

FREE MINI ESCAPE ROOM

CHRISTMAS MINI ESCAPE

Flurry's Frozen Cocoa



Ages 7+ • 2-6 players • 15-25 min • 3 puzzles

HOST GUIDE

★ ——— Read this first. Everything you need is in this file. ——— ★



At a glance

- ★ Players: 2-6, ages 7 and up (younger kids can play with an adult on the team).
- ★ Time: 15-25 minutes. A perfect warm-up before a bigger game, or a cozy after-dinner treat.
- ★ You need: a printer (color looks best, black and white works), 3 envelopes, pencils, scissors for the hint cards and a timer.
- ★ The goal: solve 3 puzzles. Each answer has one gold letter. The 3 gold letters spell the warm word on the Final Lock sheet.



Setup (10 minutes)

- ★ Print the story (page 3), the puzzles (pages 4-6), the Final Lock sheet (page 7), the hint cards (page 8) and one certificate per player (page 10). The Answer Key is page 9: keep it back for yourself.
- ★ Put each puzzle page in its own envelope and number them 1 to 3.
- ★ Cut out the hint cards and keep them face down with you.
- ★ Optional: make real cocoa for the end!



Timing (25 minutes)

- ★ 0-8 min: Puzzle 1 (symbol code).
- ★ 8-16 min: Puzzle 2 (maze).
- ★ 16-25 min: Puzzle 3 (word search) and the Final Lock.



How the game runs

- ★ Read the story aloud, start a 25-minute timer and hand over Envelope 1 and the Final Lock sheet.
- ★ When the team says an answer, check it against the Answer Key. Right? Hand them the next envelope. Not yet? Say 'Brrr, still frozen!'
- ★ Hints: give Hint 1 first, then 2, then 3 (Hint 3 is almost the answer).
- ★ When all 3 gold letters are on the Final Lock sheet, the team shouts the warm word together to win.

READ ALOUD: THE STORY

★ ——— Read this to the players, then hand out Envelope 1. ——— ★



Snow is falling on a cozy December afternoon, and the kitchen smells of cookies. The big pot of hot cocoa is just about ready. Then a puff of glittery snow tumbles down the chimney.

It is Flurry, the tiny snow sprite with a snowflake crown. "Ooh, cocoa!" she squeaks, and leans in for a sniff... AH-AH-ACHOO! Her frosty sneeze freezes the whole pot solid, marshmallows and all!

"Oopsie," Flurry giggles. "Only one little word can melt it. I hid it in three puzzles, because I LOVE puzzles. Solve them, shout the word together, and the cocoa will be warm again. And maybe... I could have a cup too?"

The cocoa won't thaw itself. Ready, team? Go!





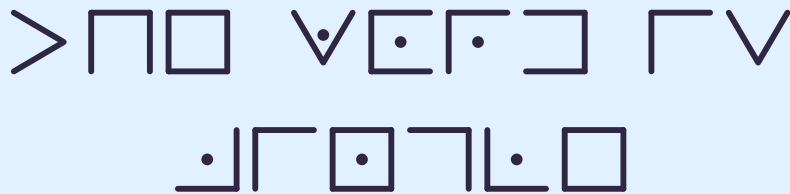
THE FROSTY WINDOW



ENVELOPE 1 · SYMBOL CIPHER



Flurry drew a row of funny shapes in the frost on the kitchen window, and stuck her secret key right below it. Each shape is the outline of the lines around a letter in the key.



Flurry's key

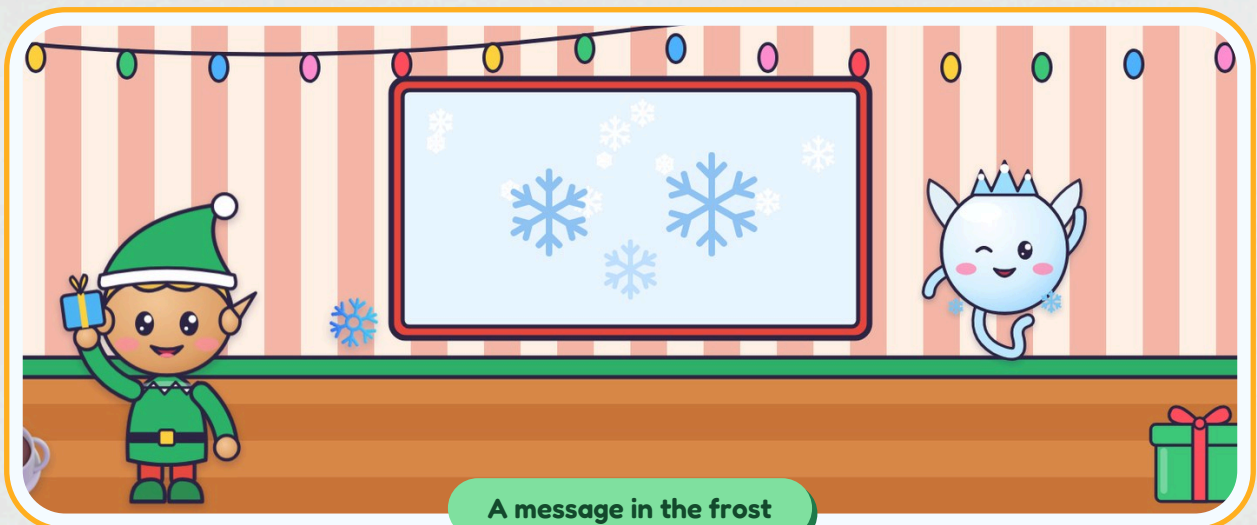
A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I

J •	K •	L •
M •	N •	O •
P •	Q •	R •



Each symbol is the shape of the lines around its letter in the key. A dot means the dotted grid or X.

Work space: _____



A message in the frost

ANSWER



--	--	--	--	--	--

Copy the letter in the gold box to the Final Lock sheet.

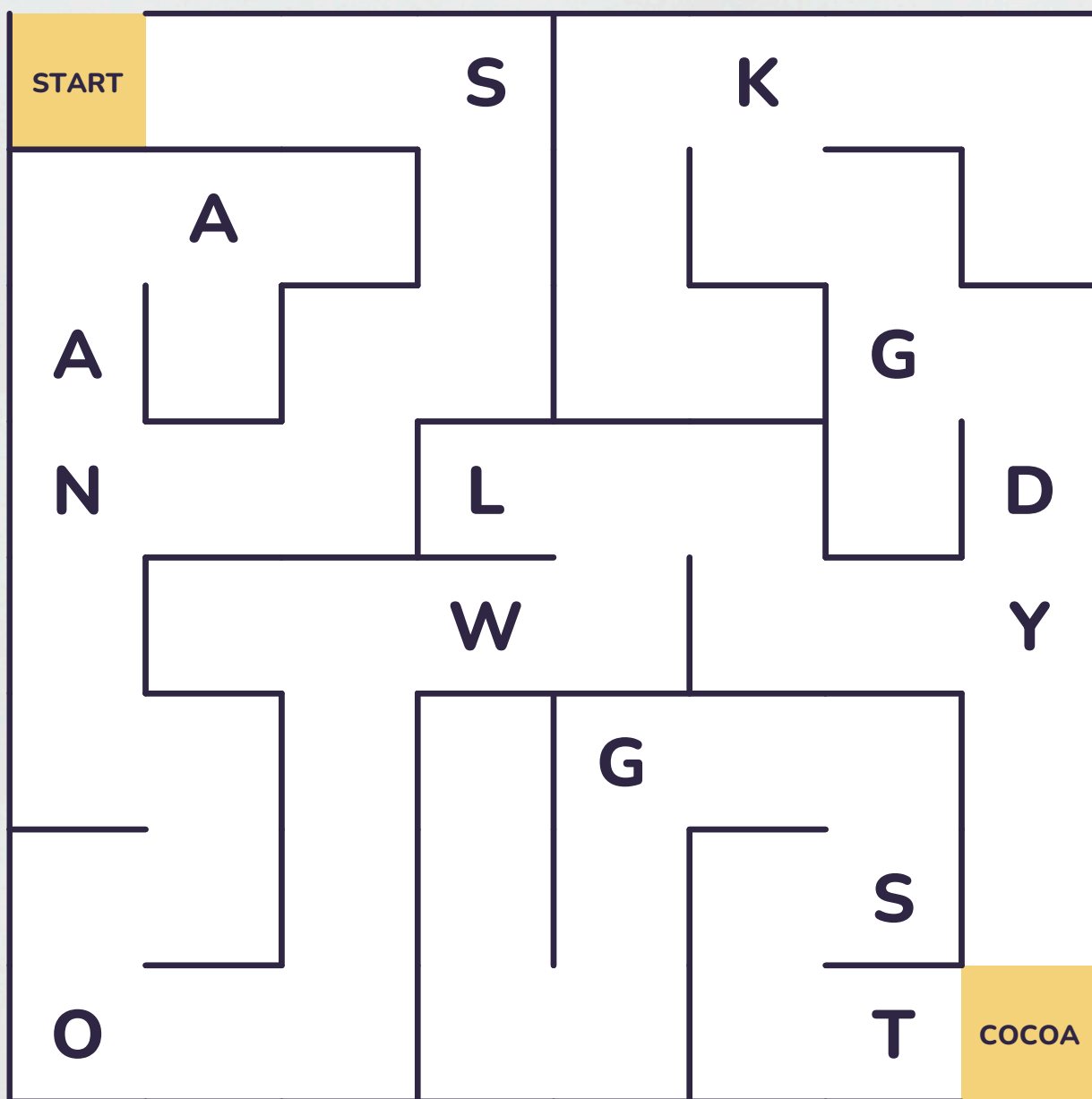


THE MARSHMALLOW MAZE



★ ——— ENVELOPE 2 · MAZE ——— ★

Flurry's snow piled up between the table and the stove. Only one path leads from the kitchen door to the cocoa pot. Trace it with your pencil and write down the letters you pass on the way, in order.



Only one path works. Letters on dead ends are tricks from the Snow Sprite.

ANSWER ★

--	--	--	--	--

Copy the letter in the gold box to the Final Lock sheet.



THE COCOA SHOPPING LIST



★ — ENVELOPE 3 · WORD SEARCH — ★

Flurry's shopping list for the perfect cocoa party got frosted over. Circle every word from the list. The letters you do NOT circle, read from left to right and top to bottom, form a secret message.

T	C	O	O	K	I	E
S	S	U	G	A	R	H
M	N	T	E	W	O	R
U	I	O	E	P	I	E
G	D	L	W	A	R	M
I	S	Y	K	C	U	P
U	M	C	R	E	A	M

Find these words (across, down, or diagonally down-right):

COOKIE CREAM CUP MILK MUG
PIE SNOW SUGAR TEA WARM

ANSWER ★

Copy the letter in the gold box
to the Final Lock sheet.



THE FINAL LOCK

★ ——— THREE GOLD LETTERS. ONE WARM WORD. ——— ★

Copy the gold letter from each puzzle's answer into the matching box below, in order from Puzzle 1 to Puzzle 3. The three letters spell the happy word that melts the cocoa.

--	--	--

Puzzle 1

Puzzle 2

Puzzle 3

When the word is complete, the whole team shouts it together, three times. Then show the host. If you are right, the ice goes drip, drip, drip and the cocoa starts to steam again!

Answers found so far (check them off):

- ☐ Puzzle 1: The Frosty Window _____
- ☐ Puzzle 2: The Marshmallow Maze _____
- ☐ Puzzle 3: The Cocoa Shopping List _____



HINT CARDS

Cut out and keep face down until needed. Give a team the lowest-numbered hint first.

PUZZLE 1 · HINT 1



The Frosty Window

Look at the key: A sits in the top-left corner of the grid, with lines only on its right and below. So the A symbol is that corner shape.



PUZZLE 1 · HINT 2



The Frosty Window

Symbols with a dot come from the dotted grid or the dotted X. The pointy V shapes come from the X shapes.



PUZZLE 1 · HINT 3



The Frosty Window

The message starts THE WORD IS... The last word is the sound sleigh bells make.



PUZZLE 2 · HINT 1



The Marshmallow Maze

Start in the top-left shaded square and end in the bottom-right one. You can't cross any line.



PUZZLE 2 · HINT 2



The Marshmallow Maze

Stuck? Work backwards from the pot, then meet in the middle. Letters in dead ends are Flurry's tricks.



PUZZLE 2 · HINT 3



The Marshmallow Maze

The path letters spell a word for a white, wintry day: S-N-O-...



PUZZLE 3 · HINT 1



The Cocoa Shopping List

Words only go across (left to right), down, or diagonally down and to the right. Two words can share a letter.



PUZZLE 3 · HINT 2



The Cocoa Shopping List

When every listed word is circled, write the leftover letters in order, row by row.



PUZZLE 3 · HINT 3



The Cocoa Shopping List

The leftover letters start T-H-E-W-O-R-D-I-S... The last word is what you say when cocoa tastes great.



ANSWER KEY

★ ——— For the host only. Keep this page away from the players. ——— ★

Answers

1. The Frosty Window = JINGLE (gold letter J). Decode with the key: THE WORD IS JINGLE.
2. The Marshmallow Maze = SNOWY (gold letter O). The only route from START to COCOA passes S, N, O, W, Y = SNOWY.
3. The Cocoa Shopping List = YUM (gold letter Y). Circle all listed words; the leftover letters in reading order spell THE WORD IS YUM.

Final Lock: JOY

J (JINGLE) O (SNOWY) Y (YUM). Pour the cocoa, and save a tiny cup for Flurry!

Before you play again

- ★ Print fresh puzzle pages for each new team, or slip the pages into clear sleeves and use a dry-erase marker.
- ★ Teams of 2 or 3 work best. With more kids, print two sets and race!





COCOA SAVED!

COCOA RESCUER

This certifies that

YOUR NAME

cracked Flurry's frosty codes, solved three puzzles and melted the frozen cocoa pot just in time. The cocoa is warm, the cookies are ready, and Flurry got her very own (very tiny) cup.



THREE PUZZLES SOLVED

Escape time: _____ minutes

Hints used: _____

Host: _____



WANT A BIGGER ADVENTURE?

★ — FLURRY HAS MORE PUZZLES UP HER SLEEVE — ★



The Sleigh Rescue

Loved this one? In The Sleigh Rescue, our full Christmas escape room, Flurry sneezes on Christmas Eve and freezes the whole toy workshop, sleigh and all. Your team has one hour and six brand-new puzzles to melt it free before midnight.

- 6 puzzles: symbol code, logic grid, maze, mirror note, cut-out jigsaw and word search
- Story to read aloud, host guide, hint cards, answer key and a certificate for every player
- Ages 8+, 2-8 players, 45-60 minutes. US Letter and A4

Find it in the TofuLabs shop on Etsy

etsy.com/listing/4583531590

Free for home and classroom use: print as many copies as you like. Please share the page you found this on rather than the file. Merry Christmas from Tofu Labs!

