



LAPLAND



LAPLAND ELVES MANUAL



Sketch One: Naughty or Nice?

Christmassy music playing. On stage is the completed Naughty or Nice list with a sign that says 'DO NOT TOUCH', around it.

Bob enters whistling, very happy about that it's Christmas. Notices audience when at centre stage and double takes. Pauses. Reverses back up and walks back in and double takes to audience again. Repeats action but this time in slo-mo, reverses back and then to centre stage and double takes. All exaggerated features.

Jumps into pose, both arms up in the air.

Bob: Are none of you excited that it's almost Christmas? Right, I'm going to try walking in again and I want you to cheer as loud as you can, when I put my hands up in the air, like I just don't care, because it's almost Christmas. Ok, here we go.

Walks off and back on stage. Teases audience with putting hands up but doesn't, slowly raises up but not fully, then finally springs them up in the air and the audience cheer.

It's Christmas!!!

Dances on the spot saying 'it's Christmas' over and over again. Silly dancing/moves.

Silly me, there's me being all full of Christmas cheer, without knowing you little reindeer's, so I'm going to shout 'hiya everyone' and I want you to shout 'hiya' back, ok? But before I do this extra big hiya, I'm going to need to warm up.

Performs a range of stretches and then finishes in a zen position with eyes closed and blows a raspberry.

(said softly) I am ready! (spins around on the spot and explodes into...)

HIYA EVERYONE!

Hopefully only a few/nobody shouts hiya/hiya bob.

What was that? You only said 'hiya' not 'hiya bob' *(deep gasp inwardly)*
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO I AM.

Bob breaks down into tears. And pulls different coloured silk handkerchiefs from different pockets to blow nose/wipe tears away. Some can be hidden on the set too. One can be in a grown-ups pocket, that is hidden in palm of Bob's hand, so looks like it is removed from their pocket. Offer it back to guest, they say no etc. (snaps out of it)

Oh wait, that's because I haven't told you who I am yet. Sometimes I can be a right plum pudding. My name is... *(thinks)* ... Candy Cane? No that's my best friend in the whole of Lapland.

(thinks again, pulls red nose out of pocket and puts it on their nose)
Rudolph? *(laughs)* I'm not Rudolph. My name is Bob Cane! But you can call me just Bob, not just Bob, just comma Bob. Wait no, not just comma Bob, I mean Bob. Just Bob, but without the just. Let's give this a go. When I shout 'Hiya everyone' I want you to shout 'Hiya Bob'. Here we go.

Builds up excitement and explodes into...

Hiya everyone!

Audience respond.

Ah that's much better. That fills me up with festive joy, happiness and...
(notices the 'Do Not Touch' sign)

Ooooooh is that what I think it is? *(walks over to go and pick it up, freezes mid action, then reads the sign)* Do not touch. Do, not, touch...
(repeats the phrase over and over a few times, exaggerating different words each time, adding in commas in the wrong place etc)

Bob walks away from the sign and stands other side of the stage and keeps looking at it. Using imaginary binoculars, looking high at it, looking low etc.

Nope, Santa said, no one can touch the Naughty or Nice list. It's the most important list in the world and if it ever got ruined then how would Santa know who belonged on which side of the list. Better to just leave it where it is, nobody touch it. Not you, not Santa, not Candy Cane.... *(thinks)* maybe Bob.

Slapstick routine where Bob goes to touch the list but changes his mind. Moving forward then back, saying 'no' to himself. Questioning whether Bob should etc. Leading with his finger to go and touch it etc, then knees. Making it a physical action and reaction every time.

(asks audience) Do you think I should take a look? Yeah? No! The sign does say Do... not, not touch...touch, do!

Approaches again and is just about too but turns away at the very last moment.

But wait, I need to know which list I am on. What if I'm on the naughty list? Who thinks I might be on the naughty list? Put your hands up in the air.

I do have very stinky elf stocks so that might be why. But I can change those, for less stinky ones. But I also might be on the nice list, because I am as nice as a chocolate cake slice.

So I should really take a look!

Bob goes over and tries to look around it, over it, through it. But gets frustrated as can't see all the names etc.

I know, maybe if I hold it carefully, sit down with it on my lap, without moving and be as still as an elf frozen in ice... (*speaks out the side of mouth*) then everything should be ok. (*Change of thought*) Ooooh I could have a proper look through for all of you and see which list you are on too. Be a detective elf on the hunt for naughty or nice names. This is going to take a while so I better get a cup of my favourite drink, hot chocolate to help me focus.

Bob gets a cup of hot chocolate, finds a chair and sets them up centre stage. Then slowly approaches the naughty or nice list and focuses on taking it off the stand. Maybe uses one of his handkerchiefs again to wipe brow, comment it has tinsel boggies on etc.

Got it!

Bob heads back over to the chair and picks up the hot chocolate. But now realises he can't move the chair into position, so puts down the list, moves the chair back and sits on the chair. Now the list is too far away. So puts the hot chocolate down to the side and gets up to get the list and pulls the chair forward and sits down. Now the hot chocolate is too far away. So gets up and puts the list next to the hot chocolate and comes back to slide the chair back to where the list and hot chocolate are.

In doing so, as Bob is looking to the audience and apologising it is taking so long, knocks over the hot chocolate and quickly picks up the list and shows audience (the side that was facing the ground) and it has hot chocolate spilt all over it – now unreadable.

Oh no, oh no, OH NO!! (*moving the list further away from Bob's face, every time 'oh no' is said*)

I've ruined the naughty or nice list. I knew there was a reason why it said 'do not touch' on it. It should have said 'do not touch it Bob' Why didn't any of you warn me not to touch it?

Audience hopefully respond.

You did? You sure? Well I didn't hear you and now Santa's naughty or nice list is ruined, how is he going to tell who to give presents to. I'm in so much trouble. Always read the warning signs, always read the labels, do not tumble dry, always listen to the signs!

Bob places the sign on a clipboard so now audience can't see the other side.

There must be a way to cleaning off this hot chocolate and putting back the naughty or nice list without anyone knowing! Right? Without anyone knowing, that includes Santa and Candy Cane, it'll be our teenie tiny secret. So what can we do?

Bob paces up and down and thinks. Every time a new idea pops into their head, they shake their head and carry on pacing. Repeat a few times.

Maybe I can use some elf magic to make it disappear. That can solve any problem, surely hot chocolate spillages. So I need your help to create lots of elf magic, and to do this you can either stand up or stay where you are but copy my actions. And there's a rhyme too, it goes like this...

Shake shake shake your body and your arms to get the magic going,
Wave your hands up high and grab the clouds before it starts snowing,
Now turn your hands round and around to mix the magic together,
Throw it at the list to remove the stain forever!

Audience throw the magic at the list and nothing happens. Bob slowly pulls out a handkerchief, pretends to lick it and wipe away the stain. Nothing happens.

Oh it didn't work. I still can't read who is on the naughty or nice list.
This is all my fault.

Another idea.

I know! Maybe we need even more magic to clear the hot chocolate off and to do that, I have a few ideas.

To create magic isn't just about thinking magical thoughts or rhyming words or using elf magical powers, which we all do have.

Produces a red handkerchief and performs an illusion where a red cane emerges from it.

See I told you we were magical.

Takes bow, etc and then realises the problem still at hand.

Wait no, we don't need this type of magic, we need the magic created through very precise, technical methods that only elves and mini elves and anyone who wants to be an elf, willing to help an elf can create. The type of magic that will remove this hot chocolate stain. Otherwise... *(pointing to children)* you, you and you, might be on the nice list. *(stage whisper)* which I think you might be. But *(pointing to adults)* you, you and you might be on the naughty list. We just don't know until we remove this hot chocolate.

Now goes into a bit more improvised section. Basically the children and adults help Bob build up the magic-o-meters through a variety of different methods.

So are you willing to help me create some magical energy?

Repeat if not excited. Wait for audience response.

To get our magic-o-meters up to capacity there are a few things we can try. Approved by the justice or elves and the highest ranked person of Christmas, Santa. These are official methods of creating magical energy.

First up, we need to shake our arms... then shake our legs... then shake our bums... then shake our whole booooooiiiiieesss.

Method one, we need to dance.

Music if possible but if not not essential, Bob dances around, performing different moves etc getting the children to copy.

Method two, we need to sing!

Bob, children and adults, sing a verse or chorus of 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree'

Let's check the hot chocolate stain, oh no it's still there. I'll try wiping it again!

This time Bob wipes more vigorously, starting to shake as he does.

Yeah! That might help let's all shake the hot chocolate, shake shake shake!! Be as wibbly wobbly as you can.

Everyone copies.

It's still there!! Maybe if we spin it around really fast the hot chocolate will fly off. Everyone either turn their hands around or spin carefully on the spot.

Everyone follows. Bob spins the clipboard with the list on around.

Right, method three! This surely has to work, say sweet things to the hot chocolate stain so it'll feel nice and melt away. Sugar canes, lollipops, icy poles and lemon drops!

Still nothing.

Oh nothing is working and I've gone through three proven magical methods that always work! *(Bob is saddened)* There's only one thing left, I'm going to have to google who has been naughty or nice!

Bob goes to walk away and has a thought before they leave.

Wait a jack frost minute! I don't need to use google... *(breaks out of a moment)* not that it can be a trusted way of deciding who is naughty and nice, other search engines are also available. *(back into excitement)* All this time I have been trying to fix the Santa's naughty or nice list, when I already know who is on the nice list. It's everyone here!

You have been so helpful in trying to get rid of the hot chocolate spillage, when it was all my fault. You gave your time to help me, gave ideas, like not touching the naughty and nice list in the first place. We don't need a list, I can just tell Santa himself that everyone who helped me is definitely on the nice list this year!

Thank you for helping me everyone. We may not have removed the stain but that doesn't matter as actions always speak louder than words. And you lot are the best mini elves an elf could ever have. I better go and tell Santa right away who is on the nice list, before he realises I ruined it.

See you lot soon! Bye!

Bob exits to tell Santa.

SKETCH 1 – NAUGHTY OR NICE?

Props List:

- Double sided Naughty or Nice list – one side has it completed, the other with spilt hot chocolate down it and unreadable.
- 'Do Not Touch' sign
- Multiple silk handkerchiefs
- Plastic cup/mug for hot chocolate. (No actual hot chocolate in it)
- Clipboard
- Magic red appearing cane trick and red handkerchief

Sketch Two: The Greatest Gift

Christmas music is playing whilst the audience are settling. Candy Cane enters the stage looking very panicked.

Candy: Oh no, oh no, oh no! *(in her own little world, imagining/acting out where she will set everything.)* Christmas tree can go there, *(acts setting it up and putting on baubles)* presents can be stacked over here, *(mime stacking them, different sizes and weights)*

Then next bit Candy goes on a journey all over the stage not noticing the audience.

Tinsel bunting can hang from here, around this, down here, twirl it around here, under this, maybe over this? No that won't work. Unravel this, back over this and through here, wrapped around this person...OH! *(noticing audience)*

Oh hello you lot, you're a little earlier than expected, but not to worry, an early elf is a ready elf! Let me just unwrap you from the bunting tinsel.

The tinsel bunting is mimed so get the person to turnaround until they are 'unwrapped' Can also play with the notion you have turned them the wrong way.

(Growing in worry and with actions) I'm very happy you are all here. I got a bit of a problem. Well, it's a teenie problem really, well a little problem, maybe actually it's a medium sized problem, you could say it's big problem, nothing to worry about but this person over here agrees with me *(pointing to the audience)*, when I say it's a massive problem. Well I'm glad you all agree that you could say it's a gigantic problem, the worst one to have right before Christmas, wouldn't you agree?

Indicate audience to respond, if they don't get them to answer again.

Wouldn't you agree!?

Audience respond.

(deflates, said softly) I thought you would say that. Now before I tell you my problem I better introduce myself, my name is Cane, Candy Cane, the sweetest elf of them all. *(strikes a pose)*. Now, what's my problem I hear you ask?

Waits for audience to respond with 'what's your problem'. Encourage them to say it, repeat sentence again, slower if you need to.

Thank you for asking, I'm glad you care. My problem is that nothing is prepped or ready for Christmas and with only ___ days until the big day, Santa is going to be very upset. And we can't let him down, the Father of Christmas. I really really want to get excited, like super excited, like this...

Explodes into excitement, maybe a cartwheel, jumps up and down, giggles/screams with excitement etc.

But I can't when I'm worrying about what there is still left to do. I better go and carry on with my tasks...

Candy takes a few steps towards the exit.

... on my own...

Candy takes a few more steps.

... without any help...

Candy take a few more steps. She then pauses and slowly looks towards the audience with the biggest grin on her face.

Unless everyone here wants to help me! Can you all do me the biggest, most super helpful favour that any elf could ever need, in the whole entire world?

Audience respond.

Great! Now, this year I've been put in charge of training all the new elf recruits and this is the perfect time to get some more to help me out. So.... *(goes and grabs clipboard and pen)* I'm going to need to know who all of you are before I can tell who is top notch elf quality standard to help me get all the tasks done before Christmas Eve. The first rule of being an elf, is to be nice and loud. So after three I want you to shout your name out as loud as possible. Ready? 1... 2... 3!

Candy listens and then frantically writes every ones name down, getting more and more confused as she does. She then shows the squiggles to the audience.

Brilliant, think I have everyone down. Now onto our Christmas conundrum! Sorry, I mean, catastrophe, no wait I don't know what that means? Let me check the elf-opedia!

Flicks though the clipboard until Candy finds the page.

Ah, catastrophe, noun, it means it's bad, really bad. Not just bad but bad bad! Yes that's right, my problem is bad bad and what are we doing all waiting around, we need to prep for Christmas! New elf recruits at the ready! *(Strikes a pose, hands on hips).*

Nobody responds.

Rule 2 of being an elf, when I say mini elves at the ready I need you to strike a pose and put your hands on your hips. Let's give it a go. Mini Elves at the ready!

Audience respond.

Great! Rule 3 though means you have to be as quick as Dasher the reindeer when performing any elf actions. So let's try it again, Mini Elves at the ready!

Audience respond.

Elf-tastic! Now I know you are ready, let's get Christmas prepared.

The next sections are now a bit more improvised. Get the 3 presents to the stage and hang the Christmas bunting.

Presents

Get all the kids lined up next to each other to make a conveyor belt so they can pass the presents from one end of the room to the next.

Presents will need to be pre-set somewhere prior to show.

First job should always be... err... first, so let's get all you mini elves in a nice long line so we can pass all presents down to this end.

Organise kids into line and start by handing them one at a time and then collect them on the stage at the end.

One job down, give yourselves a big round of applause. Now we need to hang our Christmas bunting to make it all festive and sparkles

Rule 4 of being elf is you have to be strong, to be able to carry all the toys to the sleigh. So let's see how strong you are. Strike a pose (*shows off muscles*) Strike another pose (*shows off muscles in hulk style pose*) Wow those muscles are as big as our Christmas baubles on the tree. You lot must be very strong.

Either organise the children along the stage to hold the bunting or keep them in the line they are in for the present conveyor belt.

So if all of you hold a little bit of the bunting then Christmas will be almost ready. That's it, hold on tight. That already looks more like Christmas.

Candy looks at the presents and the bunting and starts 'hmmmm' to herself.

Well mini elves it definitely looks more like Christmas but it doesn't yet feel like Christmas. What are we missing? We need to make it feel more magical, maybe a little colder, does anyone have any ideas?

Hopefully someone will shout snow. But if not, then jump to your own conclusion.

I KNOW! We need snow!! Then it will definitely feel like Christmas and everything will be in place ready for Santa to arrive on the 25th December.

For this I'm going to need everyone to use their imagination and close their eyes and think of the coldest, snowiest place on earth...

Candy subtly palms in her hand the snow pellet ready to perform the trick. That gets performed over the children, so they get covered in snow.

...think of the crunch of snow beneath your feet, the little snowflakes falling from the clouds and the coldness in your tippy toes and your fingers. Oh it's getting cold, the frost on the trees, the coldness of the night. Trying to wrap ourselves up in all the layers. But no matter how many you wear, it's still too cold outside. So we try rubbing our hands together to keep them warm.

Candy starts rubbing hands together and creating the snow confetti.

It's getting colder, chillier, I think, maybe the snow might be here!

Sprinkle the confetti snow over the children and throw it up in the air.

Wow! Well done everyone you made it snow! Now I can relax, as thanks to you all the jobs are complete and we are ready for Christmas.

Candy claps her hands together. Candy has a huge realisation.

OH MY FESTIVE WREATH!!! I have forgotten to get Bob a Christmas present!

Panics on stage, runs around the stage and the floor area muttering about forgetting Bob's present. Finally makes it back to centre stage.

AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO GET HIM!

Repeats path and actions. Ends back up at centre stage.

I've got it! I can rap him a present right now. (*all confident and pleased with ones self*) I bet you didn't know, that I am the greatest rapper in the whole of the North Pole. Drop me a beat!

Pretends to be the best rapper 'boots and cats' style beat boxing, but it is bad.

Candy break out into her rap.

There are gloves and hats and fluffy wooly jumpers,
Matchbox cars with two tone bumpers,
Lego bricks that stack so high,
Remote controller drones that like to fly...

Candy strikes a folder arms pose. Waiting for an applause.

No? Oh, maybe you're right, maybe that would not be the best present for Bob. I did wonder why Santa said I was a good rapper, I thought it was a bit odd. I think he meant wrapper. (*idea*) Ah ha! I have my mini elves here, you can help me, like you did for setting up for Christmas. You can wrap me a present! But no boots or cats this time.

Next part of the script is improvised, but with a guide script below. Make sure the bunting is collected back up and get the children to sit back down. This is where we see a competition between a child and an adult on who can wrap a present for Bob the quickest. Candy will help the child, adult is on their own.

For this I'm going to need one mini elf and one taller elf, who thinks they have better wrapping skills than me. Presents that is not words.

Either pre pick or pick a capable child, willing to take part. Introduce them and where they are from etc

Actually lets make this fun and turn it into a competition. So now we are going to need an adult.

Select and adult and repeat the same intro.

Now the competition is who can wrap their present the fastest.

(CHILD) You will have Candy, that's me, the best wrapper in the world to help you and (ADULT), hmmm, let's make it slightly harder for you, I mean fairer.

Pull out a blind fold.

Set up the competition and give them a time limit, 90 seconds etc. First one to complete the wrap wins. Need two boxes, paper, pre-cut tape.

If we are all ready, (to audience) Who do you think is going to win? (CHILD) or (ADULT)? Let's see then, in 3... 2... 1... GO!!

Competition happens and ends when there is a winner (the child).

Big round of applause to our winner.

Send both child and adult back to their seats. Make sure adult gets a cheer, even if they were bad.

Now I have a present for Bob. Oh he will be happy.

Another realisation

OH NO!!! Merry my Christmas Pudding! I forgot to put something in the box! Bob will be so disappointed. What can I do? What can I do?

Candy opens the hamper and starts pulling out items to comment on.

Stinky socks? Pewweeeeee, I think these might be Bob's already.

Sunglasses? No he hasn't got any holiday until next year. This hat? Or this hat? No not that... I don't even know what this is? These socks! No wait they are the same ones.... so cheesy.

Continue on, maybe repeat items etc. Candy finally becomes disappointed again.

I just don't know what to get Bob. You have all helped me so much today, to make sure everything is ready for Christmas and I can't think of one single present idea for Bob. I enjoyed prepping for Christmas, it was so much fun and really put the Christmas spirit into my heart when we all worked together....

The biggest realisation moment.

That's it! Thank you mini elf helpers. I would have never have figured that out all by my elf. For Christmas, I don't need to get Bob a present, I can give him my friendship and time, by doing fun things together like... helping him with any elf jobs, making gingerbread houses and also singing our favourite songs together!!!

Music starts if possible, if not acapella. All singing Jingle Bells together.

Thank you everyone for helping me realise that sometimes Christmas is about spending time with the people you care about and making it oh so magical. I better get back to the workshop and see if Bob needs my help. And if we need any more pairs of hands and some good quality wrappers, I know where you'll be. See you soon!

Candy waves and collects items back up and exits.

SKETCH 2 – THE GREATEST GIFT

Props List:

- Clipboard and pen
- 3 wrapped presents
- Xmas bunting
- Snow pellets
- Wrapping paper, 2 x small boxes, sticky tape (pre cut), scissors (for present wrapping competition)
- Xmas/funny blindfold
- Hamper/box full of random items – socks, huge sunglasses, hats etc

Sketch Three: Santa's Workshop

Christmas music is playing whilst the audience are settling. Bob/Candy enter through the audience to the stage area, muttering to themselves.

They have a clipboard with lots of pages of notes/instructions, but holding it upside down.

Bob/Candy: Well I got the list from Santa, but I don't really understand what he wants me to do? It should be the same every year, organise the toys we have made, wrap them up into boxes and put them onto the sleigh. But that's not what it says!

By this time they have made it to the stage area.

A small routine happens where Bob/Candy turn the clipboard around in different positions trying to read the instructions. On the back of the clipboard it says "This way up!"

Clipboard gets held out in front of them and turned like a steering wheel to the right and the elf leans to the left.

That doesn't look right.

Elf repeats same actions but the clipboard goes to the left and elf leans to the right.

Oh now it looks even worse.

Elf turns around in a circle, circling the clipboard and then ends up with it the correct way up but elf looks at it upside down between their legs.

Sparkle my tree, I'm seeing fairy lights, I feel dizzy.

Stands back and shakes off the dizziness.

I think it might be in hieroglyphics. If only I had Bob/Candy here to help me then I would know how to read Santa's instructions for the workshop.

Hopefully by this point the children will be screaming out how to hold the clipboard.

HELLO! *(in shock on noticing audience)* What time did you get here? Santa said we might have some very happy, very excited, very loud guests to show around the workshop. That wouldn't be you lot would it?

Audience respond. Candy/Bob don't seem too convinced.

Well, if it is you lot then I'm going to need to see some smiling faces like this...

They do the biggest smile and wait for children to repeat.

...waving your hands up in the air like this...

Perform and wait for them to copy.

...and shouting "we are ready for Christmas", as loud as you can after 3... 1, 2, 3...

Audience respond.

Build up the next monologue in excitement and gestures to get the pay off at the end.

And one final test to know if you are the very guests to get the exclusive guide around Santa's workshop in the lead up to Christmas, where nobody in the whole entire world is allowed to take a sneaky tinsel peek, the most busiest, magical place IN THE WHOLE OF THE UNIVERSE, IS

Bob/Candy strike a pose, as if they are going to reveal the biggest secret ever.

They look left, then right and to the audience and we see their facial expression change to worry.

To help me in knowing how to read Santa's instructions!

They pick up the clipboard again and with direction from the children they get the clipboard the correct way up.

There we go, that makes more sense, I can read it now.

Paper all attached together unravels from the clipboard.

Oh what a Christmas cracker I am, let me just clear this up. *(unclips the folded paper and leave one page on that states "Rule 365")*

As you all know by now I am Santa's favourite chief elf... *(looks around again, one full circle to the left, one the right)*... but don't tell Bob/Candy shuuuush! And I help him every year get ready for the big day. I make sure that every Christmas is as magical as ever and that all the workshop elves, like me *(they strike a pose)* have all the magic that is needed to make all the toys for every child around the world. Whilst remembering all the 'elf and safety rules!

Waits for audience reaction. Comeback depends on how they react.

Don't worry I didn't write that list of rules all by my elf.

Wait for response.

Maybe I'll leave the jokes. Anyway, first thing's first, before I show you around the workshop we need check Santa's instructions... *(picks up the clipboard again confidently)*

Rule 365, never leave the workshop unattended, especially the toy making machines. They can run out of magic very quickly!

Reaction switches from smiling to worried when the rule is realised.

Wait a shiny bauble minute, if I'm here and you are there *(indicating to audience)* and Bob/Candy are loading up the sleigh then who is looking after the machines?!?!?

Wait for SFX, look around. Nothing plays.

I think that might be a 'dun, dun, DUN!' moment. Join in with me...

Get audience to repeat 'dun, dun, dun' as loud as they can.

The toy making machine must have stopped as I can't hear any whizzing or whurring, no clinks or clangs, no wahey or weeeeeeeee! Oh no what are we going to do. *(change of thought)* Ok let me think.

Bob/Candy pace up and down, shuffling their feet as they do, left to right across the stage as they talk.

If I have this correct, no machines, means no toys, no toys means an empty sleigh. An empty sleigh means Santa has nothing to deliver on Christmas eve, which means no reindeer, no mince pies, no sugar canes and no Christmas spirit, which means Christmas might as well be cancelled! Say it with me 'DUN DUN DUNNNNNN'!

Audience repeat.

We can fix this, together. Me and everyone here. I know I was going to show you around the workshop but right now this is a Christmas Emergency and I reeeeeeeally need your help. The toy making machine relies on magic, lots of magic, so if we can create some, using our imagination and our special elf powers then everything will be a-ok.

So I'm going to need to test your magic levels to see if there is enough to fuel the toy making machine again.

For this I'm going to need a tall elf, that is highly intelligent, super clever who will send our magic-o-meter through the roof...

Wait for response, hopefully none.

Or just any grown up will do.

The next few sections are more improvised as it is a lot of audience interaction. There are now two magic tricks that will happen. First one with a grown-up, second one with a child.

Always get a grown-up/child up and introduce them, name etc, whether they have been naughty or nice this year, maybe what they have asked Santa for. Bring them up to the stage area so everyone can see the trick happen.

The next bit is a guide script on how to set up each trick and a video for the last one to show how you set up and execute the trick.

Trick One – Magic 9

Now we have our first helper. We need to see how magical you are. Now magic starts up in here (*points to their head*) So let's take a look to see if we can see anything. (*looks inside grown-ups ear*) Nope nothing in there, let's check the other side.

Goes to other ear to check.

Ooooooh I think I can see something, is this magic? (*pre-prepped up sleeve is a bit of tinsel, grab end of it and 'pull it out' of their ear. One hand covers the ear whilst other pulls tinsel out.*)

Oh wow you must be magical, especially if that is in there. That's exactly the spirit we need to get the toy machines working again. But we are doing to need a lot more magic for this. (*to grown-up on stage*) And to do this I need you to think of a number, it can be any number you wish, but don't tell me.

As they think of a number Bob/Candy get the whiteboard and pen.

You have a number? Great! Now this is the tricky part. The number you have I need you to add all the digits together, so if you have the number 56, then add 5 and 6 together. Clear? Now the new number you have, take that away from the first original number you have. Now that new number you have, add those digits together...do you have one single number left?

If not keep getting them to add the numbers together until they have a single digit left. You can also add a joke about using a calculator if the number is too large.

Now you have that one number, don't say anything yet. To see how magical you are I'm going to guess that number without you saying a word. So lips sealed up like a present ready for Christmas, with a pretty bow on top too. To get the magic following, we can use the tinsel we pulled from your ear.

Using the tinsel, get the grown-up to hold one end and children to hold up the rest of it, to send it down the line to Bob/Candy's head.

Now we have our magical transferring device set up. I need you to think of your answer so it can travel all the way along the magical transferring device and with the magic the answer will pop into my head and I can write it down.

To help the answer travel, all of you holding the tinsel need to shake it. We need to add your magic too. And all of you out there need to join in also, we all have Christmas magic in our hearts and this is the time to spread it far and wide. Repeat after me:

Wiggle your fingers and wiggle your nose,
Send the magic from your head to your toes!

Get audience to repeat a few times. Add in actions like wiggling fingers/nose/toes etc.

So if we are all ready. _____ think of your answer, everyone out there wiggle your fingers and my helpers start shaking the tinsel but don't let go!

And the answer is..... I can feel it, I can see the magic.....

Write down the number 9 on the board.

The answer is 9!! Is this correct?

It should be correct if they did the maths right. If not then two ways of playing it. Either:

Oh no it didn't work, I know! Maybe because they are a tall grown-up they have less magic, I'm going to need a much smaller elf helper, as they have more magic

OR

Yay! Well done, big round of applause. We have put the magic into the air, so everyone try and collect as much as possible as we have one final test to see if we have enough magic to help re-start our toy making machines.

Trick 2 – Rudolph's Nose

As we all know, reindeer have a lot of magic, as it helps them pull the sleigh. I don't suppose any of you know the name of the most famous reindeer there ever was?

Audience respond.

Of course! It's Rudolph. Now in my pocket here I have one of Rudolph's special noses. But we need to make so many of them for Rudolph, as his light sometimes runs out. But without the machines working we can't make them either. So if the magic is up in the air then we need to use before it vanishes. So everyone grab as much magic as possible.

Bob/Candy and the children grab the air for magic.

Now we have the magic, I'm going to need another helper to see if we have found and gathered all the magic possible.

Find another helper and perform the multiplying Rudolph nose trick. See video for reference. The idea is that you show a Rudolph nose (sponge ball) to the audience and you are getting the child to hold it and as if by magic it multiplies in their hands. What they don't know is that you have palmed the other sponge balls in your hand ready to hand over so when they open their hand they all pop out.

Improvise to set up trick and perform it.

Now if Rudolph's nose has multiplied, this means we have all the magic we need to save Christmas and get all the workshop machines working again.

So open up your hand and see!

Child opens hand and Rudolph noses spring out.

Yay! We did it. Big round of applause to everyone who has helped us get the magic we need for the workshop. *(change of thought)* What's that? *(listening)* I think that sounds like the workshop machines starting back up again. Give yourselves a big cheer.

It looks like you lot have plenty of Christmas magic, so there is only one thing left to do and that's sing our favourite Christmas Song! DJ hit that button!

Rudolph red nose reindeer plays, everyone joins in with a bit of singing. If this is not possible with tech, you can do it without song and sing acapella with the room.

Look at the time, wooooooah! I better get back to the workshop and start on the list of instructions from Santa. I was meant to get them all done by the end of tonight! At least the toy making machine is working though, phew!

Thank you again everyone! Christmas is only a few weeks/days away! I'm so excited! I'll make sure Santa puts you all on the good list this year for helping me.

See you all soon!

Bob/Candy head off back to the workshop saying bye and with waves as they leave.

SKETCH 3 – SANTA’S WORKSHOP

Props List:

- Christmas Clipboard with pages attached (that can unravel), sign on back saying “This Way Up”
- One page saying “Rule 365” then squiggles underneath
- Small white board and pen
- Squishy red balls for Rudolph nose trick
- Tinsel – Prepped in sleeve of elf