I invented a game inspired by my nephew’s not-so-subtle distaste for a Christmas gift: the Stinky Gift Game. Each family member was given a grocery bag and instructed to rummage through the house to find the worst possible item to give as a gift, like a pencil with no eraser.

We exchanged bags, and the receiver had to say at least one complimentary thing about the item (“Oh! You know I have too many erasers and not enough pencils — thanks so much!”)

After playing the game, they did at least learn to say something complimentary and thank the gift giver. — *Tracy Williams, Cypress, Tex.*