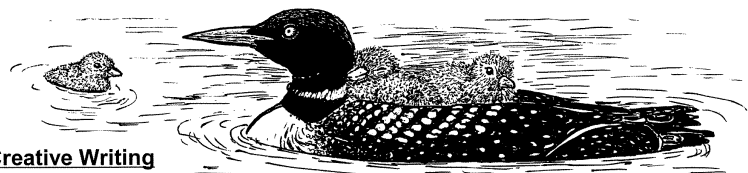


Investigation

Research and write at least one paragraph about the loon. Include information about the loon's appearance, diet, habitat, and other interesting features about this fascinating bird.



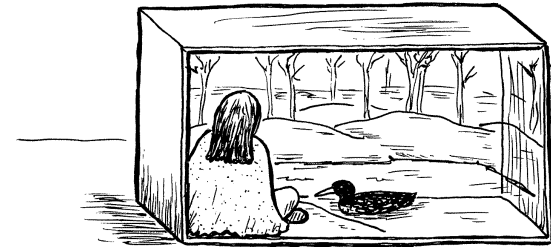
Creative Writing

Many Ojibway legends involve the fearsome bogeyman of the north woods, the **Wendigo**. The **Wendigo** was a giant cannibal who roamed the north woods preying on unsuspecting people and animals. Investigate this fascinating creature of the Ojibway, then write a "first person" adventure story in which you personally encounter the **Wendigo**.



Art

Use a shoebox to make a **diorama** of a scene from this story.



Comprehension Questions (Please answer in Complete Sentences)

- Why did the coyotes like to spend time with the girl?

- What prevented the girl from going with the coyotes at first?

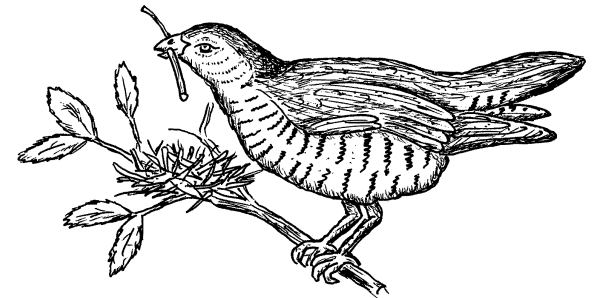
- Why did the people hate the coyotes and try to kill them?

- Describe the events that led to the girl going with the coyotes.



TANEHOKAHOKA: Pipiwaharuroa, will you come down from the forest roof?

PIPIWHARAURUA: Oh please do not ask me to come down to the forest floor, Tanehokahoka, for I am building a nest for my family.



CHORUS: Who will come? Oh who will come?

NARRATOR 1: There was great sadness in the heart of Tanehokahoka, for he knew that unless one of his children came down from the forest roof, not only would his brother lose his children, but the birds would no longer even have a home.

TANEHOKAHOKA: Kiwi, will you come down to the forest floor?

NARRATOR 2: Kiwi looked up at the trees and saw the sun shining through the leaves. He looked to his family that were gathered around, and he looked down at the cold damp earth of the forest floor.

KIWI: I will come.

NARRATOR 1: There was great joy in the hearts of Tanehokahoka and his brother, Tanemahuta. Kiwi had given them hope.

Comprehension

- Describe the beginning of the story.
Begin _____
End of _____
- In one word, describe the setting.
- Describe the main character.
- Why do you think Kookaburra didn't feel guilty about what he did to Emu?

Trivial Pursuit

The Emu is a fascinating bird. Try to answer the following questions correctly:

- Oil from the emu is used for medicinal purposes. T or F
- Wild emus in Australia often trample and destroy wheat and other crops. T or F
- A bounty was put on the emu by the Western Australian government. T or F
- The male emu incubates the eggs. T or F
- An emu stands between five and six feet tall. T or F

Art

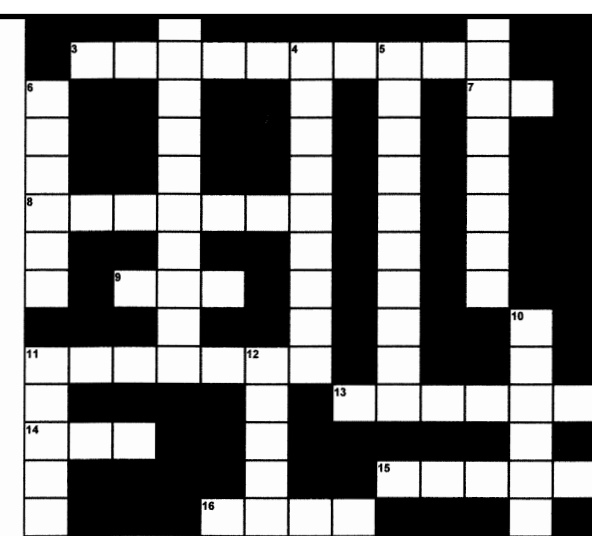
From the description of the emu at the beginning of the play, draw a picture of the emu. Be sure to colour the emu correctly.

Investigation

Complete the following chart:

Bird	Description
Tui	
Pukeko	
Pipiwaharuroa	
Kiwi	

In addition to the above birds, which are native to New Zealand, or birds which are native to this country. Describe their appearance.



ACROSS

- A bird of Australia
- Did Kookaburra like Emu?
- Reasonable
- Is Emu vain?
- A competition
- An offensive remark
- Less Australian bird
- Laugh about oneself

DOWN

- An expression of admiration
- An Australian marsupial
- Very bright and shiny
- One's image cast back
- Not innocent
- To cause water to fly about
- The past tense of creep
- Not moving

Comprehension Questions (Please answer in Complete Sentences)

- Describe the crisis that faced the Crow family.

- How did Raven trick Mama Crow?

- How did Raven trick the Baby Crows?

- Choose an appropriate word to describe Raven's character or personality. What word do you choose to describe the Baby Crows in this play?
Baby Crows - _____

- Choose words from "Supper for Crow" with the correct antonyms:
- | | |
|-------|---------|
| _____ | serious |
| _____ | rested |
| _____ | lost |
| _____ | light |
| _____ | filled |
| _____ | none |
| _____ | cruel |
| _____ | sad |

Investigation

The **Cree People** have lived in the northeastern woodlands for centuries. Research information on the Cree People, informing the reader about such things as their diet, weapons, habitat, dwellings, religion and culture. The finished product should be at least two paragraphs in length.

Creative Writing

"The Coming of the Seasons" tells a story of a group of characters who really worked together to accomplish their goals. Write a story, play or poem about an incident (real or imagined) from your life in which co-operation with others played an important part.

Art

"The Coming of the Seasons" is filled with a fascinating cast of characters. Create a poster featuring one or more of the characters from the play, advertising a speaking engagement they are involved in at a local meeting. At this meeting, they will be telling the audience about their adventures described in "The Coming of the Seasons". Make sure you include a coloured picture and an attractive title advertising the event.



**Reader's Theatre
Native Legends**



Lesson # 2 - The Old Man and the Bear - A Russian Folktale

Suggested Teaching Strategies

When reading or performing, students should always face the audience. To provide variety, one or more students might be seated instead of having them all stand in a line. Simple props such as masks can be used to good effect. As well, percussion instruments, sound effects, and mime gestures can add to the overall results of a performance.

Theme: "The Old Man and the Bear" - By using one's creativity to adapt to changing circumstances, adversity can be turned to advantage.

Russian Folktales

Although there are no fairies in Russian folklore - there are tales filled with male and female heroes, with animals that talk and behave like humans, and with soldiers who are on their way home and meet up with both good and bad fortune. The villain in many Russian tales, the large grey wolf, is now found only in the wilds of Siberia and the remoter areas of European Russia. Its reputation of killing sheep and farm animals is only true when it is desperately hungry; attacks on humans are very rare.

Answers

Comprehension Questions

- The old man promised part of his crop to the bear.
- Answers will vary. The crops were not then ripe.
- Turnips - tops - roots
Rye - roots - tops
Corn - tops/roots - middle
- Answers will vary. Gullible. Resourceful.

Fun With Words

- take
- taste
- the
- those
- to
- together
- tops
- trick
- tried
- turnip

NARRATOR 2: The turnips grew and when the old man came to harvest the crops in the fall, the bear emerged from the forest.

BEAR: All right old man, let's divide up the turnips. I'll take half and you take the other half to share.

OLD MAN: Very well, bear. As you agreed, you take the turnips and I'll take the roots.

NARRATOR 1: So, the old man gave all the greens to the bear and he took the turnips into his cart, which he took to the city.

BEAR: Where are you going, old man?

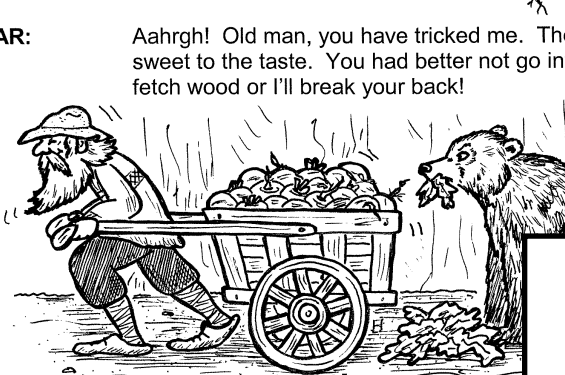
OLD MAN: I am going to the city to sell the roots.

BEAR: Let me taste those roots.

OLD MAN: Very well, my friend.

NARRATOR 2: The old man gave the bear a turnip.

BEAR: Aahrg! Old man, you have tricked me. The turnip was sweet to the taste. You had better not go into the forest to fetch wood or I'll break your back!



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15

Investigation

Ash Lad: The Ash Lad is a famous Norwegian folk character. He is named because of his habit of listening to his "normal" activities and brothers. He has won the princess as The Ash Lad's neighbour, Sweden.

Write a paragraph about one of the following famous people from Norway. Be sure to include their contribution to Norway and the world, and something of their life.

- Lief Ericson
- Thor Heyerdahl
- Knut Rockne
- Liv Ullmann
- Roald Amundsen
- Henrik Ibsen
- Kurt Nilsen (World Idol Winner - 2004)

Creative Writing

Describe the part of this play that you enjoyed the most. Be sure to include the little details that made you like it. Explain why you liked this particular scene.



Art

Create a cover page for this script. This cover page should include a coloured picture of your favourite (or the most interesting) scene, as well as the title in bold letters.

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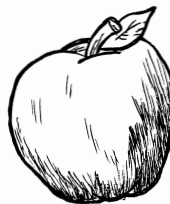
Investigation

Witches have long been a popular feature in all types of literature throughout the world. Compare the witch in this play with a witch in another story (i.e. *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Wizard and the Wardrobe*, *Snow White*). You should select at least four pieces of information to compare the two characters (this may include appearance, personality, actions, etc.).

Witch from "The Old Witch"	Witch from

Witches enjoy speaking in poetry form. An interesting form of poetry is the five-line verse-form of poetry whose structure follows the following rules:

- Two syllables (may be the title)
- Five lines (describing the subject of the title)
- Five lines (showing action)
- Five lines (feelings about the subject)
- Five lines (describing, or another name for, the title)



Write a poem, following the above rules, describing the adventures of the Little Red Riding Hood.

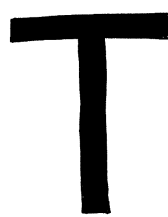
56

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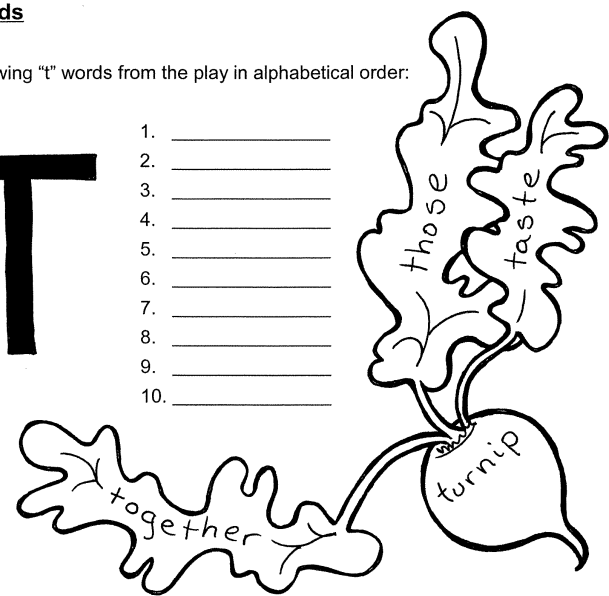
Fun With Words

Arrange the following "t" words from the play in alphabetical order:

- trick
- turnip
- tops
- taste
- those
- take
- tried
- to
- together
- the



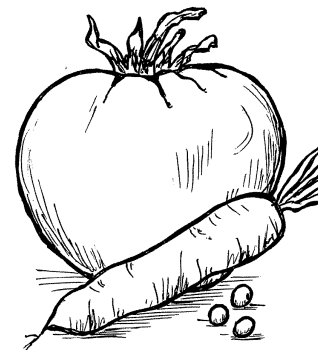
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



Investigation

As we have seen from this play, crops come in all sorts and sizes - some with the "good stuff" in the roots, some in the stems, and some right at the top of the plant. Consider the plants listed in the chart below, which the old man might have planted instead of turnips, rye and corn. Tell whether the edible portions are on the bottom, middle, or top. Come up with two additional examples of your own.

Crop	Top, Middle, or Bottom
tomatoes	
peas	
carrots	
wheat	

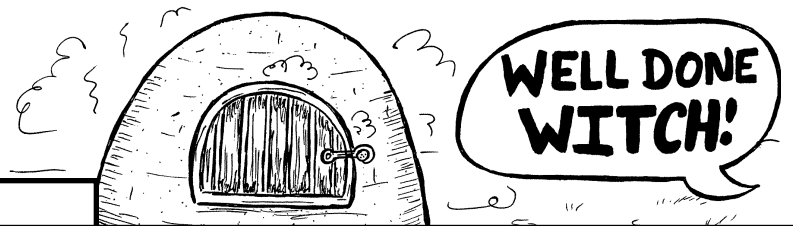


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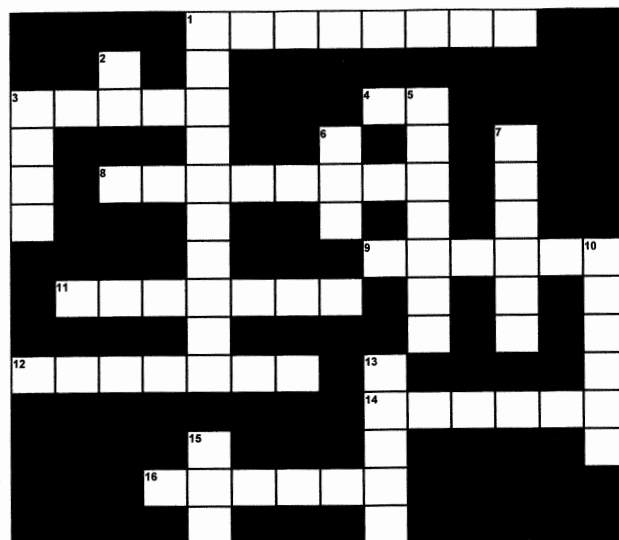
19

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balloons above the characters.



THE PRINCESS WHO ALWAYS HAD TO HAVE THE LAST WORD - CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Female child or offspring.
- Covering for the foot.
- Painful exclamation.
- Male siblings.
- Type of deciduous tree.
- Bravery.
- Made up one's mind.
- Far away.
- Type of bird.

DOWN

- Found out.
- The Princess lived in Sweden.
- The only one.
- Using carelessly.
- The Princess annoyed the King.
- Open expanses of land.
- Stayed.
- Pleaded.
- A male sheep.

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40

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Reader's Theatre Folktales



Lesson # 1 - Paul Bunyan - An American Tall Tale

Suggested Teaching Strategies

Tall Tales: A tall tale features a larger-than-life or superhuman main character, with a specific task in life. Often, it involves the solving of a problem in a humorous way. Details of the story tend to be exaggerated, describing things as greater than they really are. North American settlers who made their homes in the wilderness popularized the tall tale on this continent. In those days, long before TV and movies, people depended on storytelling for entertainment. After a long day's work, people gathered to tell each other funny tales. Each group of workers, loggers, cowboys, railroad and steel workers had their own tall tale hero.

Readers Theatre has been implemented in many classrooms as a fun and exciting way of reinforcing the instruction of reading, imparting information, and even teaching ideas or concepts. There are a multitude of ways that Readers Theatre can be implemented, ranging from *Circle Reading*, *Instant Reading*, *Co-operative Reading*, or *Staged Reading*. Performance approaches include *Chamber Theatre* and *Story Theatre*. Many of these approaches are outlined in future lessons.

Listed below are a number of suggestions to get started:

- ▶ scripts should be read rather than recited
- ▶ actors are encouraged to stay in the same spot, instead of moving around the stage
- ▶ movements, actions, gestures and expressive voices are encouraged
- ▶ simple costumes and props can be used. Even an interesting hat can be an effective addition.

Theme: "Paul Bunyan" - necessity is the mother of invention.

Background: Paul Bunyan is perhaps the most famous character of the American tall tale. He was the greatest logger of all time. A giant of a man, Paul was born in Maine and logged in Canada and various parts of America. He headed a camp of mighty men and could cut down so much timber in one day that 300 mule drivers would have to work day and night to haul his logs to the river. His truest companion was Babe, the Blue ox.

Answers

Comprehension Questions

1. The flapjacks that Sourdough Sam was making fell in the dirt and were ruined. The men had nothing to eat.
2. Ole made a grill and an eggbeater.
3. He put corn kernels on the grill under the flapjack, so when they popped, they were like strawberries.
4. Answers will vary (i.e. strawberries)

Comprehension

1. What character did you like best?
- 1b. What dilemma did you like best?

JOHN HENRY, THE STEEL-DRIVING

An American Tall Tale



CAST OF CHARACTERS

NARRATOR 1
JOHN HENRY
CAPTAIN

NARRATOR 2
LITTLE BILL
YANKEE

NARRATOR 1: Even as a baby, John Henry loved hammering. When he was ten, he could hammer down nails as fast as a grown man. Often, when he worked on the farm, he would listen to the far-off sound of a hammer. It was a sound that seemed to be calling to him.

NARRATOR 2: One day, a man named *Little Bill*, stopped at his homestead for a drink of water.

JOHN HENRY: Someday, I am going to drive steel for the railroad.

LITTLE BILL: I'm gonna work for the railway too. They'll pay me through the mountains and they need good men like you to hire on with me?

JOHN HENRY: I've waited long enough to drive steel, Little Bill. You're my partner.

NARRATOR 1: So, John Henry set out with Little Bill and the C. & O. Railroad, working on the Big Bend.

LITTLE BILL: John Henry, I'm what is called a shaker. You can't drive the steel drill into the rock to make an opening without powder.

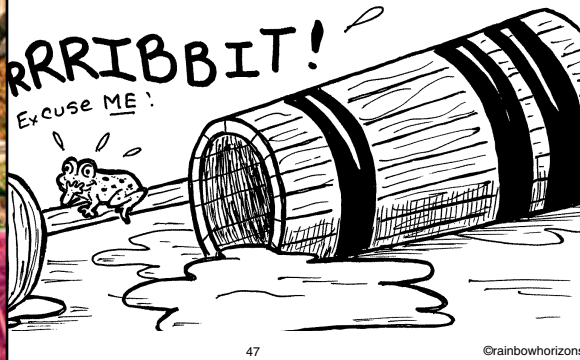
2. Briefly describe the three tricks that Ivan played on Marusia during their walk.

3. Do you think it was fair of Ivan to employ this strategy to keep the coins? Defend your answer.



Art

Create a **comic strip** with at least six frames outlining the adventures of Dylan Sylvester. Be sure to colour your finished product. You may wish to include dialogue in balloons and speech bubbles.



Fun With Words

Match each word from the play in the left column, with its correct definition in the right.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Florist | a. A firm or company |
| 2. Fragrance | b. A mixture |
| 3. Withered | c. Seller of flowers |
| 4. Swarming | d. A temporary platform |
| 5. Refund | e. Equipment |
| 6. Agency | f. Aroma |
| 7. Billboard | g. Large sign |
| 8. Gear | h. Return money |
| 9. Scaffold | i. Teaming |
| 10. Blend | j. Shrunken |

Creative Writing

Slappy loves to recite poetry when he is painting. Poetry has been a wonderful source of amusement and comfort to people over the ages. A very popular form of poetry in Japan is *Haiku*.

Haiku Poetry

A Haiku poem usually has three lines. The first line has 5 syllables; the second line 7 syllables; and the third line 5 syllables. It has been described as being almost like a photo of some specific moment in nature.

Sample
*The rain showers down
On muddy fields of clover
I wish it would stop*



Getting your inspiration from the play you have just read, (especially the artwork of Slappy) create a haiku poem of your own.

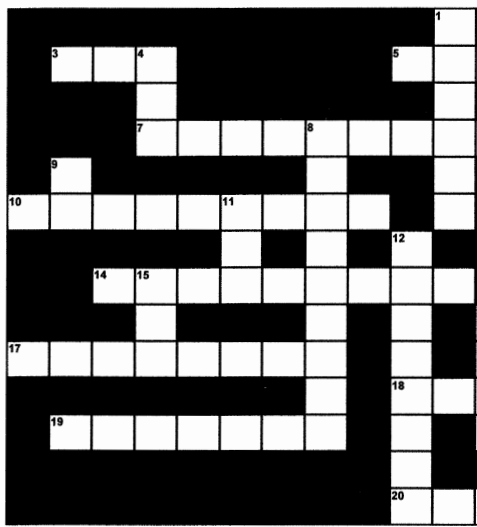


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30

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PAUL BUNYAN - CROSSWORD



ACROSS

3. Was Babe an Ox?
5. A type of hardwood tree.
6. Another way to spell axe.
7. A northern U.S. state.
10. Dough used as leaven in bread.
14. A small, round fruit.
17. Most delicious.
18. A direction.
19. Give forth, hand over.
20. Away over "there".

DOWN

1. A mixture of flour and water.
2. A banquet or party.
4. "Sourdough".
8. Tool used in logging.
9. Did it take 6 storks to deliver the baby?
11. Paul's blacksmith.
12. Usual, common.
13. Foam.
15. Allow.
16. Positive, certain.



**Reader's Theatre
Tall Tales**



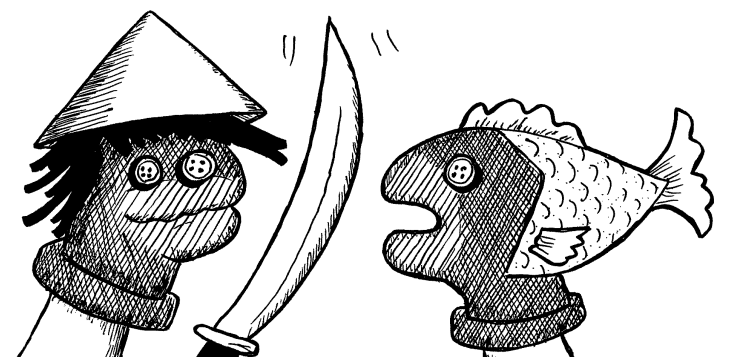
Fun With Words

In each of the following groups of words, underline the one word which does not fit. Then write a sentence explaining why it does not belong.

1. rogues villains heroes rascals
2. absurd sensible unreasonable ridiculous
3. splendor glamour beauty poverty
4. hindrance benefit profit advantage
5. merely only happily simply

Art

Individually or in small groups, organize a puppet play using this play as the script. The students may wish to make modifications to the play. Puppets can be made from old socks, buttons, and fabric scraps. A puppet theatre can be made from cardboard, construction paper and fabric.



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63

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CHRISTMAS

The Story Of Rudolph



CAST OF CHARACTERS

NARRATOR **PRANCER** **ALPHIE**
BLITZEN **CUPID** **COMET**
 RUDOLPH

NARRATOR: It was Christmas Eve, about an hour before Santa would begin his annual journey, and all his reindeer were gathered together to prepare for the trip.

BLITZEN: What are you doing, Comet? You should be getting ready for our flight. Tonight's Christmas Eve.

COMET: Are you kidding? I've been toning my muscles for weeks in preparation for the big flight!

PRANCER: Toning your muscles? Whoever heard of a reindeer doing such a thing.

CUPID: That's nothing! You know Rudolph - that weirdo, red-nosed duffus? I heard he's practicing for the trip by doing pushups.

PRANCER: Push-ups! How on earth can a reindeer do pushups? Besides, Santa won't ever pick Rudolph for the trip! Who'd want someone who looked like that pulling



Comprehension Questions (Please answer in Complete Sentences)

- What handicap did Rudolph have when it came to being picked for the trip with Santa?

- Describe the crisis that emerged for Santa and the reindeer.

- The reindeer make a couple of suggestions for overcoming the crisis. Describe the "Rudolph solution". Think of another possible resolution to the problem.

- We learn quite a bit about the characters of Santa's other reindeer. How would you describe their characters from the way they react to Rudolph's nose?

- Like many fairy tales, the story of Rudolph defies **logic** on many occasions. Give three examples of this.



Fun With Words

A **simile** is a comparison found in this play:

Create your own simile:

- leprechaun _____
- gold coins _____
- a snake _____

Investigation

Research one of the following items that has made Ireland famous the world over. Your investigation should include at least three facts about your topic.

- The Blarney Stone
- The Shamrock
- Saint Patrick
- Leprechauns
- The Shillelagh
- The Irish Jig
- Poteen
- The Irish Daisy
- Colcannon
- W. B. Yeats

Creative Writing

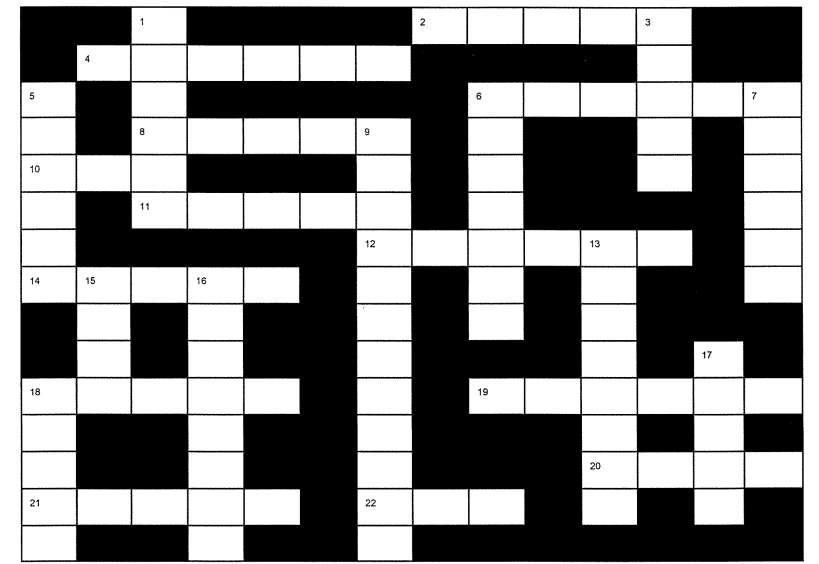
The Irish are famous for their poets. The poems of **W.B. Yeats**, for instance, are renowned throughout the world. The **limerick** - a light, humorous, nonsensical type of five-line poetry named after a county in SW Ireland. A limerick has a **aabba** rhyme scheme. Here is an example of one:

There was an old man of Kilbride,
Who slipped in a sewer and died.
His stupid young brother,
Went into another,
And the verdict on both was "sewericide".

⇒ Create your own limerick using an Irish theme.

Fun With Words - Crossword Puzzle

Using words from the play, complete the following puzzle:

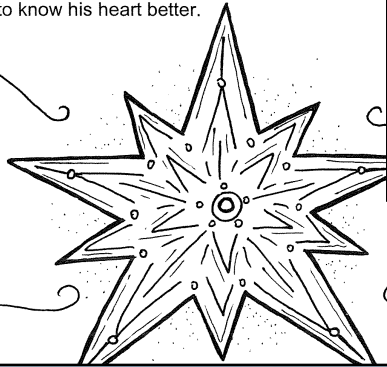


Across		Down	
2.	One of Santa's reindeer.	1.	To call off.
4.	To mar.	3.	To ponder.
6.	Just kidding.	5.	Santa's mode of transportation.
8.	Another of Santa's reindeer.	6.	A trip.
10.	"The night before."	7.	Conducted or led.
11.	Appears.	9.	Let down.
12.	Yearly.	13.	To near.
14.	Perceive sound.	15.	Every.
18.	Gleaming.	16.	Arctic caribou.
19.	Busted.	17.	To taunt.
20.	The play has an interesting _____ of characters.	18.	Violent weather.
21.	Contests of speed.		
22.	A mischievous fairy.		

Comprehension Questions

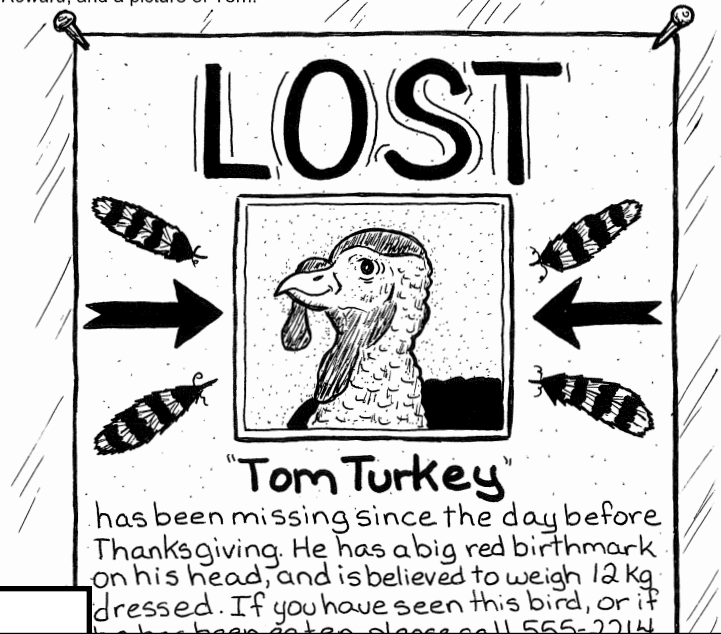
Indicate whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**. (Circle the correct response.)

- Benjamin had been invited to his aunt's cottage.
- Benjamin's father had been injured in the fields.
- Benjamin's mother told him he would have to help the shepherds until sunset.
- The chief shepherd's name was Philip.
- Benjamin's help was especially critical right then because several lambs had recently been born.
- Benjamin felt that God was concerned about the problems of young boys like himself.
- Reuben and Jacob believed that God knew all things.
- The Saviour was born in a Bethlehem stable.
- The shepherd's problem was that they did not know where the Saviour was born.
- The angel told Benjamin he was chosen by God because he wanted him to know his heart better.



Art

Design a "Lost" poster that the Applebys might put together when Tom Turkey "disappears". You should include all the important information that would help someone find Tom, as well as a **Reward**, and a picture of Tom.



Fun With Words - 2

Match up the word from the column on the left with its **antonym** from the column on the right.

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. carefree | a. lacking |
| 2. awesome | b. smile |
| | c. good |
| | d. frivolous |
| | e. unacceptable |
| | f. worried |
| | g. ugly |
| | h. insignificant |

Cupid lies in Roman Mythology. Cupid is the son of Venus and Mercury and is the god of Love, Desire and Passion (in Greek Mythology he known as Eros). Many of the planets in our solar system are named after them. Choose a god from Roman Mythology and research at least three facts about him / her. You may pick one from the following list or one of your own.

- ♥Hercules
- ♥Neptune
- ♥Concordia
- ♥Jupiter
- ♥Pluto
- ♥Fauns
- ♥Mercury
- ♥Ulysses
- ♥Romulus

Fun With Words / Art

A **cinquain** poem is a five-line poem. There are at least two types of cinquain, the **Traditional Cinquain** and the **Word Cinquain**.

Traditional Cinquain	Word Cinquain
5 lines	5 lines
10 syllables	1 word
2 syllables	2 words
4 syllables	3 words
6 syllables	4 words
8 syllables	5 words
10 syllables	1 word

Write a **cinquain** poem using one of the above formats. Your theme should be related to the celebration of **Valentine's Day**. You should also include an illustration of your poem's effectiveness.

Comprehension Questions (Please answer in Complete Sentences)

- Describe why Gordon was so nervous at the outset of the play.

 - Why wasn't Sammy much of a help in calming Gordon down?

 - Did Gordon see his shadow? Explain why or why not.

 - What did Gordon decide to do about whether or not he would let the others know if he had seen his shadow.

- 4b. What might be the result of this decision?
 Good _____
 Bad _____



Reader's Theatre Holidays

