The truth about Amalia the elf? She’s a fabulous storyteller and *The Truth About Mrs. Claus* is the perfect book for storytime! Full of festive fun—and a few North Pole secrets—this story teaches us that we all have talents and can carve out our own special place in the world. So gather your friends, and maybe some candy canes, and get ready for a sparkly, snowy storytime!

Need more ideas?

**WRAPPING RACE**
A race but with wrapping paper! Who can wrap the fastest? Give everyone the same size object (a book works perfectly!), a piece of wrapping paper, and tape. On your mark, get set, GO! Bonus points for adding a bow!

**COOKIE SWAP**
Mrs. Claus is fantastic at baking cookies. What is your favorite cookie? Have everyone bring a plate of their most delicious cookies to storytime for a cookie swap. Everyone can take home one of each! (Please always be careful for any allergies!)

**DONATING GIFTS**
The holidays are a great time of year to help out your community. Start a toy drive, book drive, food drive, or even a coat collection for those in need. Encourage people to drop off unwrapped toys and books, canned foods, or gently used coats that can be donated to shelters or other local organizations so that everyone can have a happy holiday!
Amalia comes from a long line of teddy-bear makers, but her favorite part is creating stories about them. What would your teddy bear look like? Design your own special bear below using crayons or markers. What kind of fur will it have? Will it have bows? Then create a story for your bear!
Amalia loves thinking about where the teddy-bears will travel and imagining fantastic adventures for them. Fill in the blanks below to create a story for your very own bear!

My name is ___________________ and my bear’s name is ___________________.

(BEAR’S NAME)

___________________ has ___________________ fur. My bear is going to fly in the sleigh with Mrs. Claus, ___________________, and me.

(BEST FRIEND)

(BEAR’S NAME)

(COLOR)

We are going to go to ___________________. ___________________ likes to eat ___________________ and cookies, especially ___________________.

(PLACE)

(BEAR’S NAME)

(FOOD)

(FAVORITE COOKIE)

Together we are going to have lots of adventures!

We will ___________________ and ___________________.

(ACTIVITY)

(ACTIVITY)

Merry Christmas!
The tinsel trees at the North Pole are bright and sparkly with snow. Now you can decorate your own tree with handmade ornaments! The art in this book was crafted using tissue paper and you can use the same materials to create beautiful decorations. You’ll need: scissors, a gluestick, colorful tissue paper, and string.

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. Take the tissue paper and rip or cut it into little pieces, about the size of a quarter.
2. Cut out the ornaments below, punching out the hole at the top.
3. Cover the entire front of each ornament with glue.
4. Stick the tissue paper pieces all over each ornament. It’s okay if the pieces overlap—get creative!
5. Let the glue dry and TA-DA, beautiful new ornaments!