Time to think about writing letters to Santa

The U.S. Postal Service can help prove Santa is real when he replies a child's letter – complete with a North Pole postmark.

Here are the steps to get a letter back from Santa:

1. Write a letter to Santa and place it in an envelope addressed to: Santa Claus, North Pole.

2. Later, when alone, open the envelope and write a personalized response.

3. Insert the response letter into an envelope and address it to the child.

4. Add the return address: SANTA, NORTH POLE, to the envelope.

5. Affix a first-class mail stamp to the envelope.

6. Place the complete envelope into a larger envelope with appropriate postage and address it to: North Pole Postmark, Postmaster, 4141 Postmark Drive, Anchorage, AK 99530-9998.

"Letters from Santa" must be received by the Anchorage postmaster no later than Dec. 15. Santa's helpers at the Postal Service will take care of the rest.