

Saplings

Magazine

The Magazine for Parents to Help Their Children Grow

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Giving Thanks, and Having Fun



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With the changing of the clocks comes the changing of seasons. This month is full of fun and interesting holidays from Thanksgiving here in the US to All Saint's Day and Japan's Shichi-Go-San.

As usual October was a very busy month. My daughter has been coming along nicely with learning how to play the clarinet. I played the clarinet when I was in school, starting at the same age as her. I am amazed at how quickly she's picked up how to play it and there haven't been nearly as much squeaking as I thought there would be! It has been a great way for us to spend extra time together as I can sit down and help her with stuff she doesn't get yet.

I have to confess though that I have loved being able to play the clarinet again. I would

From the Editor

love to re-learn how to play the saxophone but they're just so very expensive!

This winter she is going to be on the basketball team as well. One of the gym teachers told her she'd be good at it and suggested she join the team so she's going to be doing that this year. Yay!

I have been writing a bit for the parenting magazine that I work for. It has been a lot of fun and I didn't realize how much I missed it until I saw my name in print again. I'm still doing the proof-reading and still very addicted to an online game called City of Heroes. We have also gotten the new Tiger Woods PGA Tour game, which is amazing and very addictive too.

Have a great November!

Nancy Cavanaugh

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Woman's Suffrage: Who Gets To Vote?

By Lisa Keele

In 1840, people from all over the world gathered in London, England, to fight against slavery. Many people had led the anti-slavery fight at home, and were excited to come to England to see their cause get world-wide attention.

Lucretia Mott, an American, had traveled to the conference. Remember, air travel was not possible in those days, so it was quite a journey from Massachusetts, her home, to England. But Mott was determined to participate. She was a Quaker – a member of the Society of Friends, which is a religion that believes violence is wrong – and her anti-slavery beliefs ran deep.

She was therefore very disappointed that she did not get to participate in the World Anti-Slavery Convention. The men who controlled the convention refused to seat her – because she was a woman.

This did not surprise Mott, who had faced similar troubles in her own country. In fact, the American Anti-Slavery Society was divided over women's involvement in public meetings, and the women had to form their own, separate society. Still, as Mott was being sent to London as a delegate from the women's society, she had hoped she would be able to participate.

Behind the curtain, from which Mott and other women were allowed to listen to the proceedings of the men, Lucretia Mott met Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and a friendship and nation-wide women's rights movement were born. Before the two women left

London, they promised each other that one day they would fight for the rights of women.

Soon afterwards, Stanton and Mott met with a few other women to prepare a conference of their own. It was left to Stanton to write the resolutions which the conference would discuss. Stanton was an educated woman, who had both gone to University (rare for women back then) and had studied the law on her own. She was fiercely independent – a trait her family had encouraged. Among the resolutions she wrote, she included one none of them had discussed before, as it had seemed too outlandish, too ridiculous. The ninth resolution asserted that women should be able to vote.

Through this right, Stanton argued, women could gain all others. If they could only vote, they could influence politics, and eventually they might be able to change the unfair laws they all lived under.

The conference they sponsored was held in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848, and is now called the Seneca Falls Convention. Three hundred people dedicated to women's rights attended – including about forty men. One hundred people signed the resolutions that Elizabeth Cady Stanton had written – one hundred people publicly supported women's right to vote.

Thus began a struggle that was to last for seventy-two years. Read that number again: it took seventy-two years of fierce political fighting to convince America that women should be able to vote. Only one person who signed the Seneca Falls Declaration lived long enough to cast her vote.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul, Carrie Chapman Catt – and hundreds more women, some you've heard of, some you never will – gave their all to bring the vote to women in America. Remember them when it is your turn to decide whether you will vote or be silent. Remember that voting is not only a right – it is a privilege, and one many people have fought for. The story of Seneca Falls is only one story – there have been many struggles, and even wars, conducted in order to win citizens a voice in their own country.

Election Day Word Find

By Teresa Nordheim

Vote	John Kerry	Vice President
President	Dick Cheney	John Edwards
Speech	George W Bush	Booth
Democrat	Republican	November

Tuesday
White House
Debate
Answer Pg. 12

V	I	C	E	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	H	G
K	Y	U	Y	R	F	J	E	S	E	R	O	U	N	E
I	T	D	H	E	R	O	F	K	M	E	V	E	J	O
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L	U	C	K	E	B	E	P	H	A	L	E	Y	R	W
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H	E	E	F	T	O	R	E	E	U	C	D	I	C	U
O	D	N	S	I	T	Y	W	D	M	A	D	O	H	S
S	P	E	E	C	H	Q	O	W	M	N	E	L	E	H
O	R	Y	E	M	V	S	A	A	U	W	D	V	N	E
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E	E	D	W	U	T	E	F	D	E	B	A	T	E	G
W	H	I	T	E	H	O	U	S	E	D	W	E	O	I

Shichi-Go-San: An Odd Celebration

By Linda Gerber

Some numbers are nice and round, like a zero or an eight. Some numbers look just like another if you flip them over, like a six or a nine. Some numbers are just plain lucky! Really. Just ask the Japanese.

In Japan, odd numbers are considered to hold good fortune. In fact, Japanese children enjoy a special celebration when they are aged three, five and seven. This ancient festival is called "Shichi-Go-San"

which means Seven, Five, Three. November 15th was chosen for the celebration because it is one of the luckiest days of the year, according to the traditional Japanese calendar. (Notice the odd numbers: 11/15!)

Have you heard of Japanese Samurai? Shichi-Go-San dates all the way back to medieval times, when aristocrats and Samurai celebrated the growth of their children by bringing them to shrines where Shinto priests would pray for them to be healthy and happy.

Japanese children today still celebrate in much the same way. They dress in their best kimono and visit ancient shrines. Afterward, they usually get a treat - a candy called chitose-ame. The candy is shaped like a stick, and comes in a bag decorated with pictures of turtles and cranes - two animals that represent long life. Often, the children share their candy with family and friends.

How would you like to have your own lucky celebration? No matter what age you are, you can celebrate being you with your own long-life candy and special bag!

Life Long Bag

What you need:

- Long, narrow craft bag
- Acrylic or tempura paint (blue, red & gold are nice)
- One potato, cut in half
- Paring knife (moms and dads only!)
- Paper plate

What to do:

1. Draw outline of turtle on flat, cut end of one potato half.
2. Draw outline of crane on flat cut end of other potato half.
3. Carve away the outer edges so that your design stands alone.
4. On paper plate, spread small puddle of paint.
5. Dip potato "stamps" into the paint and stamp design onto the bag.
6. Allow to dry completely.
7. With marker, write "shichi-go-san" kanji on the bag.
8. Fill with long life candy.

Quick Peek: Facts About Japan

Capital: Tokyo

Location: Four big islands and many small ones off the coast of Asia

Area: 145,880 sq. miles

Population: 127,333,002

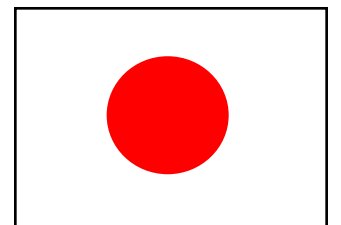
Form of Government: Constitutional monarchy

Currency: Yen

Language: Japanese

Trivia: Japan is located in one of the most active earthquake zones. Japan is the 10th largest country

based on population, with Tokyo being the first largest city based on population.



Map and flag of Japan

Life Long Candy

What you need:

- 1/2 Cup Honey
- 1 Cup Sesame seeds
- 1/2 Cup Peanut Butter
- 1/2 Cup chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup blended oatmeal

What to do:

1. Mix all ingredients in bowl.
2. Shape candies by rolling into long snakes.
3. Roll in more sesame seeds.
4. Wrap in waxed paper, twisting ends to secure.

A Turkey Tale

By Wendy Toy

Farmer Townsend stood on his porch and watched the turkeys on his farm.

"This is going to be a good Thanksgiving," he said to his wife.

"How many turkeys do you have?" she asked.

"I have ten nice fat ones!"

Mrs. Townsend counted the turkeys. She did it again.

"But I only count nine turkeys."

"Well, maybe one is still in the barn," the farmer yawned. "Time for me to turn in."

The next morning Farmer Townsend went outside and counted his turkeys.

"Thelma!" he called. "Come quick. Some turkeys are missing!"

The couple ran to the yard and counted the turkeys.

"Only eight," said the farmer's wife.

"Where could they be?" asked the farmer. "I wanted to sell ten turkeys for Thanksgiving."

"Maybe they don't want you to sell them."

Farmer Townsend frowned. "But I always sell turkeys at Thanksgiving."

"Do you feed these turkeys?"

"Of course I do."

"Do you give them water?"

"Of course I do."

"Do you play your banjo for them?"

"Every night I do."

"Do you sing to them?"

"When I play my banjo, I sing to them."

"And how do the turkeys act when you sing and play for them?"

Farmer Townsend glanced around. "They dance," he whispered.

"Maybe they just don't want to leave."

The farmer scratched his head. "But some of the turkeys are gone already."

"Hmmm," said Mrs. Townsend, "this is a problem."

Farmer Townsend counted the turkeys again.

"Oh no! Now there are only seven turkeys."

Mrs. Townsend spied one turkey sneaking away. It scooted into a big pile of hay.

She tapped the farmer's arm. "Watch that pile of hay."

Farmer Townsend watched one turkey and then another tiptoe toward the hay. Soon only five turkeys stood in the yard.

The farmer ran into the house and grabbed his banjo. He strode to the yard and began to play and sing. The five turkeys in the yard began to do a turkey dance.

One by one the other turkeys scooted out of the hay. The farmer sang and played until all ten turkeys danced in the yard. Then he stopped.

"I won't sell you," he promised the turkeys.

"Well, dear," he said to his wife. "What will I do?"

His wife smiled. "Look over there."

The farmer watched as the thankful turkeys went to work. They removed the pile of hay to show a large oven.

Soon the turkeys tied on aprons and busied themselves in their kitchen. The oldest turkey presented the farmer with a pumpkin pie. The next turkey brought a pie then another brought a pie. Soon the farmer had ten pumpkin pies.

"That's what I will sell," said the farmer. "I'll sell Turkey-made pumpkin pies."

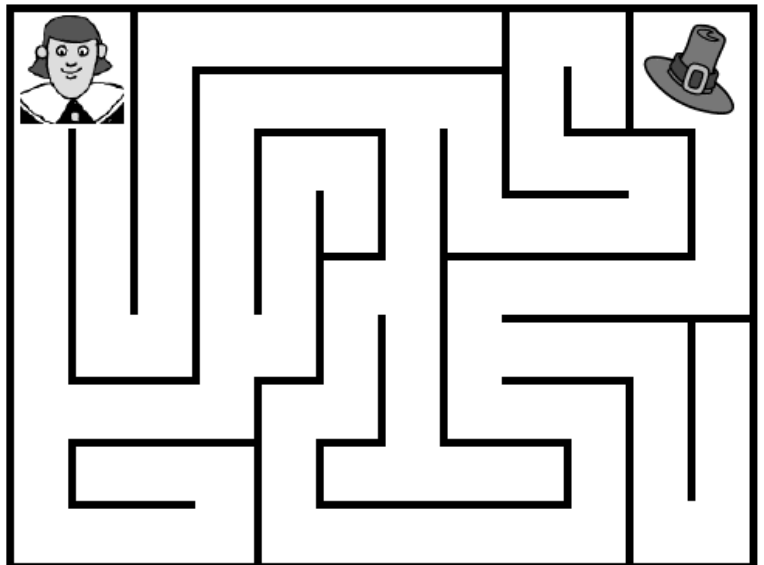
Now every year at Thanksgiving, instead of selling turkeys, Farmer Townsend puts up a sign: "Turkey-made pumpkin pies for sale."

The farmer plays his banjo and sings.

The thankful turkeys bob and wiggle and flap their wings.

And everyone who comes to watch them dance buys Farmer Townsend's Turkey-made pumpkin pies.

Thanksgiving Day Maze



Thanksgiving Pinecone Turkeys

From www.KidsHolidayCrafts.com

What you need:

Plump pine cones (spherical shaped about 1 1/2"-2" diameter)

1 Red bumpy chenille stem

1 Orange bumpy chenille stem

5-7 other colors of bumpy chenille stems

Glue (craft, wood, or all-purpose that dries clear)

Wire Cutter (parental help may be needed with these)

What to do:

1. Make sure each pine cone has dried thoroughly.

2. Cut the bumps apart in each chenille wire. Using wire cutters, cut in the center of each place where the wire narrows down—you want the bumps whole and fluffy.

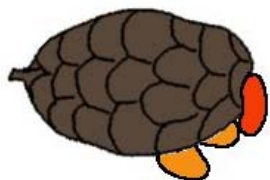
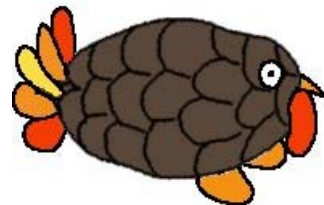
3. Take one red bump and shape into an 'S'. Glue this to

the rounded end of the cone with the bump protruding somewhat above the cone for the head of the turkey.

4. Take one orange bump and shape into a 'V'. Glue this under the bottom of the round part of the cone for the legs and feet. The feet can be shaped later. Toes can even be added.

5. Take five to seven other bumps and carefully bend them so the narrow ends can be twisted together leaving the puffy end somewhat rounded. Glue as many of these as nicely fits close to the flatter stemmed end of the pine cone remembering to use glue only on the twisted end of the chenille wire.

6. Let dry and then adjust shaped of chenille wires to make your turkey look more realistic.



The Turkey's Lament

By Robin Bridges

Gobble, gobble! Oh, woe is me!
Thanksgiving is tomorrow,
Why won't you let me be?

Gobble, gobble! Won't you try ham?
You know it's a holiday-
Forget about those fat grams!

Gobble, gobble! Try something new!
Stuff a buffalo for dinner.
I've heard it's good for you.

Please! Gobble, gobble! My neck is on the line!
Go vegetarian tomorrow.
Pick your dinner off the vine.

Gobble, gobble! I feel like Dr. Seuss.
Eat green eggs and ham tomorrow.
Eat your dinner with a moose.

Oh, gobble, gobble! One last time I beg!
Make Turkey Day a Chicken Day,
Try a juicy chicken leg!

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Turkey Placeholders

Cut out the turkey below. Put the name of each guest to your Thanksgiving feast on the turkey then decorate. To make the turkey stand up, cut out a second one then glue the pieces together at the top of the feathers. Allow to dry. Bend the back one towards the back so it stands up.



Thankful Friends

By Teresa Nordheim

The sharp blackberry vines tugged at John's black jacket as he made his way to the fishing creek. He had almost reached the water's edge when he was stopped in his tracks.

"Halt!" Tala shouted, jumping out from behind the large rock. John stood firm as he stared at the girl in front of him. She had a beautiful headband filled with feathers. Her tan moccasins and leather dress told John she was not like him.

"You don't belong here," Tala said as she pointed her sharp spear at John. He stepped back and balanced himself on the edge of the creek. John's black leather shoes slipped in the mud.

"I've come to fish," John said. "And there's nothin' you can do about it." He picked up a tree branch from the ground. He tied a thick white thread around one end on the branch.

"Pilgrims don't know how to fish," Tala teased.

"Yes we do," John tied a sharp hook on the end of his string. Tala watched as he cast his fishing line and hook into the creek. John felt a tug on the end of his line.

"See, I have caught a fish already." John pulled in his catch but there was not a fish on his line. The hook was covered in thick, green weeds. Tala fell to the ground. She held onto her belly as she chuckled and pointed at the weeds.

"What is so funny?" John asked. "I bet you can't catch a fish."

"My Grandfather taught me to fish." Tala stepped into the creek. She looked through the clear water.

The creek was filled with trout. She threw her sharp spear into the water.

"That was silly. Now you have lost your spear." John laughed.

Tala smiled as she walked further into the water to recover her spear. She proudly pulled the sharp spear from the water. She held it high in the air to make sure John could see the wiggly trout.

"Hmpt," she said as she made her way to the creek's edge with her nose in the air.

SPLASH!

Tala landed headfirst into the creek. John reached his arm into the water and helped Tala to her feet.

"My headband! My feathers!" Tala shouted. "They must have fallen off when I fell into the water." They stood and watched as Tala's headband floated downstream.

Tala looked down at her wet moccasins.

"I have an idea." John ran along the creek side until he was close to the headband. He tossed his fishing line and hook into the water. The hook snagged the headband and he pulled it to the shore.

"Thank you, Friend." Tala offered her trout to John. "I want you to have this."

"We make a great team." John said as he placed the wet headband onto Tala's head.

"Same time, same place tomorrow?" Tala smiled.

"You bet, Friend." John waved good-bye as he walked back through the blackberry bushes and headed home.

Native American Indian Headband

By Teresa Nordheim

What you need:

Construction paper in a variety of colors
Glue
Feathers
Scissors

What to do:

1. Cut the construction paper into strips for the head band.
2. Measure your head for fit and staple or glue.
3. Glue feathers onto the band so they stick up. If you do not have real feathers you can make them out of construction paper.

Time to Give Thanks

By Stacie Cortez Guidry

Time to give thanks
For tall mighty trees
Even the buzzing bumble bees

Time to give thanks
For giggles and grins
Playing with friends, the fun never ends

Time to give thanks
For my backyard swing
Also for books and silly string

Time to give thanks
For my family that I love
They surround me with warmth and a great big hug.

Edible Thanksgiving Treats

From www.KidsHolidayCrafts.com

Here are some cute edible Thanksgiving goodies that you can make for class parties or just to have a fun snack at home.

Candied Turkey

What you need:

- Microwave
- Bag of candy corn (beak and eyes)
- Bag of caramel candy squares (body)
- Bag of Dove chocolate (base/feet)
- Bag of striped chocolate cookies (tail and feathers)
- Thanksgiving cup cake liners
- Microwavable plate

What to do:

1. Unwrap a piece of Dove chocolate to use as the base of the turkey. Place on a microwavable plate.
2. Unwrap a piece of caramel and stick on top of the Dove chocolate bar for the turkey's body.
3. Take a piece of candy corn and push down on top of the caramel (pointed end out). This makes the turkey's beak.
4. Take another piece of caramel and push down on top of the first caramel. This is the head of the turkey.
5. Break off the little white ends of 2 candy corns and push in the top caramel for the eyes.
6. Take one striped chocolate cookie and apply to the back of the body to form the feathers.
7. Put the turkey in the microwave for a few seconds to about 8 seconds just so that the candy and cookie can fuse together. (Watch this! Not too much time, or it will melt.)
8. Place in freezer for a few minutes to help the turkey "set up" quicker. Serve in a Thanksgiving cup cake paper.

Graham Cracker Turkeys

What you need:

- 1/4 cup unsweetened frozen apple juice concentrate
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 sliced banana
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 tsp. Cinnamon
- 1 cup graham flour *
- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1 tsp. Baking soda

- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- Turkey shaped cookie cutter

* Graham Flour is a kind of flour, just like the more common wheat flour. If you can't find it in your supermarket, try calling health food stores.

What to do:

1. Combine apple juice, oil, banana, vanilla, and cinnamon in a blender.
 2. In a large bowl, mix together graham flour, whole-wheat flour, baking soda, and salt.
 3. Add apple juice mixture to flour mixture and stir thoroughly.
 4. Roll out the dough on a floured surface and cut out with turkey shaped cookie cutter.
 5. Use a fork to poke holes for eyes and feathers.
 6. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 8 minutes.
- Yield: Makes 2 to 3 dozen cookies

Quick Thanksgiving Turkeys

What you need:

- 2 Double stuffed Oreos (Halloween ones or regular white)
- Candy corn
- Raisinets
- Plate

What to do:

1. Open one Oreo. The half that has the filling will be the base for your turkey to stand on. Eat the other piece, if desired.
2. Place the other Oreo on the filling standing upright. This is your turkey body.
3. Carefully place 5 candy corns into the filling on the upright Oreo. These are the feathers.
4. Place a Raisinet in front of the turkey body. This is the head.



Kaitlyn the Famous

By Angela Cerrito

It's easy to be famous if you live in a small town. I used to live on the other side of the world. They wrote about me in the paper before I even moved here. I was in the Society section of the paper. That's where they tell about weddings, new babies, and swap meets.

Mom and Dad saved all of the newspaper clippings about me. The first one was very short. It said that Mom and Dad were going to China to adopt me, and I was six years old. There wasn't even a photo.

When I moved Roseburg, my photo was on the front page of the paper. "Kaitlyn Has Arrived," the headline read. The photo showed my friend Morgan handing me a teddy bear. But I didn't smile for the camera. I put my hands over my face.

I remember those first days here. The house was full of people and flashing lights. Everything was

new. I couldn't even understand what people were saying to me. I didn't know Morgan at all that day. I didn't know Mom and Dad very well either.

Morgan told me later she thought I was a movie star. Everyone in town was talking about me. Mom and Dad took photos all the time. They still do!

I was in the paper every week and almost always on the front page! There was a big dance to raise money for my surgery. Next came a long story about the operations for my hips. Boring!

My favorite is a photo of me in the hospital. I look really sleepy. But there are flowers everywhere and a big pile of candy!

Then there's the story of my first day of school. Mom's pushing my wheelchair, and Morgan's walking next to me. This time, I'm smiling.

My seventh birthday was in the Society section. The entire first grade class took a trip to the county fair. We decorated the school bus for the parade. It was a big dragon. Waving to the crowd, I felt like a movie star.

I learned a lot my first year in America. I learned English. I learned how to move my wheelchair by myself. I learned how to be famous in a small town.

I guess you could say I learned how to be a newspaper star.

Squirrel Cafe

By Katelyn Thomas

Squirrels love to raid the bird feeder. Make a special treat just for the squirrels and keep them out of the birdseed.

What you need:

- One piece of dried corn-on-the-cob
- Peanut butter
- Sunflower seeds
- One piece of yarn

What to do:

1. Butter your corn-cob with the peanut butter.
2. Roll the buttered cob in sunflower seeds.
3. Tie a piece of yarn to one end of your cob to hang it from the tree. You could also just put your squirrel café on a tray, but one squirrel might run off with the whole thing.
4. Sit back and watch the squirrels munch on their delicious treat. The birds will finally have a chance to eat at their own feeder.

My Nana

By Evelyn Hall

She only has two hands,
but they're the best in all the land.
The housework she gets done
before the setting sun.
She washes, cleans, and sews,
how she does it, I'll never know.
My Nana's value is compared to coral,
she truly deserves a crown of laurel.
The bread of laziness she does not eat,
as her grandchild, I am dressed so neat.
She is a gift; she deserves first prize,
she is someone special in my eyes.

For even more great crafts and more check out the archives.

How Soluble Is It?

By Nancy Cavanaugh

If a solid dissolves in one liquid (called solubility), will it dissolve in other liquids? Let's see if using different liquids has an effect on whether or not a solid dissolves.

What you need:

Sugar
Food coloring
A zip-closing plastic bag
2 clear plastic cups
Water
Vegetable oil
Masking tape
A pen

What to do:

1. Place 1 tablespoon of sugar in a plastic bag and add 2 drops of food coloring.
2. Close the bag and seal it so that there is air remaining in the bag. Shake the bag vigorously so

that the sugar gets thoroughly and evenly colored by the food coloring.

3. Use masking tape and a pen to label 2 clear plastic cups water and oil. Place 2 teaspoons of water and vegetable oil into their labeled cups.

4. Place 1/2 teaspoon of colored sugar into the water cup and swirl until as much sugar dissolves as possible. Does it seem like the coloring dissolved in the water? How about the sugar crystals?

5. Repeat step 4 for the alcohol and then for the oil. Did the coloring and the sugar dissolve in each of these liquids the way it did in the water?

Going further...

You could set up the same experiment with other solids. Follow the same procedure as above but instead of using colored sugar, try putting cocoa or instant coffee in each of the liquids. See if the different liquids have an effect on how well these solids dissolve.

Exercise and Healthy Eating Poem

By Cindi Nordheim

Exercise is good for you,
And eating healthy is too.
Carrots, peas, and celery are in a vegetable stew.
Every night I walk with my Aunt Sue,
Because that is the healthy thing to do.
And with my sister I exercise too.
We act like monkeys in a zoo.
Not enough oxygen will turn me blue,
So I will take a deep breath or two.
This is why exercise is good for me and you.

Spots

By Kerri B. Norris

There are spots everywhere,
On my p.j.'s, on my chair.
Freckles run across my nose
And polka dots are on my clothes.
Spots are on a leopard cat;
All over my favorite hat.
Mom has flowers with dots, too,
Spots on giraffes at the zoo,
Spots are on each ladybug.
Why can't I put spots on the rug?

Getting Ready to Go

By Nancy Viau

I plop my coat
On the floor
And turn it upside down.
I wiggle each arm
Through each sleeve
And flip it off the ground.
I toss my coat
Up so high
And let it drop in place.



I button my coat
One, two, three -
And out the door I race.

All Saint's Day

By Nancy Cavanaugh

On November 1, Christians celebrate All Saint's Day. The holiday allows Christians to recognize all of the saints of the Christian church, many of which were martyrs. The church sets this day aside to celebrate more than 10,000 recognized saints. Historically, All Saints Day was known as Hallomas.

All Saints Day and All Souls Day was originally in May. They were moved to November 1st and 2nd to downplay the Pagan holidays of Halloween (All Hallow's Eve) and Dia De Loss Muertos.

Here are some ways to celebrate the day:

1. Dedicate memorial gifts.
2. Remember the people who've made a difference to their faith lives.
3. Give everyone a cutout leaf shape in fall colors - write the names on the leaf, then put them on a "thanksgivings" tree.



Answer from page 4

V	I	C	E	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	H	G
K	Y	U	Y	R	F	J	E	S	E	R	O	U	N	G
I	T	D	H	E	R	O	F	K	M	E	V	E	J	O
E	Y	I	D	S	W	H	D	U	O	P	E	S	G	R
D	H	C	I	I	A	N	W	J	C	U	M	D	E	G
D	S	K	C	D	S	K	O	O	R	B	B	A	O	E
L	U	C	K	E	B	E	P	H	A	L	E	Y	R	W
T	B	H	F	N	O	R	R	N	T	I	R	D	G	B
H	E	E	F	T	O	R	E	E	U	C	D	I	C	U
O	D	N	S	I	T	Y	W	D	M	A	D	O	H	S
S	P	E	E	C	H	Q	O	W	M	N	E	L	E	H
O	R	Y	E	M	V	S	A	A	U	W	D	V	N	E
M	R	S	Q	K	O	E	L	R	I	S	Q	O	R	T
E	E	D	W	U	T	E	F	D	E	B	A	T	E	G
W	H	I	T	E	H	O	U	S	E	D	W	E	O	I



Skeletons

By Leticia Pontoni

I saw some skeletons
crossing the door.
I saw some skeletons
behind the door.
Scared and screaming
I wake up some day.
I was seven years old.
Hard situation for me.
Skeletons were crossing
the door.
I don't know where they went.
They went to anywhere.
What were they doing?
Finally, they crossed that
door.
I was with them.
Yes, I was there.
In any part, in any world.

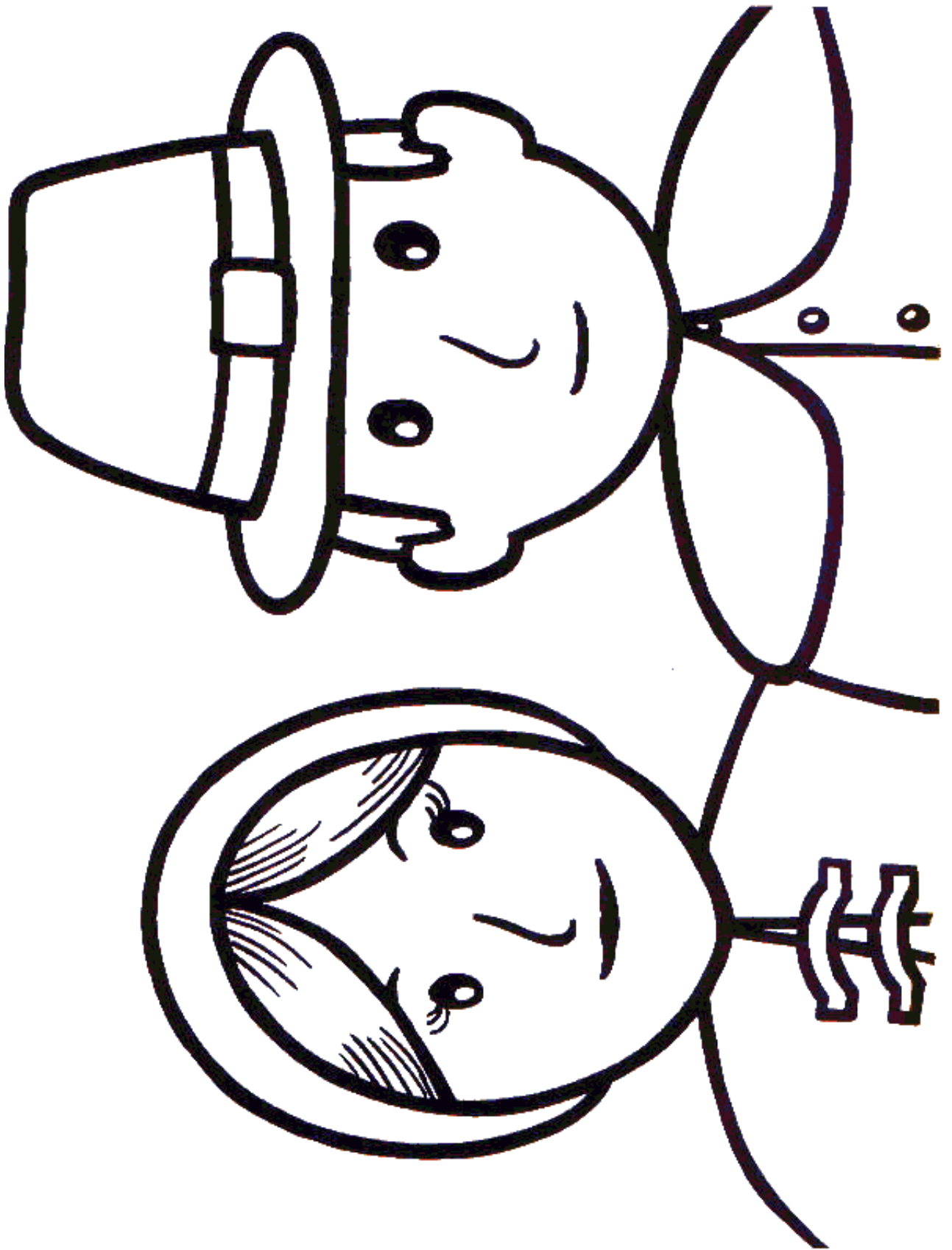
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Meet the Writers

Angela Cerrito is a poet, physical therapist, and writer. She lives in northern Italy with her family.

Being a children's author and illustrator is **Teresa Nordheim's** dream. Apart from being a Mom, it is her favorite thing to do. Her supportive husband Andre, daughters Cindi, Katerina, and Teresa all live in a beautiful little town on Whidbey Island, Washington. Her graphics and writing samples can be viewed at: www.buzzyb.net

Evelyn Hall is a self published author and poet, residing in Atlanta, Ga. She has been writing for more than 35 years. She has published three books and has been published in several magazines, including "Purpose."

Stacie Cortez Guidry grew up in Lafayette, Louisiana. She currently resides in Houston, TX with her husband and two children. She is a certified paralegal and has a twin sister.

Cindi Nordheim is 12 years old. She enjoys drawing pictures, reading, and hanging out with her friends and family. She lives in Washington with her Mom, Dad, and little sister, Katerina.

Katelyn Thomas has a Bachelor of Science in instructional technology and works for Cecil County Public Library, where her favorite job is story time. In addition to writing for children, she writes two columns at Bella Online: Gardening and Wireless Office. She can be reached at Pinehavenfarm@msn.com.

Wendy Toy is a children's writer with stories and articles in Weeones magazine, Highlights for Children, Teach Magazine and Ezine, Institute for Children's Literature, Baby Dallas, Kids Can Click, Youthweekly, and Busy Parents Online.

Leticia Pontoni lives in a quiet town named Salsipuedes, in Cordoba, Argentina. She lives with her mother, her husband, and her pets. She loves to write. It is her path in life, and it is what makes her happy.

Nancy Viau is a member of The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and The Authors Guild. She has been published in several magazines and newspapers, including: Highlights for Children, Hopscotch for Girls, Wee Ones Magazine, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Parents Express, and Family Circle. She is a contributor to The Writing Group Book (Chicago Review Press, September 2003) and the forthcoming book Boomer Women Speak. Please visit her award-winning web site for more information: www.writer-nan.com.

Kerri B. Norris is a full-time writer/domestic engineer (read: maid) with a degree in English and psy-

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Linda Gerber lives and writes in Tokyo, Japan, where she serves as the Regional Advisor for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and leads local youth organization. Add to the mix four children, a traveling husband and an absentee dog and her life is never dull.

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With a BA in English and a background in children's theatre, **Robin Bridges** currently works on the pediatric oncology unit at the local hospital. Robin lives in Gulfport, Mississippi with her husband, their two children, and two English Mastiffs named Grendel and Monster. You can meet Robin and Grendel at robinmbridges.com.

Lisa Keele was born in the mountains of Utah, studied philosophy in the woods of Indiana and currently writes next to the river Nile in Cairo, Egypt. When not writing or reading, Keele enjoys crossword puzzles, opera, cooking, teaching, travel and drinking Turkish coffee with her husband. Writing stories for children is Keele's main focus. Keele is currently working on a young-adult novel set in Utah, and a picture book about "The Last Snake Charmer in Egypt."

Elizabeth Dulemba is a former graphic designer currently writing and illustrating children's picture books. Her website is Dulemba.com. You can also email her at elizabeth@dulemba.com.



Giving thanks
for all that you
do and how
you all help
make this
magazine what
it is. Thank you!