

Monthly Mustang

St. Patrick's Day History and Traditions

By Maggie Chen



Do you know why we celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17?

The first St. Patrick's Day was on March 17, 1631. A church had a Feast Day honoring St. Patrick. St. Patrick died around the 5th century. He was a Patron Saint. The first modern St. Patrick's Day was 12 centuries after he died. St. Patrick's real name was Maewyn Succat. He was Roman and was kidnapped as a slave. He brought

Christianity to Ireland after he escaped slavery.

In some places, people make buildings, rivers, bridges, and other things green for St. Patrick's Day. Lots of cities have parties and parades for St. Patrick's Day. For example, in Dallas, they have had a parade since 1986!

Blue was originally the color for St. Patrick's Day because, at the time, the Irish flag was blue. Later, the flag's color was changed to green and so was the color for St. Patrick's Day. Shamrocks are symbols for Ireland and St. Patrick's Day because stories say that St. Patrick used a shamrock in his mission. Shamrocks are clovers but have only three leaves.

St. Patrick's Day is in honor of St. Patrick, a Patron Saint. People around the world celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17 every year.



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Thank you to
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Leprechauns

By Alexander Beddar

Do you know what a leprechaun is? If you answered no, this article is all about leprechauns and will be perfect for you.

Leprechauns are small dwarf people from Irish folklore. They are two feet tall and have black or green hats called cocked hats. They wear green coats, trousers with gold buttons, and shiny black shoes. They live in woodlands and forests.

If you go to the end of a rainbow, you can find a leprechaun and his gold. The leprechaun will also grant you three wishes. Every leprechaun has their own pot of

gold,
and
they
love
their
gold



more
than anything. Leprechauns are fast and are hard to spot. They are shoemakers and are grumpy fellows.

I hope you learned something new today! If you want to learn more, go to <https://holidappy.com/holidays/leprechaun-facts-kids>

Battle of the Month

By Sam Atha

Hi, my name is Sam, and I like the history of battles. You have probably heard of the battles of Pearl Harbor, D-Day, and even the Alamo which happened in March, but have you heard of the Battle of the Aegates Islands? Let me tell you about it.

The Battle of the Aegates Islands was the final naval battle of the First Punic War on March 10, 241 BC. It was fought between the Romans and the Carthaginians who were from North Africa. The location of the battle was the Aegadian Islands, just west of the island of Sicily.

In the year leading up to the battle, both the Romans and the Carthaginians built up naval fleets after having lost many ships in the war and storms. The Roman Empire was out of money, but wealthy Romans paid for the construction of 200 ships to show their love for their homeland. The Carthaginians built 250 ships, but they weren't as well built. The Carthaginian crews were inexperienced, and the ships were too heavy.

Carthage had taken over important ports on the island of Sicily, which was traditionally held by Rome, and Rome wanted it back. The Carthaginian commander was Hamilcar Barca. He needed replacements for his army to manage the ports, but he was having a hard time with tough seas and a naval blockade from the Romans.

Spring Time
By Alice Kate Gibson
Flowers bloom.
Lots of colors.

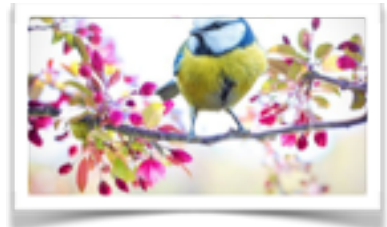
That's what everyone's discovered.
But did you know without the snow that lots
of birds have come home?
Tweets and chirps fill the air since all the
birds are home.

But now lots of people know there's more
than just no
snow.

There's
flowers too
and lots of
birds.

And that's
what happens

in the spring.



On the morning of March 10, Barca's fellow admiral named Hanno decided to send ships into port. The Roman navy did not want this to happen. Under the command of Roman military leaders Catulus and Falto, the Roman ships were stripped (continue on page 3) (Atha, cont. from page 2) down to their minimal requirements to increase speed and nimbleness. The Romans also removed all of the sails because the winds were not in their favor. The Roman ships used giant rams on the front to bash into the enemy ships sinking or capturing almost half of them, with the Romans only losing 30.

The Roman victory was a decisive win. A few months later, the Carthaginians told Barca to negotiate a treaty with the Romans to surrender Sicily and pay back lots of money, a major concession by the Carthaginians that brought an end to the First Punic War after 20 years.

To this day, maritime archeologists continue to find ships on the ocean floor from this battle. The Carthaginian ship wrecks contained huge gashes from the ramming techniques performed by the Romans.

I hope you enjoyed learning something about the Battle of the Aegates Islands.



References:

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How to Catch a Leprechaun

By Coco Rahbar-Daniels

Sit down, make yourself comfy

It isn't my problem if it's lumpy

3 nickels and a dime you will drop in here

For such valuable knowledge, the price is mere

So it is a leprechaun you want to catch

To grab, to take, to hold, to snatch

Well first you will need the material

The first item is a box of Lucky Charms cereal

Then get some pennies, put them to good use

Paint them gold, like that old goose

Take some boxes, cardboard will do

So when you catch it, it will have a house to live in too

Pour the cereal into a bowl, throw the pennies into a pouch, and put the house on your living room couch

The leprechauns have magic though

He could escape so,

If you're not quick enough to catch him

Don't blame me again

Blame yourself that you believed

In them!



My Book Review of *Loot*

By Gavin Terrazas



Looking for an adventure book? Maybe one that includes blackmail, thieves, and cursed jewels that can tell prophecies? If you are, then *Loot* is your book! It's about two long lost twins, March and Jules, who find themselves together again when their father, Alfie

McQuin, dies. Their father, who also happened to be a world-famous cat burglar, had kept them apart for years. Alfie fell off a roof and died when trying to steal a cursed stone from a woman named Carlotta Grimestone, who had left it in a museum for safekeeping. Right before Alfie died, he gave March the moonstone he stole and told him to "find jewels," which led March to find the twin sister he didn't know he had.

Want to know why he kept them apart? (FLASHBACK) Well, right after March and Jules were born, Alfie and two other people (one of them was his wife) went on a heist to steal a few diamonds. One of them, Oscar Ford, grabbed a bauble (a necklace) for his girlfriend, which broke the thieves' agreement. Oscar got mad and, while twirling the bauble on his finger, broke the bauble. The moonstones that were on the necklace flew in the air and gave every thief a prophecy. Oscar saw himself getting captured, Alfie's mom saw herself dying, and Alfie saw his kids dying together.

When Alfie died, March was taken to a foster home, where he met Jules for the first time. He also makes friends with Darius and Izzy. Together, the four of them go on a spree to get all seven of the moonstones and learn a lot more about Alfie in the process.

I hope you liked my book review, and if you want to read it, just look for *Loot* by Jude Watson. Enjoy!

The Lion on Mars by Jennifer L. Holm

By Milo Jenq

Zoom! Bell, a human boy about eleven years old who has lived on Mars his whole life, explores the outskirts of the U.S. settlement with some of his siblings on a rover. They know the risks, but curiosity overcomes them. A big rule for Bell's settlement is that there can be no communication with other settlements. However, when the adults mysteriously begin to fall sick, Bell decides he has to help. Will Bell discover the big secret about other settlements and save his home settlement, or will everyone die from the sickness?

The Lion on Mars is a story written by the New York Times bestselling author Jennifer L. Holm. She was born in California, and she currently lives in California. She has been writing for about 23 years and is 53 years old. She also wrote a series called Baby Mouse with over 20 books in the series.

The Lion on Mars is a nerve-racking sci-fi story for children ages 8-12. Interestingly, while it was actually written before the COVID-19 pandemic, there are many similarities to our current pandemic life. Some lessons from this story are about dealing with loss, forgiveness, and friendship.

I loved this book because it has action, drama, and suspense. Bell is a good character who I think everyone can root for because he is bright, curious, and nice. Of course, there are other good characters, but I like Bell the most.

Overall, I give this book 5 out of 5 stars. By the way,

The Lion on Mars is a 2022 Bluebonnet Book. I highly recommend it!



Spy School At Sea By Marcus Emerson

By Jack Bridges



Spy School is funny, emotional, intense, and action-packed. The main character is named Benjamin Ripley, and he is thirteen years old. He and his team try to stop Murray Hill from launching nuclear bombs in South America. His team is made up of his best friend Mike, a girl named Zoe, and his girlfriend, Erica Hail.

The dangerous journey takes the team to extreme places like unsteady oceans, a small island, and their home in the United States of America. They also get to ride on jet skis. The main theme of the book is that risky situations come with big rewards, and their reward was saving a continent and stopping a war.

The Spy School book series is my favorite series so far this year because I love action-packed movies and books and these books are full of action. I would recommend this book to 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students, and I rate it a 10 out of 10!

West U Mustangs ... go read this book as you will not be disappointed! Adventure awaits.

Minecraft Review

By Gibson Allison

Minecraft is a single player to multiplayer game. You can either kill the ender dragon in "survival mode" or build anything you want in "creative mode."

Minecraft has many worlds in the marketplace. The marketplace is where you can buy good builds including the Star Wars mash up pack. Minecraft mobs are very cute. The cutest one is the axolotl.



In all, Minecraft is a very entertaining game with millions of things to do. It is 5 out of 5 Gibson stars

Brain Quest Review

By Evelyn Watson

Brain Quest is a fun game made for everyone depending on which one you get.

There are Brain Quest decks made for ages 2-12. Each deck includes hundreds of fun questions and answers. Questions range from math, science, English, history, geography, miscellany, and civics.



It's a really fun way to get smarter by the second. I usually like science, math, and English. You can do it with the help of a friend or by yourself. There are also Summer Workbooks. My Brain Quest, Grade 5 ages 10-11, has 1,500 questions. (It says on the last page). I think this is super cool and fun to do; I do it in bed before I'm about to go to sleep. You should totally buy it, super worth it!

Barnaby's Restaurant Review

By Juliet Kuban

Hi there!! This is Juliet Kuban. Today, I am going to be reviewing Barnaby's. My family and I dined at the Barnaby's located on Binz Street in the Museum District.

First, Barnaby's has very good service, food, presentation, and portion size. I would recommend ordering the Lebanese Fattoush Chicken Salad. It was huge and had the perfect combination of feta cheese and dressing. I would also recommend ordering the salmon entrée. It was perfectly moist. For dessert, the chocolate cake is the way to go! Our family was treated to a giant slice on the house.

For the kids, Barnaby's has a wide selection of kid-approved meals including grilled cheese, mac and cheese, and fries. To entertain the kids, they have an outdoor area with foosball, giant Connect 4, and Jenga.

Barnaby's is also dog friendly, and you can order a doggie ice cream bone for just one dollar.

Finally, I just want to give a shout out to Carlos, our server.

Thank you for reading my review of Barnaby's. Give it a try.



An Interview With A Pot Of Gold (At The End Of The Rainbow!)

By Ethan Duguid

Q. How does it feel to be left behind at the end of the rainbow?

A. Frankly, it's a little depressing. How would you feel if you were left behind for a thousand years?

Q. What do you do in your free time?

A. Whenever the leprechaun comes over, we play "Cloveropoly." I always bankrupt him on Rainbow Road!

Q. What is your favorite food? I've got a bet with a friend that it's Chick-Fil-A, but he thinks it's Fun Dip!

A. Get ready to pay up, because it's KFC!

Q. Do you have any jokes for our readers?

A. I do have one. Why did the leprechaun cross the rainbow? To get to his pot of gold!

Q. Has anyone ever stolen you?

A. Almost, but the leprechaun knocked the thief out with a punch in the gut! It then turned into a wrestling match and streamed LIVE on TV! It was the best day ever because we won a free KFC* dinner!



*This interview was in no way sponsored by KFC.

Insanity?

By: Maria Neata

Sunlight filtered into the room,
And yet there was an air of gloom,
I opened my eyes and then I said,
"Well, I can't stay all day in bed."
I wished I could, but you see,
My stomach got the best of me.
I went downstairs to look for food,
Then I had a change in mood.
For my mother was doing acrobatics,
I left before she could turn to dramatics,
In the kitchen, before my eyes,
My dog was cooking bacon and fries!
And let me be quite plain,
I, for one, am perfectly sane.
But soon I began to doubt that,
Since I heard a bark from my cat!
When I turned my gaze to the sky,
I saw an oak tree learning to fly,
A mouse chased a cat, a mute started to
sing,
Well, I thought, now I've seen everything.
Then everything began to rewind,
Maybe now I was in the right mind.
In front of me was my sister holding a
bowl of cream,
"So," she said, " Did you have a nice
dream?"

Piano Practice Tips

By Ana Sofia Munoz

Hello Mustangs!

Do you play piano? Don't you always wonder if you practiced it correctly? Well, today, I will show you how to not just study properly, but in a fun way as well!

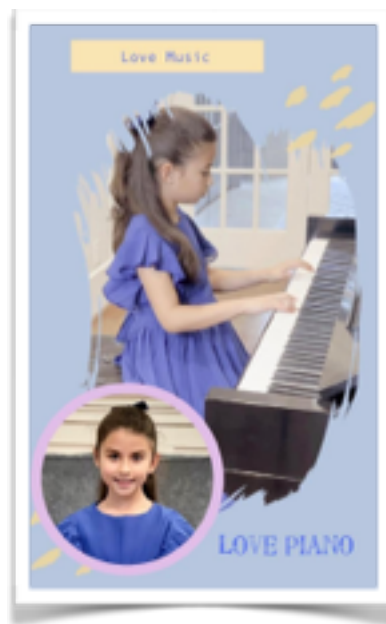
Make sure you have a good body position and your feet are well placed on the ground.

Make sure your hands are curved.

Play with the tip of your fingers.

If you have a long and hard song, then start with the harder parts. When you master the trickier ones, take a break before you start the easier ones.

Practice in front of your dolls & stuffed animals.



To help your sight reading, make flash cards with the notes on one side and the name of the note on the other side. Practice with the flashcards everyday.

Make a story out of your song.

Have three pennies or chocolates on one side of the piano. Play a song perfectly three times and you get the prize. If not, your parent gets it.

Practice piano every day - even if it is for a short time period!

And the most important thing is to HAVE FUN!

I hope you find these tips useful and enjoyable!

Grandma's Springtime Apple Crisp Recipe

By: Willa Castle and Lila Cooley

On February 13, we got together at Willa's house to bake her Grandma's recipe of apple crisp. We think it is a very fun project to work on with your friends. We hope you will enjoy it as much as we did! Warning: Make sure to wear an apron while working on this dish; you do not want to get dirty!

1 cup flour

1 cup oatmeal

½ cup brown sugar

¼ tablespoon baking soda

½ cup melted butter

Mix all of these ingredients thoroughly in a mixing bowl. (It's much more fun to mix with your hands! We learned from experience!)

5 or 6 tart apples, pared and sliced thinly

½ cup sugar and some cinnamon

Put sliced apples, sugar, and cinnamon in a baking dish, and top with remaining batter from the mixing bowl. (Make sure to not put apples in the mixing bowl; it's a completely different thing!)

Bake for 25-30 minutes in the oven at 350 F.

We hope you learned a little bit more about cooking during this fun experience! Below, there are some

pictures of us making it. Note: A good idea for your apple crisp would be to top it with some delicious vanilla ice cream!



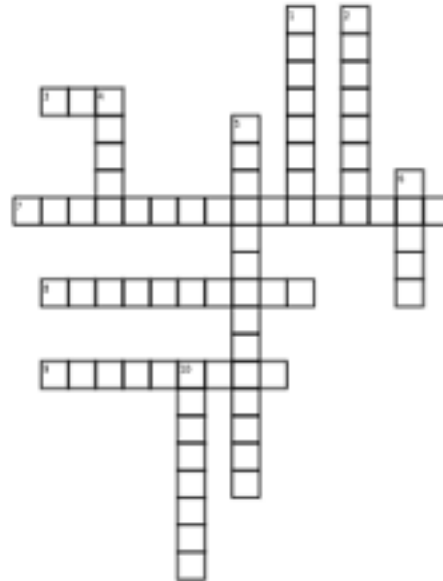
St. Patrick's Day Word Search

By Alexander Kim



Clover
Ireland
Parade
St. Patrick's
Gold
Leprechaun
Rainbow
Green
Luck
Shamrock

Saint Patrick's Day Crossword



Down:

1. Saint Patrick's Day religion
2. an Irish vegetable
4. a comin color that you see during this time
5. a green leaf that symbols good luck
6. the month that we celebrate this holiday
10. when good things happen to you for a period of time

Across:

3. an Irish dance
7. the holiday that we celebrate during this month
8. a tiny person that is thought to live at the end of a rainbow garding a pot of gold
9. an object that is at the end of a rainbow

By

Matthew
Herman

St. Patrick's Crossword Challenge!



Down

1. These are held to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.
2. These mythical creatures are said to hide treasure.
3. Legends that are not true.
5. The country where St. Patrick's Day is the national holiday.
6. What Leprechauns hide at the end of rainbows.
7. Mythical winged creatures.
9. The festive color worn on St. Patrick's Day.
11. What people who live in Ireland are called: _____ people.

Across

4. Stories that have been told for many generations.
8. Three-leaved clovers are also known as _____.
10. Where Leprechauns hide their treasure.
12. Large mythical creatures that play a great role in Irish legends.
13. The month in which St. Patrick's Day takes place.

Word Bank

Shamrock
March
Giants
Fairies
Legends
Rainbows
Leprechauns
Gold
Myths
Parades
Ireland
Irish
Green

Animal Word Search

By Valentina di Fiori

Puppy Dog Hen Chick
Elephant

Giraffe Cat Turtle Fish Ant
Bee Wasp

Butterfly

w	h	r	p	j	l	l	d	a	q	v	l	t	b	g	w	s
v	o	m	u	k	k	s	f	s	v	f	v	r	j	z	s	v
l	p	b	p	e	d	d	g	a	x	d	o	g	k	s	t	z
f	x	w	p	r	s	a	w	a	s	p	v	t	v	a	b	b
i	c	w	y	y	a	y	s	n	z	z	m	t	s	j	w	m
s	p	y	q	s	w	b	u	t	t	e	r	f	l	y	t	y
h	i	m	r	g	v	n	a	w	d	z	n	c	w	c	u	n
m	r	c	h	i	c	k	m	e	f	h	e	n	e	t	r	u
q	t	a	e	r	n	b	l	r	g	f	l	w	z	c	t	c
r	y	t	m	a	z	m	k	y	b	z	e	v	r	r	l	x
u	o	n	n	f	x	c	l	t	g	a	p	a	z	b	e	e
t	z	l	t	f	c	c	i	o	i	b	h	z	z	x	e	a
l	s	u	l	e	v	v	f	i	s	d	a	s	s	z	q	i
s	a	t	m	c	f	z	g	P	b	o	n	x	b	z	bb	z
h	a	r	b	x	o	x	j	l	i	p	t	t	j	u	t	c
q	m	s	v	j	p	a	i	c	d	k	j	z	l	t	s	q
p	n	e	d	g	k	a	d	v	b	v	y	b	e	z	v	w