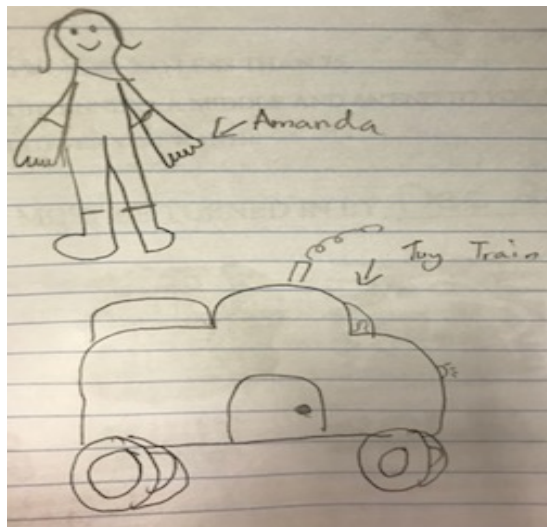


## The Small Elf

Once upon a time there was a small elf. She was seven years old, around the time every elf starts their job. The small elf's name was Amanda. Now, this was a long time ago, so the only jobs were baking cookies and helping Santa. First, Amanda tried baking cookies, but she just set them on fire! Then, she tried helping Santa, but she dropped all his special papers and they scattered all over the room. Amanda was disappointed. Then, she saw a small toy car. It was like a lightbulb had went off in her head! She found some paint, wood, a couple of nails, and a hammer. Amanda pounded and painted, outlined and nailed, for 30 minutes. She leaned back and sighed. She had created a toy train! Santa came out and admired her train. "Ho, ho, ho," he said. He took her inside and asked her to make several different toys. She did, and in only ten minutes! By the next year, 110 elves made toys. That is the story of how the smallest elf became the first toy maker elf!



**The End**