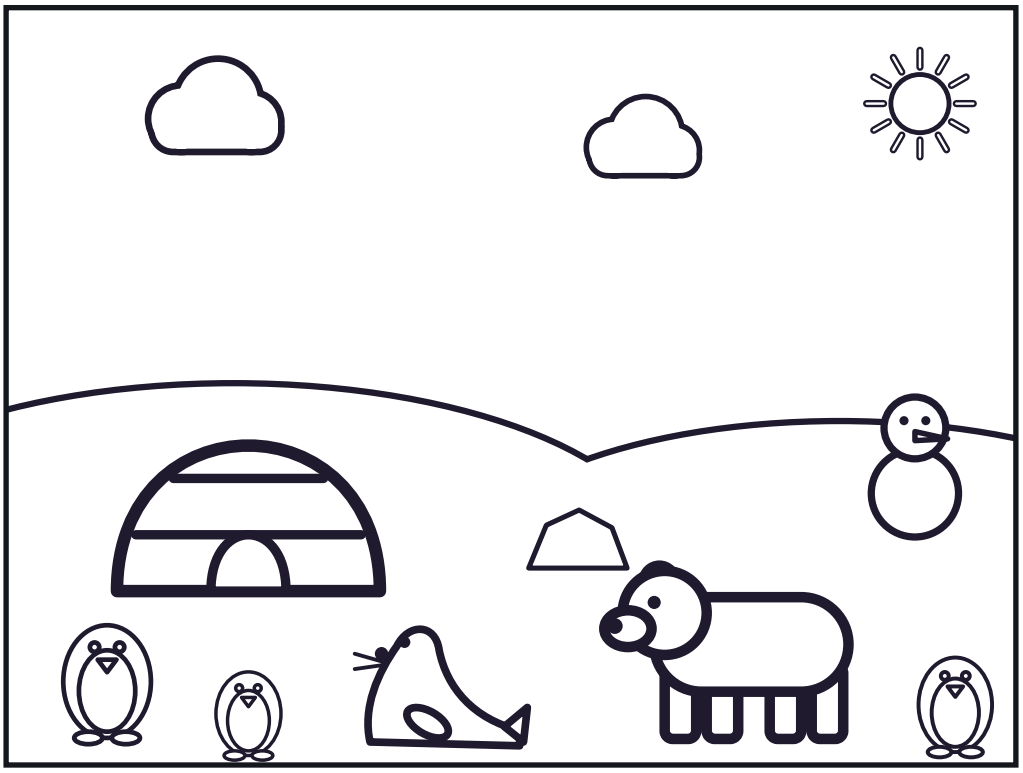
Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

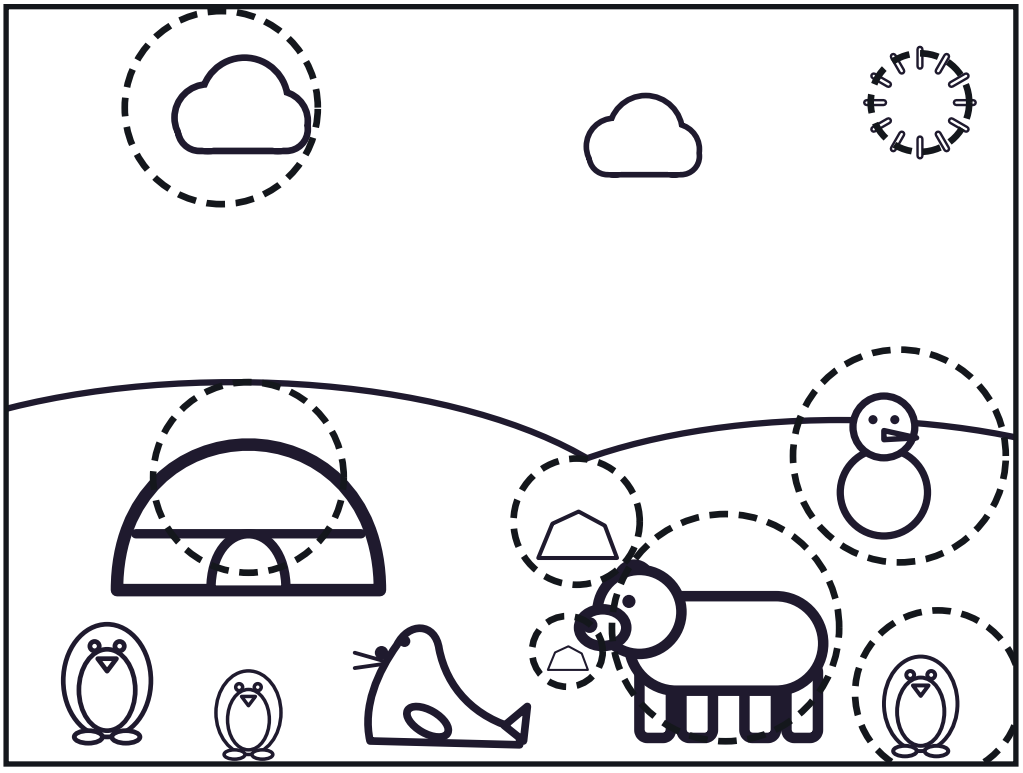
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
U	M	Q	E	S	W	Z	B	G	D	C	J	T

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
I	V	Y	R	P	O	N	H	A	K	L	X	F

Answer key

Polar Friends Spot the Difference · 8 differences





Answer key

Rosy Reindeer · Color by Number · Challenge



1 Red	**2** Orange	**3** Yellow	**4** Green
5 Light Blue	**6** Pink	**7** Brown	**8** Black

Answers

Christmas Cookie Swap

	Cookie				Line				Sprinkles			
	Gingerbread	Sugar	Snickerdoodle	Thumbprint	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Red	Green	Gold	White
Kid												
Elena	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Brody	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Amara	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Finn	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Sprinkles												
Red	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗				
Green	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗				
Gold	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓				
White	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗				
Line												
1st	✗	✗	✗	✓								
2nd	✗	✗	✓	✗								
3rd	✓	✗	✗	✗								
4th	✗	✓	✗	✗								

Kid	Cookie	Line	Sprinkles
Elena	Thumbprint	1st	White
Brody	Snickerdoodle	2nd	Red
Amara	Sugar	4th	Gold
Finn	Gingerbread	3rd	Green

Answers

Christmas Cookies Word Scramble

1. B W I O M L X N I G — MIXING BOWL
2. U G R O S N R W A B — BROWN SUGAR
3. G I N I C — ICING
4. I L R S P N E K S — SPRINKLES
5. A G E S N G R P I N — GINGERSNAP
6. V O T T E N M I — OVEN MITT
7. A A P T U S L — SPATULA
8. I F T N O R G S — FROSTING
9. N I O A C N M N — CINNAMON
10. I P T N E R E M P P — PEPPERMINT

Answers

Christmas Secret Code: Snowman Breakfast

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

O N U S U D O

T H E Y E A T

V I B Z O U Y

F R O S T E D

V P D Q U Z

F L A K E S

THEY EAT FROSTED FLAKES

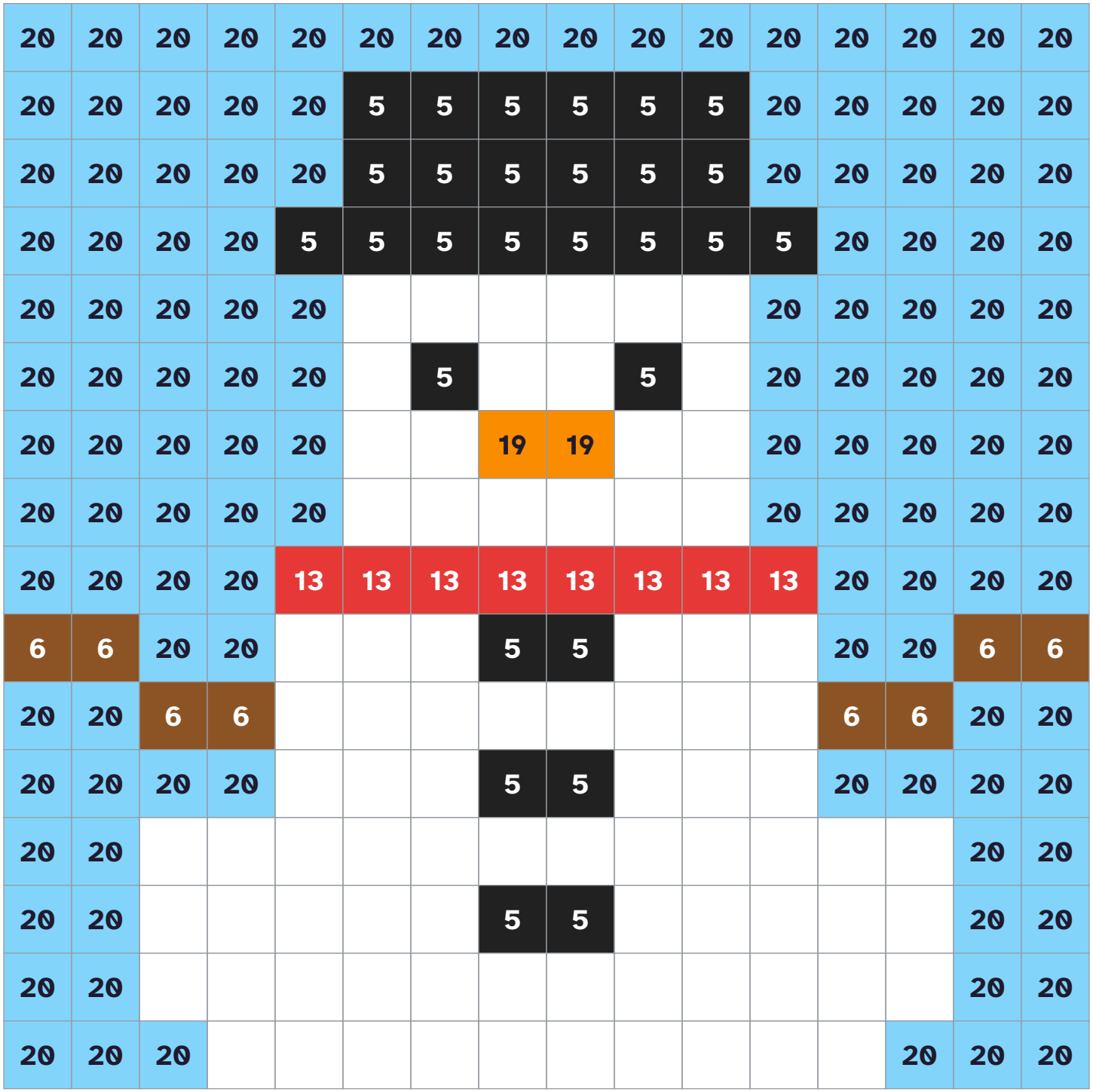
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A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
V	O	I	A	W	Q	Z	B	R	N	M	G	X

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

Answer key

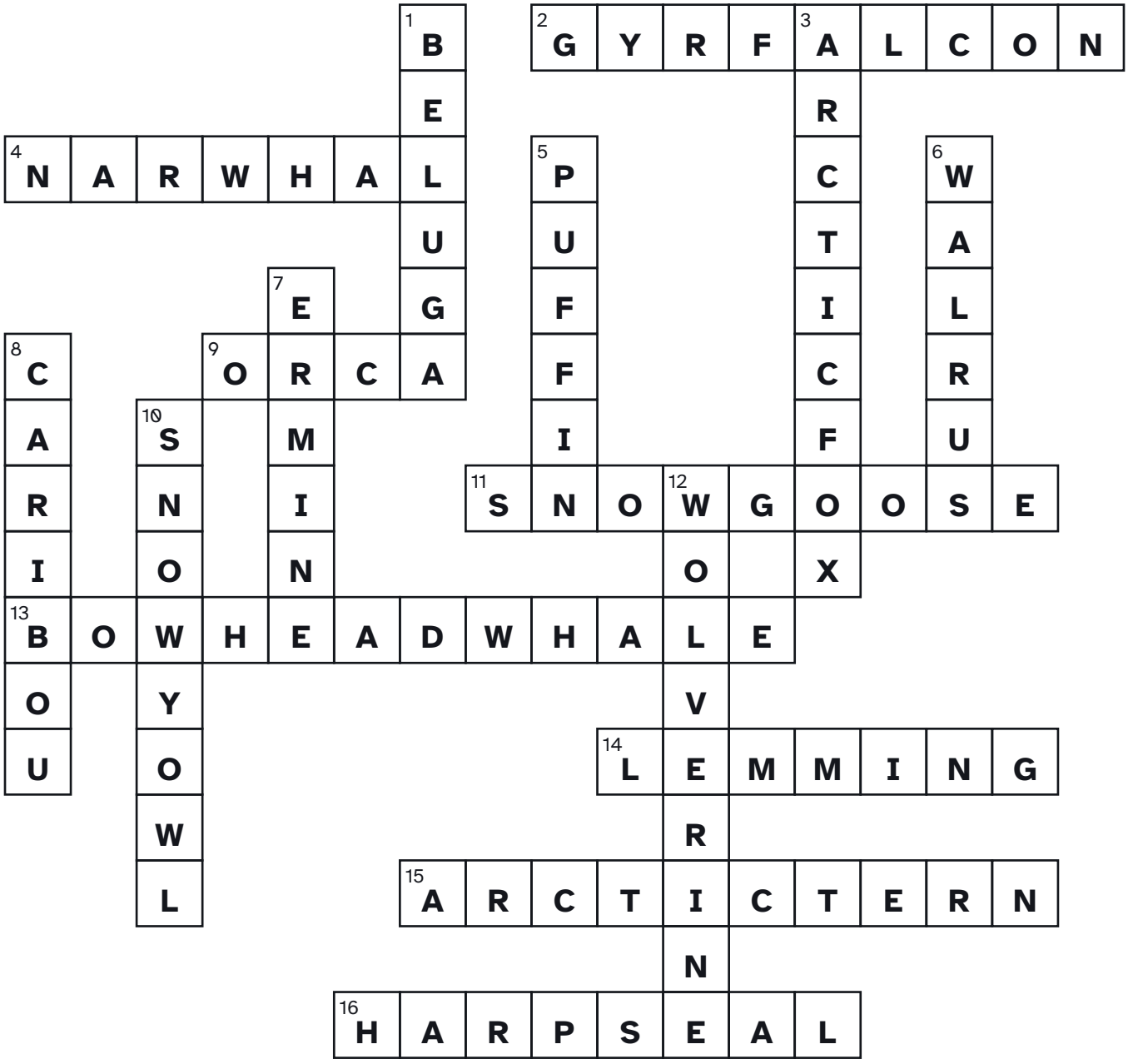
Snowman · Color by Math · Challenge · Addition and subtraction within 20



5 Black	6 Brown	13 Red	19 Orange
20 Light Blue			

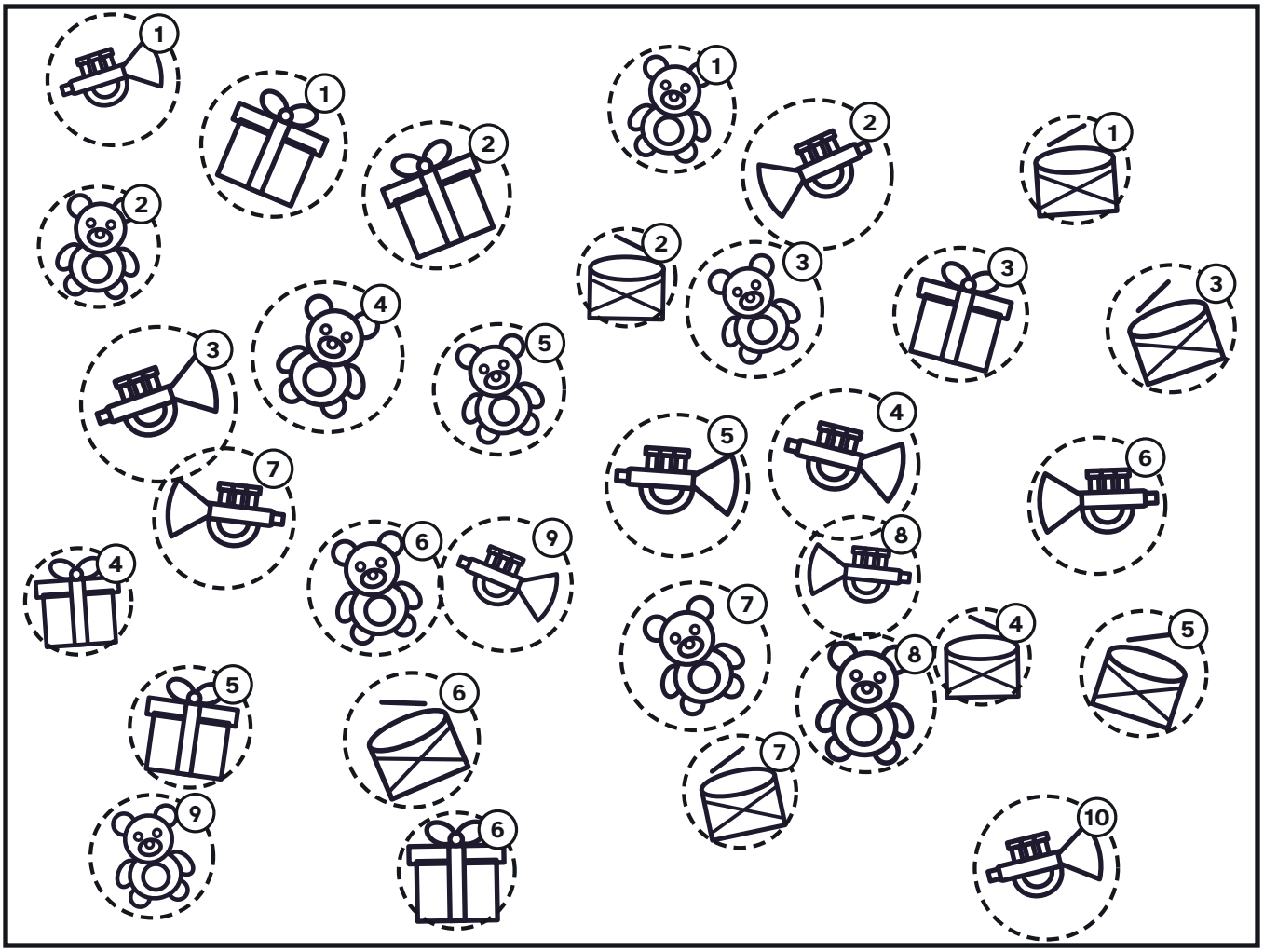
Answers

Arctic Animals Crossword



Answer key

Santa's Workshop Seek and Count · Each counted picture is circled and numbered.



How many teddy bears?	9	How many presents?	6
How many drums?	7	How many trumpets?	10

Answer key

Gingerbread Kid · Color by Number · Challenge



1 Red	2 Yellow	3 Light Green	4 Green
5 Blue	6 Pink	7 Brown	

Answers

Christmas Secret Code: Elf Music

What kind of music do elves like best?

K F L C N E Y L

T H E Y L O V E

J A D Q S Z O T R

W R A P M U S I C

THEY LOVE WRAP MUSIC

Key: each code letter over the letter it stands for

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

Answer key

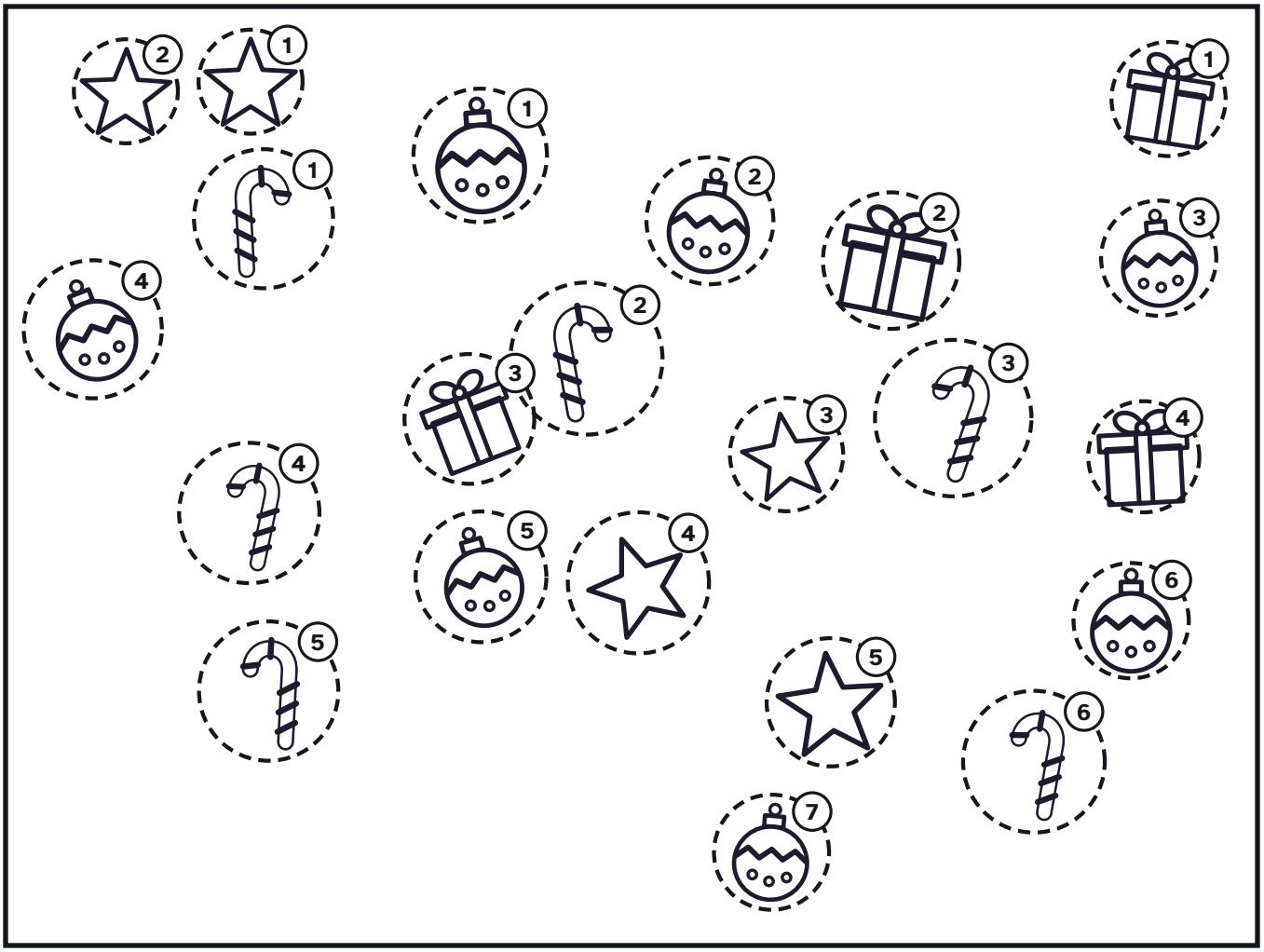
Polar Bear Cub · Color by Number · Challenge



1 Red	**2** Yellow	**3** Light Green	**4** Green
5 Light Blue	**6** Blue	**7** Purple	**8** Pink
9 Black			

Answer key

Christmas Morning Seek and Count · Each counted picture is circled and numbered.



How many presents?	4	How many candy canes?	6
How many ornaments?	7	How many stars?	5