

Oppitunnin tavoite

- Novel study wind up; ensure final understanding of the novel
- Introduce students to book reviews

Mitä tarvitaan?

- Student and teacher copies of novel
- Book review examples (see attached)
- Writing paper and pencils

Oppitunnin kulku

Final Inclass discussion (15 minutes):

- Students should have read pages 92-151 for homework
- **At the beginning of the reading, there is a knocking on the door which strikes worry in Niklas, the angels and the elves:** indication that there are Nutcrackers on the other side, wanting to bring Niklas to the Christmas Council and Gerold Goblynch
- **Niklas does not want to leave despite fear of being found because of Ben and Charlotte**
- **Page 103: Ben sees the glow worms that Niklas had magically placed the night before outside of his house, but Ben's father does not.** Why do you think that is? ("With a jerk Ben turned around and walked out of the gate. Of course his father hadn't noticed the glow worms. He never saw things like that")
- **Page 105: Ben goes head to head with Dean, defending something he believes in (Santa):** Have you ever had to stick up for something you believe in, when someone calls you bad names or says you are wrong?
- **Pages 109-110: really good drawings of what Mathilda and Emmanuel look like**
- **Ben offers to go into Yule Land (behind the white door) to get snow:** apparently Nutcrackers only notice Santas and not human boys. **Why is Ben risking going behind the white door?** To prove to Dean that there is a Santa, and to win the bet that he made with him
- **The kids went to Yule Land:** what was it like? (a lot of snow, quiet, dark)
- **What do the nutcrackers do when they smell a real Santa?** Sneeze
- **How does Niklas describe Goblynch on page 127?** He's a "disgraceful Christmas robber, corrupter of children's dreams, exploiter of angels, murderer of elves and reindeers"
- **Ben's Christmas wish came true (page 132) which was for it to snow and what?** (for the holidays away to be cancelled. Ben's dad slips and hurts his leg)
- **The appearance of the other Santa**
- **How is Goblynch actually described??** As a fat, real Santa – happy, joyful, smiling, rosy cheeks with a full beard (142)
- **How did Goblynch become no more?** Like any other Santa, if you take

of their boots they turn to chocolate after 15 seconds. Ben and Charlotte managed to steal his boots, therefore turning him into chocolate

Read Aloud (15 minutes)

- **Final pages:** 151-174

Activity #1:

- Book review
- By reading other examples (see below), explain what a book review is. It is a reaction to the book they have read. The review gives honest feelings and feedback. Questions to consider:
 - What was the book about – describe the book using only 2-3 sentences, without ‘spoiling’ the story
 - What was your favourite part and what did you like about it?
 - Who were some of the main characters?
 - Is this a good story for the whole family to read?
 - Include the name of the book at the beginning and the author (for example: When Santa Fell to Earth written by Cornelia Funke is a story.....).
 - Use fun, descriptive adjectives (describing words) regarding the story. Discuss with the students what some good describing words would be (ex: magical, Christmassy, fun, creative)

Review #1:

I picked this up from a book order because we're big Cornelia Funke fans. This is a cute book, around 165 pages long, that ends up answering a lot of questions kids have when they are on the verge of no longer believing in Santa. It answers questions like How does Santa get all those presents in his bag? How can he deliver everything in one night? How come we've never seen a flying reindeer? An inventive story that was a fun read-aloud with the kids. The end fell a little bit flat, but it was good as a children's story which is what it was intended to be.

Review #2:

A beautiful cover on this book with a delightful story inside. who could resist, Santa, angels, a marzipan eating reindeer and elves. Add in a baddy or two in the form of an evil Santa and nutcrackers and you have a great mix.

Review#3:

The main character is Nikolas Goodfellow. He's a Santa Claus that finds himself stranded when his reindeer gets spooked in a thunderstorm, leaving his caravan wagon stranded in the middle of a street. One of the neighborhood boys, Ben, and a girl named Charlotte get invited into his wagon and discover his team of miniature elves (they're rude but made great toys) and 2 angels Emmanuel and Matilda who seem to help keep everything in order.

The truth is that Nikolas is the last real Santa Claus. There used to be

hundreds of Santas until the day one convinced all of them to give up their reindeer for snowmobiles and travel around in great big silver cars, release all the elves and have parents give the children toys instead of Santa himself. There were 7 rebels and Nikolas is the only one left. He's just hoping they don't find him and turn him into chocolate....

It's a short read but a very upbeat, unique holiday story.

Kesto: 90 minutes

Odotetut oppimistulokset

The overall purpose of this session is to:

- Introduce students to book reviews and their relevance
- Encourage creative writing skills through book review writing
- A complete understanding of the novel When Santa Fell to Earth and its meaning
- Incorporate ideas of different ideas of Santas, Christmas and traditions