

Reading Day

My school has many different celebrations, but 7
 one of my very favorites is Reading Day. Every 16
 year in March, we celebrate reading with a day 25
 full of fun. I always bring in some of my favorite 36
 books from home, and share them with my 44
 friends. On Reading Day, we read lots of books, 53
 listen to our teacher read us stories, and even 62
 have some guest readers visit our class. Last 70
 year we used blankets to make reading forts. 78
 This year, my teacher said she has a special 87
 reading surprise for us. I can't wait to find out 97
 what it will be! Reading Day is so much fun! 107

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Comprehension Questions: Reading Day

1. What does the child say is one of their favorite celebrations at school?

2. What does the child bring from home on Reading Day?

3. What are some of the activities that happen on Reading Day?

4. What did the teacher let the students do last year?

5. What do you think the teacher's surprise will be?

St. Patrick's Day Traditions

I love St. Patrick's Day. At my house, we have traditions that make it such a fun day. First, my mom always makes pancakes for breakfast. She adds green food coloring to the batter and makes them in the shape of shamrocks! They taste great and they are fun to eat. Everyone in my family wears green clothes, and we listen to Irish music all day long. For dinner, we have corned beef and cabbage to eat. It is delicious! I love all of our family's traditions, but I think that our St. Patrick's Day traditions are my favorite ones of all!

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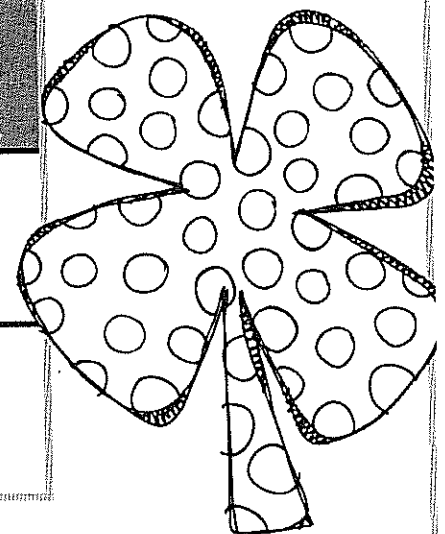
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Comprehension Questions: St. Patrick's Day Traditions

1. What do you think the word "tradition" means?

2. What does mom make for breakfast on St. Patrick's Day?

3. What does the family wear on St. Patrick's Day?

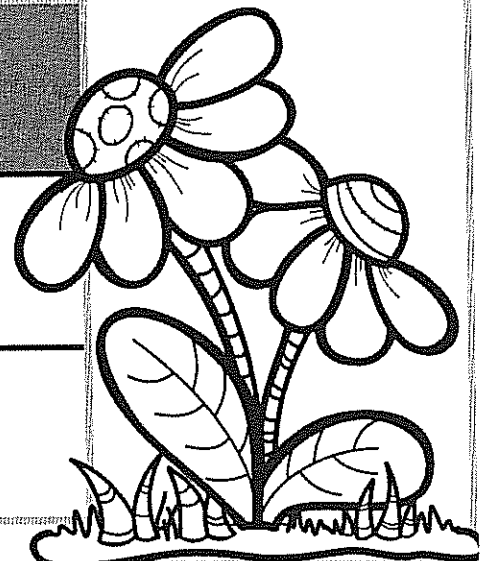
4. What do they eat for dinner on St. Patrick's Day?

5. What does the family listen to on St. Patrick's Day?

Springtime Fun

One spring day, my friends and I were 8
 outside playing. "I love spring," I said. 15
 "Me too," said my friend Andy. "I love the 24
 sound of the birds singing, and the sound of 33
 the frogs croaking by the pond," he told me. 42
 "I like the smell of the grass and the flowers 52
 blooming," I said. Suddenly it started to rain. 60
 "I like the way it rains in the spring too," 70
 I said. "Let's go and find a puddle to jump in!" 81
 "Yeah, that is the best part of all about 90
 spring," Andy said. Off we went to find a 99
 puddle! 100

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Comprehension Questions: Springtime Fun

1. What did Andy say he liked about spring?

2. What does the author like about spring?

3. What happened while the children were playing outside?

4. What did Andy say was the best part of spring?

5. What do you like best about spring?

Helen Keller

Helen Keller was born in 1880. She was born healthy, 10
 but at 19 months, she became extremely ill. No one 20
 knows for sure what Helen was sick with but the illness 31
 caused her to become blind and deaf. Helen became 40
 very angry because she could not see or hear. She had 51
 terrible tantrums. Her family decided she needed help. 59
 They met a teacher named Annie Sullivan who came to 68
 live with Helen. Annie taught Helen how to finger spell 78
 and how to communicate. Helen's behavior improved. 86
 She learned so much that she was able to go to college. 96
 Annie went along with her, and stayed with Helen for 106
 her entire life. After college, Helen worked to improve 115
 life for others who needed help. Helen was a very 124
 influential woman! 130

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Comprehension Questions: Helen Keller

1. How did Helen become blind and deaf?

2. Why do you think Helen began to throw tantrums?

3. How did Annie help Helen?

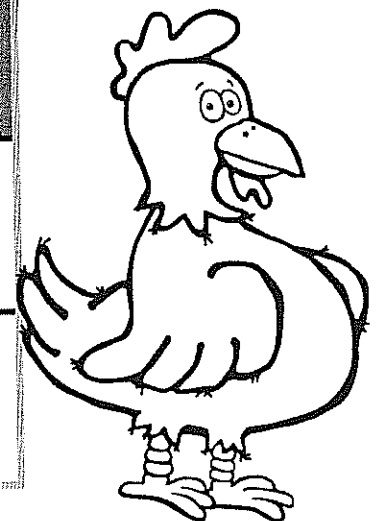
4. How long did Annie live with Helen?

5. What did Helen do after college?

The Life Cycle of a Chicken

Everyone knows that chickens lay eggs, but 7
 did you know that eggs are only one step in 17
 the life cycle of a chicken? The life cycle 26
 starts when a female chicken, called a hen, 34
 lays an egg. The hen sits on her nest full of 45
 eggs to keep them warm until they hatch. 53
 Fluffy little baby chicks hatch out of the 61
 eggs. The chicks grow for about three 68
 months, until they reach adulthood. If the 75
 adult chickens are females, they will lay eggs. 83
 The hatch into chicks; the chicks grow into 91
 chickens and the entire process starts over. 98

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Comprehension Questions: The Life Cycle of a Chicken

1. What is the first step in a chicken's life cycle?

2. How does a hen take care of the chicks before they hatch?

3. How long does it take for chicks to reach adulthood?

4. How does the cycle happen again and again?

5. What other animal life cycle does this remind you of?

Lester and Lucy Go to School

Lester woke up in a playful mood. He ran in and	9
woke up his sister Lucy. "Lucy, let's go to school	20
today and play some tricks on the kids," he said.	27
"Ok," said Lucy. "That sounds like fun!" The two	36
naughty leprechauns went to school. "Good!" said	45
Lester. "The kids aren't here yet." Lucy walked	53
across all the children's desk, leaving her footprints	61
all over them. Lester took all of the green markers	70
and hid them in a closet. He went over to the soap	78
and turned it green. "The boys and girls are sure	87
going to be surprised when they get to school,"	90
Lucy said. "I hope they like our tricks," Lester said	97
laughing. "Let's leave before they get here!"	98

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Comprehension Questions: Lester and Lucy Go to School

1. What kind of mood did Lester wake up in?

2. What trick did Lucy do to the students' desks?

3. What did Lester hide?

4. What other trick did Lester play?

5. What tricks would you play if you were a leprechaun?

World Water Day

Water is one of our most important resources. 8

We use water daily for many purposes. We not 17

only use it to drink, but also to cook with. We 28

use water to keep our bodies clean, and to clean 38

things like dishes. Could you imagine life without 46

water? Sadly, there are many people in the 54

world who do not have access to fresh, clean 63

water. In some areas, water is filled with 71

bacteria that makes it unsafe. People can 78

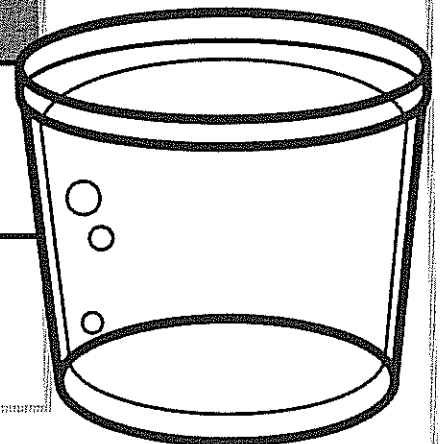
become ill if they use it. World Water Day is on 89

March 22. People collect money and help teach 97

people about the importance of water and how 105

to help people who do not have it. 113

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Comprehension Questions: World Water Day

1. What are some of the ways we use water?

2. Does everyone in the world have plenty of water?

3. What makes some water unsafe?

4. What happens to people if they use unsafe water?

5. What is World Water Day?

The Life Cycle of a Butterfly

A butterfly, like many other animals, goes through many changes in its life. When some animals are born, they just look like small versions of their adult selves. A butterfly goes through a complete metamorphosis, which means that it starts out as one thing and changes into something completely different. A butterfly starts as an egg. A caterpillar hatches out of the egg. It grows quickly, getting bigger and bigger. Then it is ready to form a chrysalis. It stays in its chrysalis until it is ready to hatch, and then out comes an adult butterfly. Female butterflies lay eggs, and the entire cycle repeats itself!

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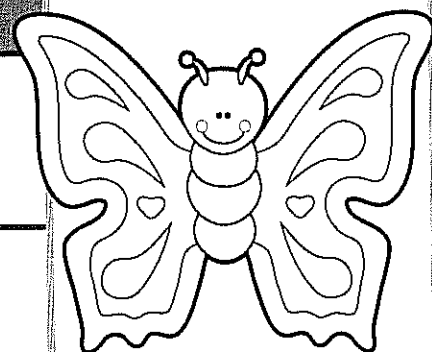
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Comprehension Questions: The Life Cycle of a Butterfly

1. What is a complete metamorphosis?

2. Do all animals go through a complete metamorphosis?

3. What are the stages of a butterfly life cycle?

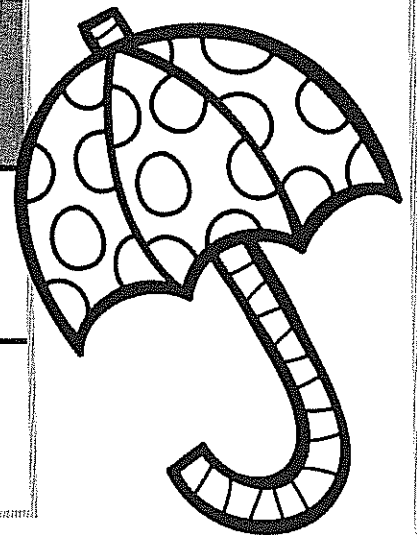
4. How does the life cycle repeat itself?

5. Can you think of an animal that does not go through a complete metamorphosis?

Spring Weather

Spring is one of the four seasons. It starts at 10
 the end of March, and lasts until summer, which 19
 begins at the end of June. During the spring, the 29
 earth's axis is tilted toward the sun. This means 38
 that the weather becomes warmer and there 45
 are more daylight hours. Warmer weather 51
 means changes for plants and animals. Plants 58
 begin to grow. Flowers and trees start to bud. 67
 Animals come out of hibernation. Birds begin to 75
 lay eggs in the spring, and other animals have 84
 their babies. Some animals shed their winter 91
 coats to prepare for warm weather. Spring is 99
 an exciting time! 102

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Comprehension Questions: Spring Weather

1. When is the spring season?

2. What causes the spring weather?

3. What happens to plants when the spring weather starts?

4. What happens to animals when the spring weather starts?

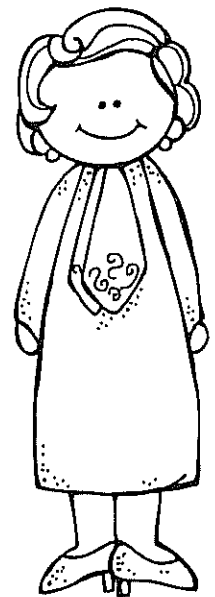
5. Why do you think the author says that spring is an exciting time?

Sandra Day O'Connor

Sandra Day O'Connor was born in 1930. She and her family lived on a cattle ranch in Texas, where she learned to work hard. After graduating from high school, Sandra went to college at Stanford University. She became a judge. She had many important positions such as Attorney General of Arizona. In 1981, President Ronald Reagan appointed Sandra to be a judge on the U.S. Supreme Court. She was the first female Supreme Court Justice in history. For 24 years, she made decisions about the most important cases in the country. She has written several books, and sometimes still works as a substitute judge. Thank you Sandra Day O'Connor for being the first female on the U.S. Supreme Court!

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Comprehension Questions: Sandra Day O'Connor

1. Where did Sandra live as a child?

2. What did Sandra Day O'Connor do in Arizona?

3. How many women had worked as Supreme Court Justices before Sandra Day O'Connor?

4. What did Sandra Day O'Connor do after she retired from the Supreme Court?

5. What questions do you still have about Sandra Day O'Connor?
