Santa's candy cane hunt: setup sheet



1. **Hide the new book first.** Slide it in between the books on a low shelf. The last card goes with it.
2. **Use the order below.** It follows the story, so keep the cards in this order.
3. **Hide each card where the card before it sends them.** The gray strip on every card says where the next card goes.
4. **Hand over the first card and cheer.** Little ones need you right beside them.

The order

	Card	Hide it here
☐	**Start card**	Hand it over to start the hunt
☐	**Clue 1: leads to the chair**	Hand it over with the start card
☐	**Clue 2: leads to the window sill**	Chair, on the seat
☐	**Clue 3: leads to the sock drawer**	Window, on a low sill, window closed
☐	**Clue 4: leads to the boots**	Inside the sock drawer
☐	**Clue 5: leads to the Christmas tree**	Inside one of the boots
☐	**Clue 6: leads to the toy box**	Christmas tree, under the branches, by the pot
☐	**Clue 7: leads to the coat pocket**	Toy box, on the lid
☐	**Clue 8: leads to the bookshelf**	Coat, inside a pocket
☐	**Last card**	Bookshelf, between the books, with the new book

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Free for home and classroom use. Share it with a friend.

This sheet has a secret. Scan it.
Printed it? It does more on a phone or tablet.

Santa's candy cane hunt

cut

Cut along the dashed lines. Hide each card where the card before it sends them.

A note from Santa



Ho ho, hello! It's Santa. One Christmas Eve,
a girl ran after my balloon. Can you believe?

Now follow my rhymes. There are eight, one by one,
and a present waits at the end. What fun!

To: _____

Clue 1

That night, she sat out on a bench in the snow.
It turned to an ice cube! Brrr! Where should she go?

Stuck? Try this one:

Four legs and a back, by the table inside.
Look on its seat, where my clue likes to hide!

For grown-ups: this card leads to the chair. Hide the next card on the seat.

Clue 2

She spotted my red balloon, sailing up high.
Where in your house can you look at the sky?

Stuck? Try this one:

It's made out of glass, and it keeps out the snow.
Look on its ledge, where the clue's waiting, down low!

For grown-ups: this card leads to the window sill. Hide the next card on a low sill, window closed.

Clue 3

A candy cane swung from my balloon, red and white.
What else can be stripy, and hug your feet tight?

Stuck? Try this one:

They sleep in a drawer, rolled up two by two.
Open the sock drawer! A clue waits for you.

For grown-ups: this card leads to the sock drawer. Hide the next card inside the sock drawer.

Clue 4

She ran for the Golden Mountains, all through the snow.
What would keep YOUR toes dry, wherever you go?

Stuck? Try this one:

They stand by the door in a pair, left and right.
Look inside one, down in the toe, out of sight!

For grown-ups: this card leads to the boots. Hide the next card inside one of the boots.

Clue 5

Gold bubbles came out of my balloon, round and bright,
like ornaments. Where do yours hang, full of light?

Stuck? Try this one:

It's green all December, with a star on its top.
Look under its branches, by the pot. That's your stop!

For grown-ups: this card leads to the Christmas tree. Hide the next card under the branches, by the pot. On the floor by the pot, away from the lights and the cables.

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Clue 6

My snowmen sing songs while they make all the toys,
in a place that's a secret. Shh! Don't make a noise!

Stuck? Try this one:

Where do your own toys go to sleep for the night?
Look on the lid of their box, not inside. That's right!

For grown-ups: this card leads to the toy box. Hide the next card on the lid. Not inside, because lids can slam.

Clue 7

I once pulled a whole sleigh from a pocket so small!
How did it fit? I won't tell you at all!

Stuck? Try this one:

You zip it up tight when you go out to play.
Check in its pockets! Your clue's tucked away.

For grown-ups: this card leads to the coat pocket. Hide the next card inside a pocket.

Clue 8

I gave her a present, a little glass box.
Yours is a story, and it's not in a box!

Stuck? Try this one:

Where do your books stand up, side by side, in a row?
Look in between them, on a shelf that is low!

For grown-ups: this card leads to the bookshelf. Hide the next card between the books.

Last card



You found the book!

You found it! You followed my rhymes to the end,
as brave as that girl in the snow, my friend!

Now snuggle up close for a story or two.
Ho ho! Merry Christmas from me to you!

★ ★ ★

Super Sleuth Award

This certificate goes to

_____

for solving every clue in the candy cane hunt

Date: _____

Clue ____

Tricky clue

_____

_____

draw it

Easy clue

_____

_____

For grown-ups: this card leads to _____. Hide the next card _____.

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