

THE SNOW QUEEN

by Hans Christian Andersen
 Adapted for the stage by Kim Esop Wylie
 Music by Joe Dreyer
 Lyrics by Kim Esop Wylie and Joe Dreyer

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THE Snow Queen

by Hans Christian Andersen
 Adapted for the stage by Kim Esop Wylie
 Music by Joe Dreyer
 Lyrics by Kim Esop Wylie & Joe Dreyer
 Directed by Kathleen Singleton

Scenic Design
 John Roslevich, Jr.

Costume Design
 Bonnie Kruger

Stage Manager
 Daryl Vaughan

Director of Education
 Marsha Coplon

Associate Director of Education
 Kim Allen Bozark

Artistic Supervisor
 Jeffery Matthews

The Company
 (in order of appearance)

Evil Imp, River, Rose, Prince, Old Woman 1 & 2 / **Alan Knoll**

Kade, Crow, Reindeer / **Nick Choksi**

Gerda / **Gwendolyn Wotawa**

Grandmother, Snow Queen, Witch, Princess, Robber Girl / **Sharon Hunter**

Support for this production was provided by **MetLife Foundation**.

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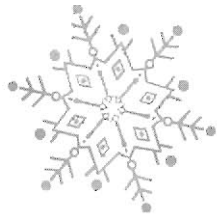


Setting the Scene



The Snow Queen is a fairy tale, and like many of those fanciful stories we do not know for certain where the story takes place. This is intentional in most fairy tales, however, as it gives the message of the stories a more universal appeal. It can be assumed that the original tale took place in Hans Christian Andersen's native Denmark in the early 1800's, just prior to the time he wrote the tale (1845). Our staged version of *The Snow Queen* has a few references, like *The Sound of Music* and *The Wizard of Oz*, that give the story a more modern timeframe.

Denmark is a country in Scandinavia, which is located in northern Europe between the North Sea and Baltic Sea. Andersen spent most of his life in Copenhagen, a large city on the island of Zealand. The temperature there changes dramatically throughout the seasons, ranging from -5° to 20° Celsius (23° to 68° Fahrenheit). As you travel farther north, the most likely direction of the Snow Queen's palace, the temperature can drop considerably—just as it does during Gerda's journey. But regardless of where or when *The Snow Queen* takes place, it is about true, unwavering friendship, a desire of every person throughout the world.



Who's Who?



The Evil Imp

is only happy creating mischief and breeding unhappiness. He is the evil servant of the Snow Queen.

Kade

is Gerda's best friend. He loves spending all day with her playing games—until he gets a shard of the evil magic looking glass in his eye.

Gerda

is a brave, young girl with an amazing ability to talk and make friends with everyone around her. However, people like her so much they never want her to leave them.

Kade's Grandmother

takes care of Kade and Gerda and sings songs from *The Sound of Music* to them. They enjoy playing in her garden.

The Snow Queen

is a lonely fairy that lives in a frozen palace. She has magic that allows her to control people, and she wants Kade to be her permanent companion.

THE WITCH

smells nice because she loves flowers, but she has not taken a bath in years. Her flowers move about and talk to her.

The Rose

lives with the witch. He does not like children such as Gerda.

THE CROW

loves cars and has a vivid imagination. He helps Gerda during her journey.

The Prince & Princess

like expensive things, but they are very kind nonetheless.

THE ROBBER GIRL

has a bad reputation and wants people to be scared of her. Like most people though, she does not want Gerda to leave.

The Reindeer

belongs to the robber girl, but he wishes to help Gerda. He wants to eat all the time.

Old Woman 1 & 2

are actually sisters that enjoy insulting one another.

What's the Story?

Hans Christian Andersen diligently wrote in a journal most of his life. Read some of his entries in the sidebars on the following pages. Have you ever had any of these feelings?

1806 Age 11:
My father has died. The best gift my father gave me was the theater he made for me, but now I'm tired of my puppets. I hate being poor. I want to leave this small town and become famous.

Little Kade and Gerda are best friends and very happy together. They love playing in Kade's grandmother's flower garden and singing songs from *The Sound of Music*. Unfortunately, an Evil Imp finds their garden, and he has an evil magic looking glass that he uses to destroy any happiness he finds. It only takes a tiny shard of the glass in the eye and the heart, and then everything that person sees becomes twisted and evil. The imp lays in wait for his opportunity, and when Kade leaves Gerda's side to fetch a ball, the imp throws shards of the evil mirror into his eyes. Immediately, Kade no longer sees Gerda as his loving friend, and he says terribly mean things to her as he leaves the garden—running away from home.

Kade encounters the lonely Snow Queen, and she decides she wants Kade to stay with her forever. She takes control of him with her magic and carries him far, far away to her frozen palace in the north. He tries to escape, but she will not let him leave until he can solve a puzzle. Meanwhile, Gerda is heartbroken over Kade's leaving. In spite of her fear and the hurtful things he said to her, she still loves him and resolves to find him.

When she tries to cross a river, Gerda is swept away to a strange new place where she meets a witch that has talking flowers. The witch becomes very attached to Gerda



and decides that she wants her to stay, so she casts a spell that erases her memory of Kade. They remain together for the summer, but the witch's spell eventually fades and Gerda remembers her friend. The witch wishes her well, and she again sets

off to find Kade.

Gerda meets a crow that drives an imaginary car, and the crow believes that he knows where Kade is. He drives her to the home of the Prince and Princess, but Gerda discovers that Kade is not there. They ask her to stay, but Gerda is still intent on finding Kade. The Prince and Princess dress her in beautiful new clothes and send her on her way, but warn her to beware of robbers.

On the road Gerda is captured by the Robber Girl, who threatens her. Her friendly and kind words, however, melt the Robber Girl's tough demeanor, and she decides to let Gerda go free. Although Robber Girl is heartbroken,



she lets her Reindeer go with Gerda because he knows where Kade is being held: in the palace of the Snow Queen.

The pair arrives at the home of an old Australian woman that realizes Gerda's magic talent: talking to people. The old woman agrees to help her rescue Kade from the Snow Queen, and she sends them to her sister for help. The old woman's sister

describes Gerda's "Talking Magic" to her. She explains that in a world of lonely people, talking is the greatest magic there is. She also tells Gerda that she must go alone to defeat the Snow Queen, and Gerda reluctantly decides that the old woman is correct.

Outside the Snow Queen's palace, Gerda is stopped by the Evil Imp. He tries to use the shards of the evil magic looking glass on her, but she defends herself: first with her rose, and then with her Talking Magic.

The imp tries to make her stop, but he cannot resist her. He throws mirror dust at her again, but she is unaffected by it. She



tells him, "You can't hurt me... because talking to people is the most powerful magic there is. And because I like you." The imp screams in pain and crawls away from her.

Gerda finds Kade. He is nearly frozen, but when she sings to him he begins to wake. Kade recognizes her and she helps him solve the Snow Queen's puzzle. They leave just before the Snow Queen enters. She screams in fury when she realizes that Kade has escaped, but then she sees

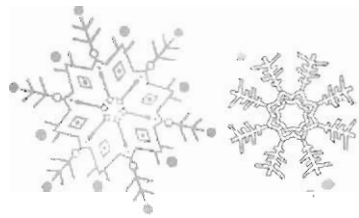
Gerda's rose. As she picks it up she begins to cry. Gerda and Kade return, safe and sound, to his grandmother's house.

1819 Age 14:
I'm running away to Denmark's largest city, Copenhagen. I'll be a star in Copenhagen. I have no money, no work, no friends. I want to be a singer! I want to be a dancer! I want to be an actor!

1820 Age 15:
Success! I've been hired to perform at the Royal Theater of Copenhagen!

1821 Age 16:
Another rejection! I lost my job. My voice is changing.

1822 Age 17:
More rejection. Every play I've written has been rejected. Is it because I can't spell?



Bio & Beyond



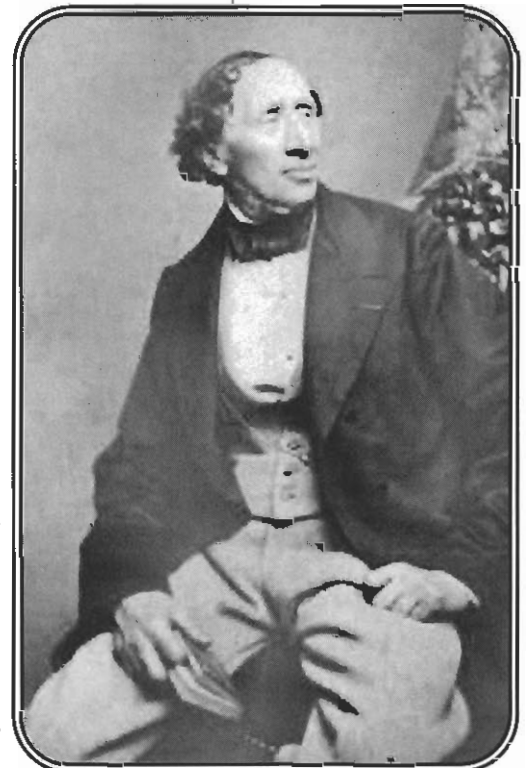
Reared in poverty, Hans Christian Andersen left Odense at 14 for Copenhagen. He failed as an actor, but his poetry won him generous patrons including King Frederick VI. In 1829 his fantasy *A Journey on Foot from the Holmen Canal to the Eastern Point of Amager* was published, followed by a volume of poetry in 1830. Granted a traveling pension by the king, Andersen wrote sketches of the European countries he visited. His first novel, *Improvisatoren* (1835), was well received by the critics. His sentimental novels were for a time considered his forte. However, with his first book of fairy tales, *Eventyr* (1835), he found the medium of expression that was to immortalize his genius. He produced about one volume a year and was recognized as Denmark's greatest author and as a storyteller without peer. His tales are often tragic or gruesome in plot. His sense of fantasy, power of

description, and acute sensitivity contributed to his mastery of the genre. Among his many widely beloved stories are *The Fir-Tree*, *The Little Match Girl*, *The Ugly Duckling*, *The Snow Queen*, *The Little Mermaid*, and *The Red Shoes*.

From *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, Sixth Edition. 2001.

Hans Christian Andersen
1805–1875

Danish poet, novelist,
and writer of fairy tales



Words to the Wise



A fairy tale is a fanciful tale of legendary deeds and creatures. It is similar to a folktale in form but is usually intended for children. *The Snow Queen* is a classic fairy tale.

A looking glass is another name for a mirror. The Evil Imp's looking glass has hurtful magic.

A cad is someone that behaves foolishly. A shard from the evil mirror can make someone act like a cad.

Cupid's dart is another name for Cupid's arrow—an arrow that causes anyone it strikes to fall in love.

The Sound of Music is a famous Rodgers and Hammerstein musical from 1965. Kade's grandmother loves to sing songs from it.

Petunias, zinnias and irises are all types of flowers.

GUCCI is a manufacturer of very expensive handbags for women.

Rolls, Jaguar, Bentley and Mercedes are all types of very expensive, luxury automobiles. They are also more than the Crow can handle.

Captain Hook is the mean ship captain from *Peter Pan*, and the kind of person Robber Girl would like to outshine.

"By Crikey" is a mild oath and an expression of surprise. It is primarily used in Australia. The old woman uses it for emphasis.



The Lollipop Guild is a reference to the movie *The Wizard of Oz*. They were a guild of colorfully dressed, singing, little people.

A plight is a bad or unfortunate situation from which it is difficult to free oneself. Kade falls into a plight at the beginning of the play, but Gerda tries to help him.

1828 Age 22:
I've become a published author!

1835 Age 30:
I am really famous now. My very first novel is being read all over Europe, but I make up fairy tales in my head. I think I'll begin to publish them as well.

READ MORE ABOUT IT

The Life of Hans Christian Andersen by Signe Toksvig. Harcourt, Brace and Company; 1934. This is one of many biographies on the popular fairy tale author.

Hans Christian Andersen the Complete Fairy Tales and Stories by Hans Christian Andersen, translated by Erik Christian Haugaard. Anchor, 1983 (Reprint). This 1120 page

book contains all the works of Andersen and includes his notes on the background of each tale.

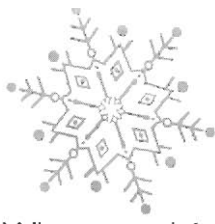
The Amazing Paper Cuttings of Hans Christian Andersen by Beth Wagner Brust. Ticknor & Fields, 1994. This book documents a lifelong hobby and passion of Andersen: paper cutting. The book highlights the major events in the author's life and

contains illustrations of the numerous designs he created.

www.andersenfairytale.com/en/main is an interactive site where you can read Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales, download pictures for coloring, and play games based on his stories. The site also contains a Flash animated storybook.

We encourage you to examine these topics in-depth by exploring the following books and Web sites.

www.andersen.sdu.dk/index_e.html and <http://hca.gilead.org.il/> are comprehensive sites about Hans Christian Andersen. The sites include a virtual bookstore, illustrations, Anderson's life history and the text of many of his stories. <http://www.legends.dm.net/fairy> contains links to excellent websites related to fairy tales and legends.



From the Playwright



What would you do if your best friend disappeared?

Would you accept it and hope for the best? Or would you do something?

That is the question Gerda must answer in our stage version of *The Snow Queen*. At the beginning she does not believe she is strong enough or brave enough to go out into the world and help her lost friend Kade. But she discovers that she has more strength and courage than she initially thought.

Along the way Gerda meets a strange variety of characters, all of whom help her in one way or another. Even the Evil Imp, enemy of kindness and friendship, helps

Gerda understand her own power. As they battle for Kade, Gerda realizes that bad things do not seem so scary if you remember to believe in yourself. She also learns that talking to people makes the world a friendlier place. Gerda is finally able to beat the Evil Imp “because talking to people is the most powerful magic there is.”

In a world where everyone feels lost once in a while, the magic of talking can help each and every one of us.

How have you used your own talking magic?

Kim Esop Wylie
Playwright

1875 Age 70:
As I look back on my life, I’m surprised that my fairy tales seem to be my most popular works. The best known are *The Princess and the Pea*, *The Emperor’s New Clothes*, *The Ugly Duckling*, *The Little Mermaid*, *The Nightingale*, and *The Snow Queen*. (No one must ever know that the Ugly Duckling was really me.)



From the Director’s Chair

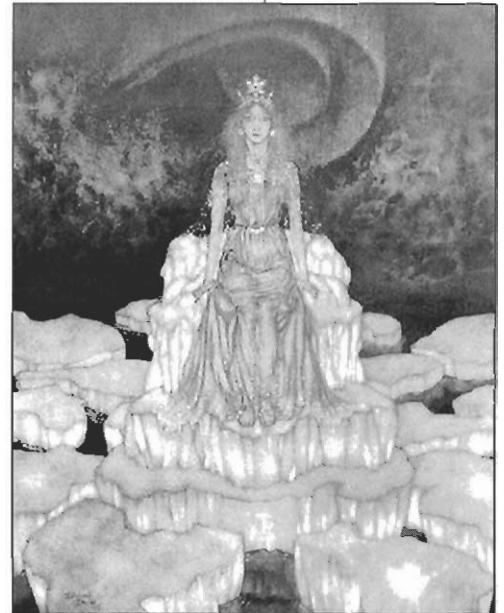


The original fairy tale *The Snow Queen* depicts a dark journey to redemption. It is quite a challenging topic for the Imaginary Theatre Company’s holiday show. It is also seven stories in one, or as Hans Christian Andersen stated, a “Tale in Seven Stories.”

Ultimately, the original story and Kim Wylie’s delightful adaptation deal with friendship. True friendship—the kind of friendship for which we would move mountains. It is a perfect tale for the time of year that celebrates relationships with those who mean the most to us.

So enjoy your journey with Gerda as she searches for her true friend captured by the lonely Snow Queen. Rejoice in Gerda’s magic of discovering friends everywhere she goes. May your holidays be a joyful time with family and friends!

Kathleen Singleton
Director



Characterization with Symbols and Colors

1. An emotion is often associated with a color. For instance, “he is green with envy” is a very popular expression. The characters in *The Snow Queen* are each experiencing particular feelings: the Snow Queen is lonely, Kade is angry and confused, and Gerda feels love for her friend Kade. Think about these emotions and decide what color you associate with each one. Write your colors next to each character on the lines below.

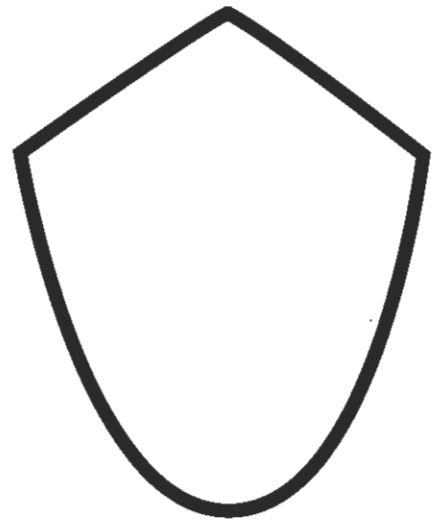
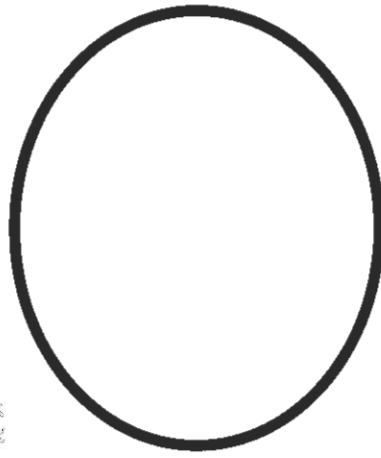
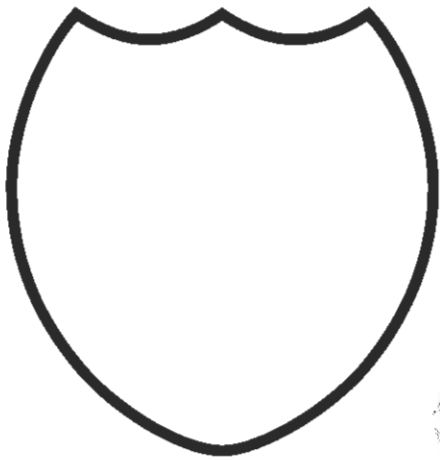
The Snow Queen (loneliness) _____

Kade (anger) _____

Gerda (love) _____

2. In the past, important families often had a family crest, or emblem, that was unique and identified them. It was very common in Medieval Europe for knights to have their family symbol emblazoned on their shield. Think of simple shapes that you associate with the Snow Queen, Kade and Gerda. For instance, the Snow Queen might be represented by a snowflake or a shape that looks like a frown. Draw the shape you believe represents each character on the center of a shield below, then decorate around the shape to make it that character's own unique crest.

3. Color each character's shield, and be sure to include the color you associated with that character.

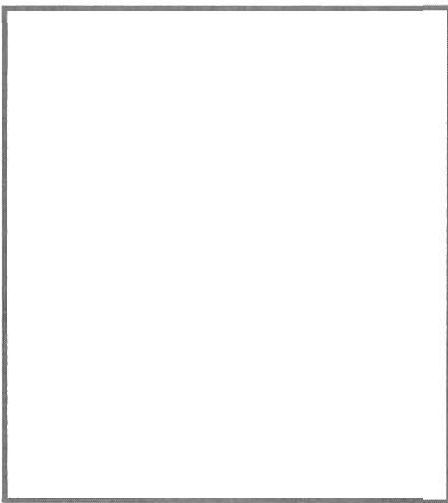


Winter Word Work

Alliteration is the repetition of the same consonant sound at the beginning of words in a phrase or sentence. It can make poetry or creative prose more interesting. It is also useful in creating tongue twisters.

Examples: Snow shimmers in the silvery sunlight.
Kade cannot count candy canes.

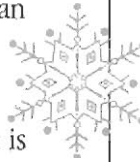
Write your own sentences about winter or *The Snow Queen* using alliteration. You may use small words like “and”, “on”, “the”, etc. to help with clarity. Pick your favorite sentence and draw a picture of it in the box.





Writing a Cinquain

This exercise is intended for after the performance. It will teach students to review stories and characters as well as improve their writing skills. It can also be used to review nouns, verbs, adjectives, synonyms and alliteration.



A cinquain is a five-line poem that is written according to a recipe. Have your students write a cinquain that contains the following lines. For older children, a suggested number of syllables per line is listed in parentheses and can be used rather than number of words.

Line 1 One word that names the subject (2 syllables)

Line 2 Two words that describe the subject (4 syllables)

Line 3 Three action words about the subject (6 syllables)

Line 4 Four words describing what happened; usually this is a phrase (8 syllables)

Line 5 One or two words that can be nearly anything; often this line sums up the poem or is a synonym for the subject (2 syllables)

Example:

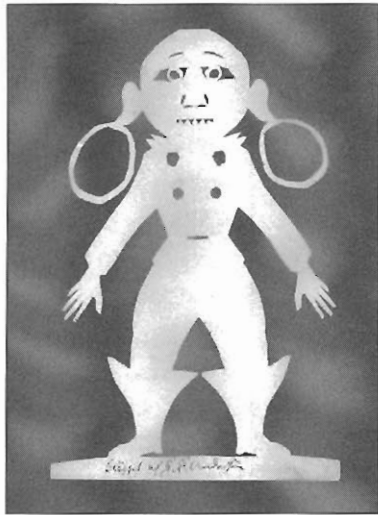
Gerda
Loyal, Loving
Striding through snow
For cursed, confused Kade
True Friend

1. Write the example cinquain on the board so students can refer to it during this exercise. Explain that *cinq* is French for five and that is how this type of poem gets its name.
2. Have your students brainstorm the names of characters in *The Snow Queen* and write the names on the board. These words should be used for the first line of the poem.
3. Discuss adjectives and other descriptive words and list these on a separate part of the board. In particular, get the students to think of words that describe fairy tale characters. These words can be used for line two of the cinquain.
4. On another section of the board, write down the students' suggestions for action words. These will be used in lines three and four.

Explain to the students how the listed words can be used to write their cinquain. Encourage them to use other words if they wish and to try to use alliteration. The final poems can be read to the class or displayed.

Please feel free to adapt these materials to suit your classroom needs and save them for future use. The activities in these units address the following Missouri Knowledge Standards and Illinois Learning Standards:
MO: CA1, CA2, CA4, CA5, CA6, FA1, FA2, FA3, FA4, MA2
IL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 16, 25, 27





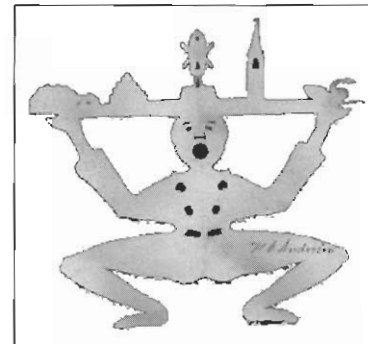
Anderson created this paper cutting by folding the paper in half. The fold was down the center of the man's body, from his head to his feet. You can tell because the left side of the drawing matches the right side. Create your own single-fold paper cutting. Sometimes it is helpful to lightly sketch your design on the paper before cutting.

Hans' Hobby

One of Hans Christian Andersen's favorite hobbies was paper cutting, and he created hundreds of unique designs throughout his life. There are several techniques for creating artistic pictures by cutting paper. Three of Andersen's artistic cuttings are shown below with a short description of how he created each.



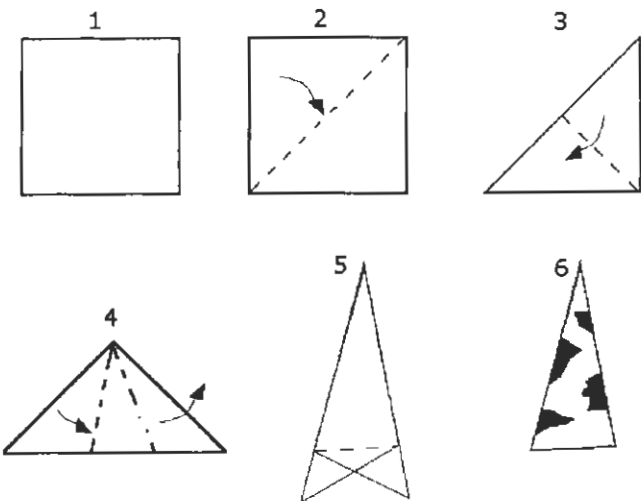
In this paper cutting, you can tell the paper was folded twice—once horizontally and once vertically—because each corner of the paper matches the other. See what interesting design you can make with paper folded twice.



This last paper cutting was made using two styles: the man was created with the paper folded once, but the structures on his hat were cut in unfolded paper. Create your own unique design in which you use a combination of these techniques: unfolded paper, single-fold, and double-fold.

Make your own cut paper snowflake

Making a paper snowflake is easy once you have your paper folded correctly. Fold your paper as follows, using the illustrations as a guide.



1. Get a square piece of paper or trim a piece of paper so that it is square.
2. Fold your square in half diagonally.
3. Fold your triangle in half—again diagonally.
4. Fold paper in thirds, one side to the front, the other to the back.
5. Trim the extra piece of paper off the end of your small triangle.
6. Around the outside of your triangle, cut some fun designs—circles, squares, triangles, squiggles, anything you like.
7. Unfold your paper and look at your masterpiece.

It is helpful to have a thin piece of paper like the paper found in origami kits. Basket coffee filters also work well.

Search for these words in the puzzle. The words can run in any direction, so look carefully!

- EVIL IMP
- GERDA
- GRANDMOTHER
- KADE
- MAGIC LOOKING GLASS
- REINDEER
- RIVER
- ROBBER GIRL
- SNOW QUEEN
- CROW
- PRINCE
- PRINCESS
- ROSE
- SHOES
- SNOWFLAKE
- WINTER

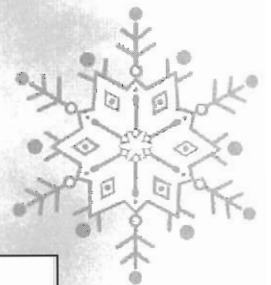
The Snow Queen Word Search



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

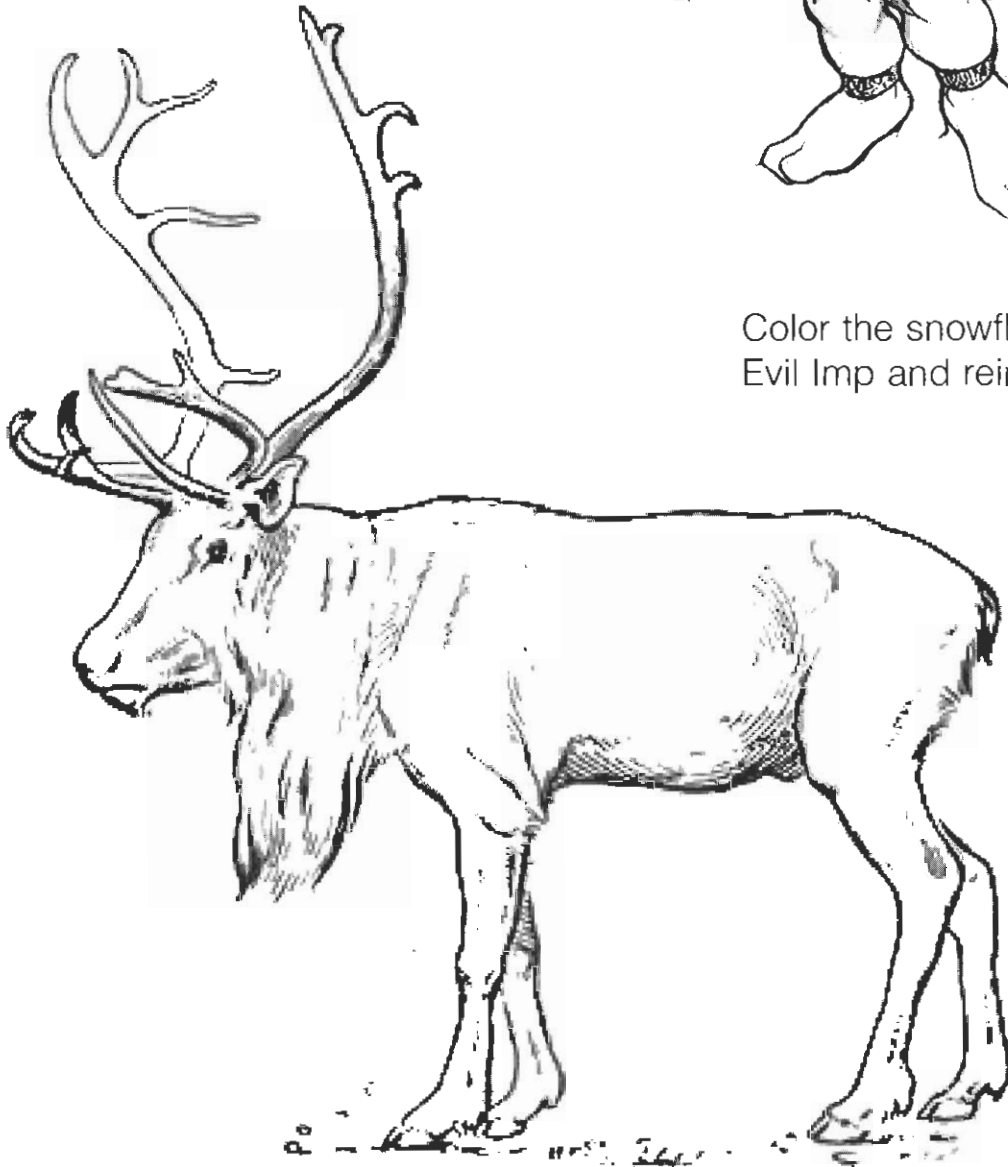
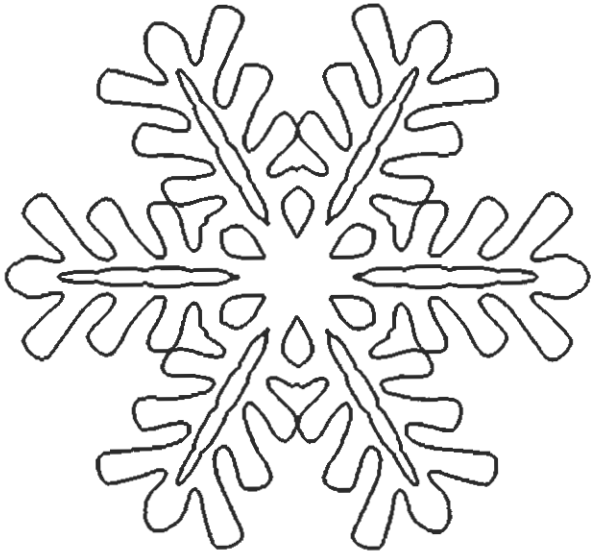


- ICE
- COLD
- COAT
- IGLOO
- BOOTS
- HOCKEY
- ICEBERG
- ICICLES



Winter Crossword

Find the spot where each word fits. Place one letter in each square and use each word only once.



Color the snowflake,
Evil Imp and reindeer.