Happy Holidays

Birthday Name Song

(Sing to the tune of "Bingo")

Someone's _____ years old today,
And _____ is his/her name-o!
(Spell out name three times, clapping each letter.)
Yes, _____ is his/her name-o!

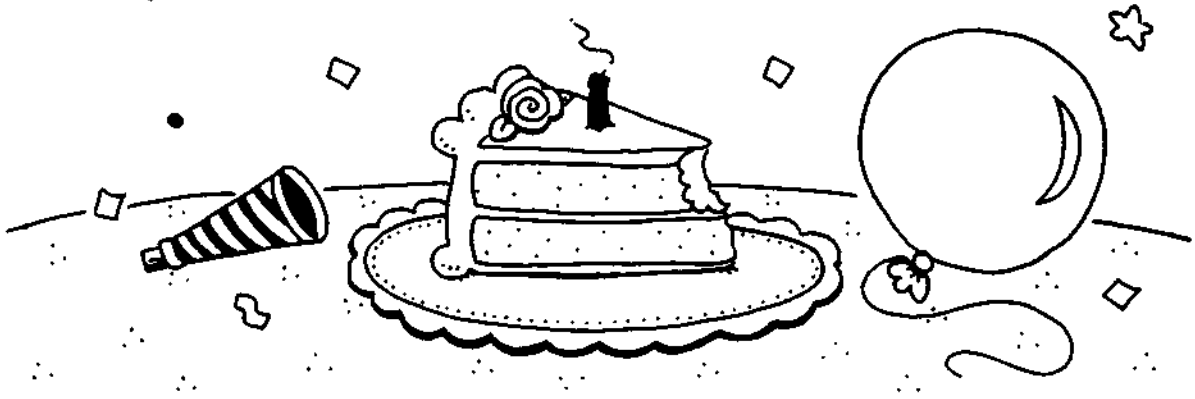
—*Pamela Chanko*

If Your Birthday Is Today

(Sing to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It")

If you're _____ years old today, clap your hands!
If you're _____ years old today, clap your hands!
If your birthday is today, and you want to shout "Hooray!"
If you're _____ years old today, clap your hands!

—*Pamela Chanko*



Happy Birthday!

Today's the day,
We get to say,
We're happy you were born—
Hooray!

—Helen H. Moore

It's Time to Celebrate

(Sing to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell")

It's time to celebrate
A friend who's really great,
_____ is _____ years old today,
It's such a special date!

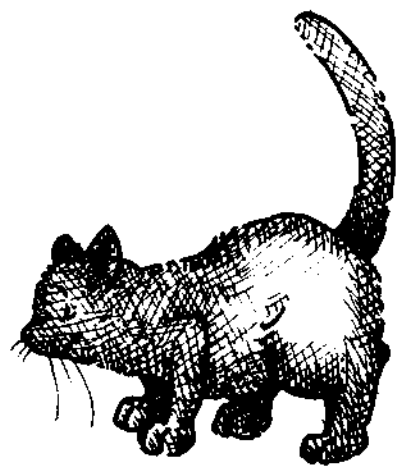
—Pamela Chanko

Three Black Cats

(Sing to the tune of "Three Blind Mice")

Three black cats, three black cats,
Hear how they mew, hear how they mew.
They crossed my path one Halloween night,
And tried to give me a terrible fright!
But all those cats ran right out of sight,
When I said, "BOO!"

—Pamela Chanko



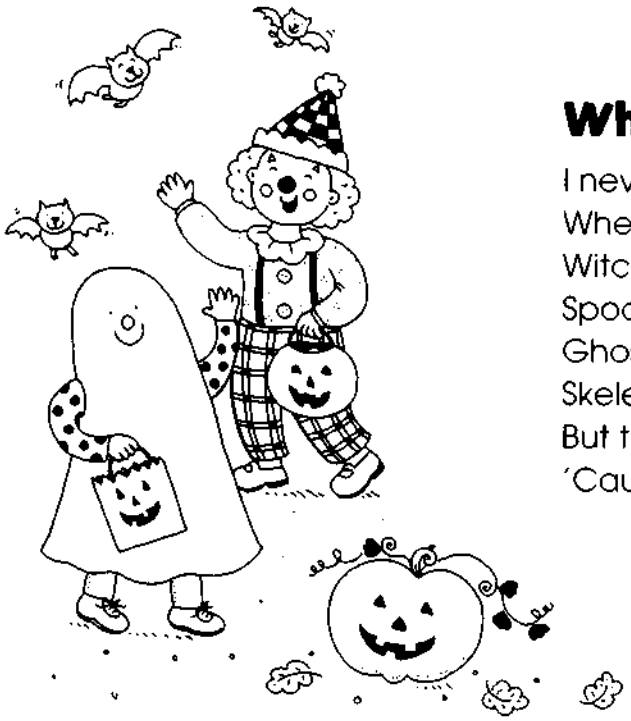
Halloween

In the starry dark
of the autumn sky,
a ghost-shaped cloud
went drifting by.

That cloudy ghost
Looked down to see,
A kid-shaped shadow
That belonged to me.

My shadow and the cloud
Gave each other quite a fright,
Then we shared a laugh together
On a Halloween night.

—Helen H. Moore



Who's Who on Halloween

I never know who I might meet
When I go out to trick-or-treat.
Witches with their pointy hats,
Spooky cats and scary bats.
Ghosts and goblins saying "Boo,"
Skeletons and monsters, too.
But they don't frighten me, you see—
'Cause underneath, they're kids like me!

—Pamela Chanko

The Floppy Scarecrow

(Sing to the tune of "The Hokey Pokey")

You flop your right arm in, you flop your right arm out.
You flop your right arm in, and you shake it all about.
You do the Floppy Scarecrow, and the birds all fly around.
That's what it's all about!

You flop your left arm in, you flop your left arm out.
You flop your left arm in, and you shake it all about.
You do the Floppy Scarecrow, and the birds all fly around.
That's what it's all about.

You flop your right leg in, you flop your right leg out.
You flop your right leg in, and you shake it all about.
You do the Floppy Scarecrow, and the birds all fly around.
That's what it's all about.

You flop your left leg in, you flop your left leg out.
You flop your left leg in, and you shake it all about.
You do the Floppy Scarecrow, and the birds all fly around.
That's what it's all about.

—Pamela Chanko

Thanksgiving

The year has turned its circle.
The seasons come and go.
The harvest is all gathered in,
And chilly north winds blow.

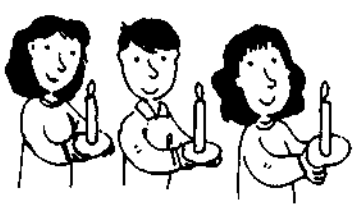
Orchards have shared their treasures,
The fields, their yellow grain,
So open wide the doorway,
Thanksgiving comes again!

—Author Unknown

Help on Thanksgiving

I'm a holiday helper,
And I help with many things.
I help set the table,
Putting napkins in their rings.
I help do the dishes—
I can wash, and I can dry.
I help roll out the crust
To make a yummy pumpkin pie.
I help mash potatoes,
And I help stir the stew.
I help a lot with dinner—
And I help eat it, too!

—Pamela Chanko



December Celebrations

Every year at just this time,
In cold and dark December,
Families around the world
All gather to remember,
With presents and with parties,
With feasting and with fun,
Customs and traditions
For people old and young.
So every year, around the world,
In all lands and nations,
People of all ages love
December celebrations!

—Helen H. Moore

Happy Holidays

The holiday spirit is in the air,
And holiday lights are everywhere,
Menorahs, or kinaras,
Or Christmas lights that shimmer,
Everyone loves holidays, when
Stars and snowflakes glimmer.

—Helen H. Moore

Five Little Stockings

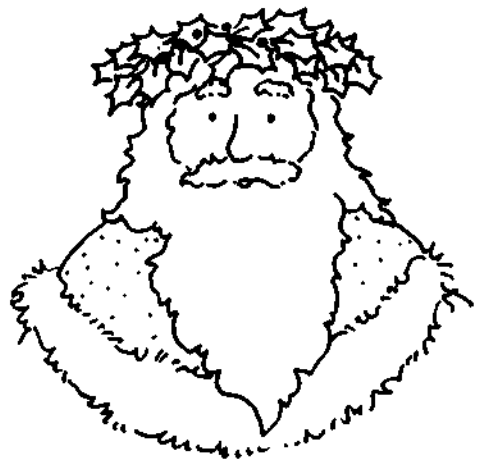
Five little stockings, hanging in a row,
Then a wind began to blow!
One fell down, now do you know
How many stockings are hanging in a row?

—Pamela Chanko

Tip: Create math word problems by changing the numbers in lines 1 and 3.

A Visit From St. Nicholas

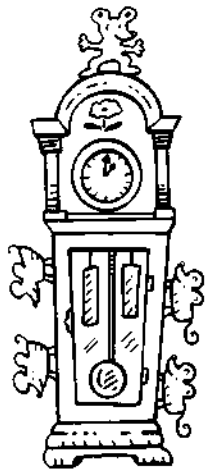
'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver, so lively and quick,



I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donner and Blitzen!
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too.
And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow;
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

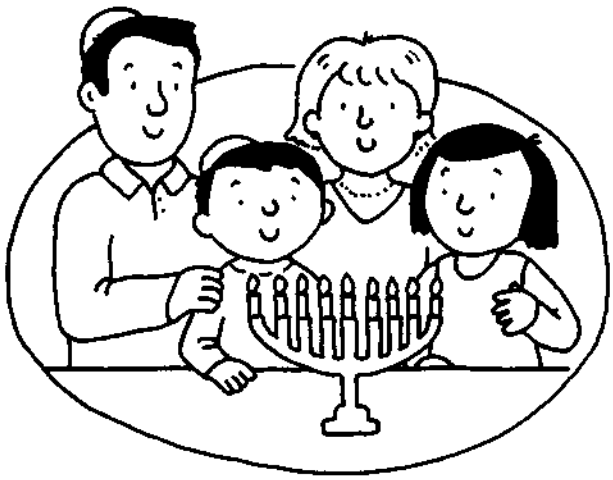
—Clement Clark Moore

The Twenty-Fourth of December



The clock ticks slowly, slowly in the hall
And slower and more slowly the long hours crawl.
It seems as though today,
Would never pass away,
The clock ticks slowly, s-l-o-w-l-y in the hall.

—Author Unknown



Hanukkah Time

Light the Menorah!
Let's dance the hora!
Hanukkah is here!

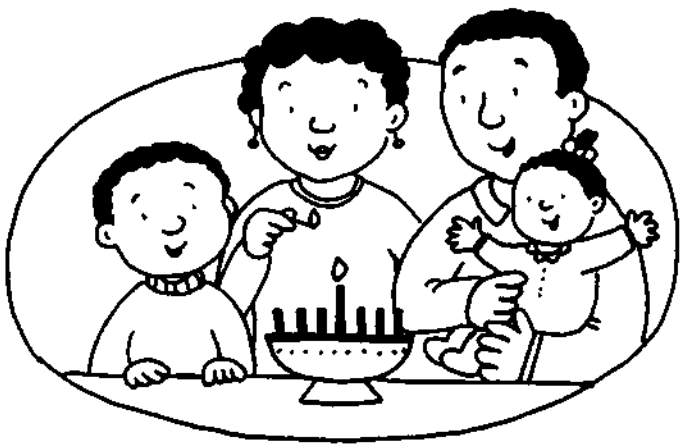
Spin the dreidel,
Set the table,
Hanukkah is here!

—Helen H. Moore

Kwanzaa

"Habari gani"—what's the news?
What's the great occasion?
Let's pull together—"Harambee!"
To make a celebration.
It's Kwanzaa!
Time for unity,
And self-determination!
We'll share responsibility,
And show cooperation.
It's Kwanzaa!
Time for purpose,
Time for creativity,
And Kwanzaa's also time for faith.
It's Kwanzaa! Harambee!

—Helen H. Moore

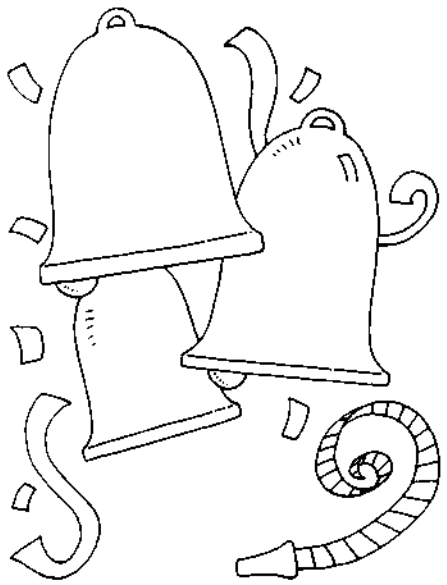


New Year's Day

I have a birthday,
And so does each year,
On January first,
That day is here.

We say goodbye
To the year that is past.
We say hello
To the New Year at last!

—Helen H. Moore



Hello, New Year

Hello, New Year. Hello, New Year.
Here's to you! Here's to you!
(insert outgoing year) is over,
(insert incoming year) is now,
Out with the old and in with the new!

—Pamela Chanko

Chinese New Year

"Gung Hay Fat Choy!"
In China, every girl and boy
Celebrates the New Year
In a very special way—
With fireworks and dragons,
Colored red and gold,
They welcome in the New Year,
And chase away the old!

—Helen H. Moore

What's a President?

Our president
Is the resident
Of the White House, USA.

He works hard for our country
Each and every single day.

He keeps us safe and free and strong,
In this great world where we belong,

And we can see,
It's great to be,
The president of you and me!

—Helen H. Moore

Mr. Lincoln

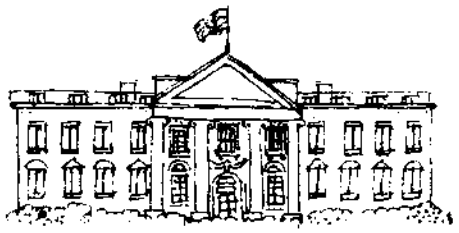
You know Mr. Lincoln—
No fancy clothes for him:
A stovepipe hat, a wrinkled coat,
And whiskers on his chin.

You know Mr. Lincoln,
His face is on the penny.
In life, that face was lined with care,
For troubles, he had many.

That brave Mr. Lincoln
Said slavery was wrong.
He led us through the Civil War
And kept our country strong.

That humble Mr. Lincoln
Had in him something grand
That helped him rise from poverty
To lead our mighty land.

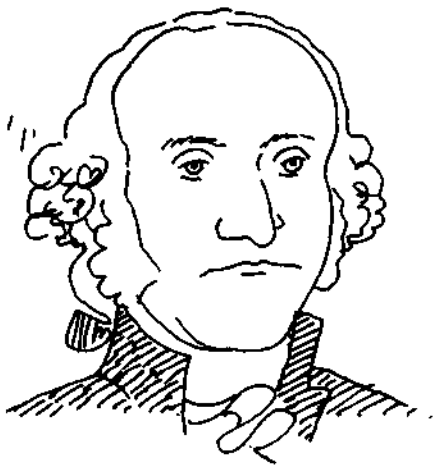
—Helen H. Moore

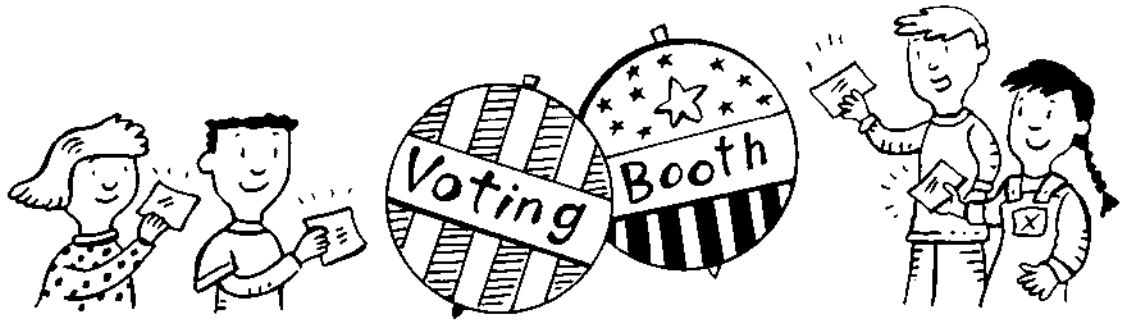


George Washington

Everybody knows the story of the cherry tree—
His father asked, "Who cut this down?"
And young George answered, "Me!"
Now that's a pretty story, but
Between just me and you,
I don't think George would like it, 'cause
It's probably not true!
There are a lot of other things George Washington DID do—
Like making maps, and farming, and he was a soldier, too!
He was our country's president, the very first we had.
But what do we remember? That old tree of George's dad!

—Helen H. Moore





What Is a Vote?

A vote means that
You get a say
In how we run the USA!
In how we work
And how we play,
In what we do
And say each day.

—Helen H. Moore

Happy Birthday, MLK!

MLK was the son of a preacher.
His voice made freedom ring.
He was a leader and a teacher.

He spoke about peace,
About law, and fair play,
And so we honor MLK
On his special day.

—Helen H. Moore

Martin Luther King, Jr.

When Martin was a little boy,
It made him sad and lonely
To see the parks and pools and schools
With signs that said "White Only."

He knew he had to change the world,
But had to do it right;
And that meant working peacefully—
No fists would win this fight.

So Martin grew and studied, too.
And came to speak his mind.
He led a march for equal rights
For all of humankind.

Dr. King did change the world,
As hard as that may seem;
But with an open mind and heart
You, too, can live his dream.

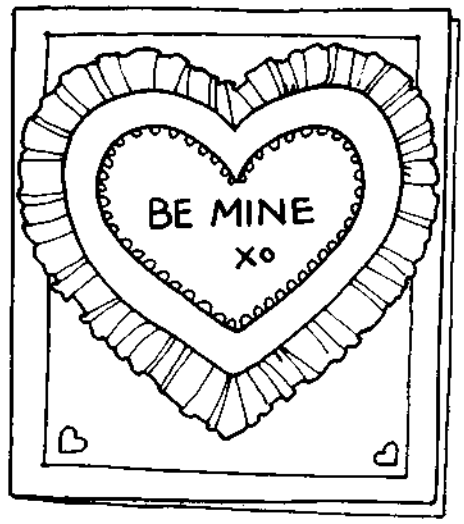
—Pamela Chanko

Valentine's Day

On Valentine's Day
We show we care
For friends and family
Everywhere.

We send them cards
And sometimes candy.
Valentine's Day
Is really dandy.

—Helen H. Moore



Making a Valentine

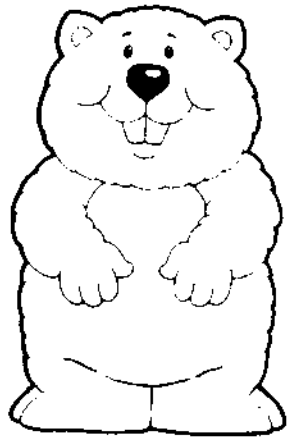
I'm cutting out a great big heart.
I'm squeezing on some glue.
I'm writing out a message—
It's a valentine for you!
My valentine has words to read
And fuzzy felt to feel.
"I love you," says my valentine,
but words can't say how much!

—Pamela Chanko

Groundhog Day

When winter's frosty breath is all around,
And the groundhog doesn't see its shadow
On the cold, hard, winter ground,
Then it won't be long 'til springtime will be coming round!

—Helen H. Moore



Wake Up, Groundhog

Group 1: Groundhog, groundhog, underground.
You slept all winter, safe and sound.

Group 2: It's Groundhog Day! We're here to shout:
Wake up! Wake up! Now please come out!

Groundhog: Shhh, I'm sleeping. Can't you see?
Now go away and let me be!

Group 1: Groundhog, groundhog, we must know!
Will we have six more weeks of snow?

Group 2: Will you see your shadow today?
Or is warm weather on the way?

Ending A:

Groundhog: You woke me up! What's this I see?
My shadow, right in front of me!

Groups 1 & 2: Six weeks of winter are ahead!

Groundhog: So I am going back to bed!

Ending B:

Groundhog: You woke me up? What's this I see?
No shadow is in front of me!

Groups 1 & 2: Spring's almost here, you sleepyhead!

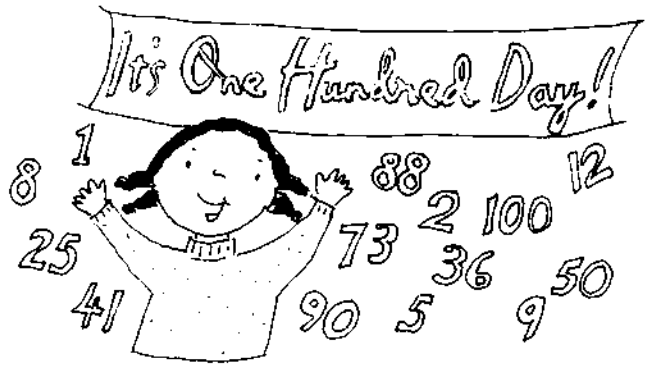
Groundhog: I'm glad you got me out of bed!

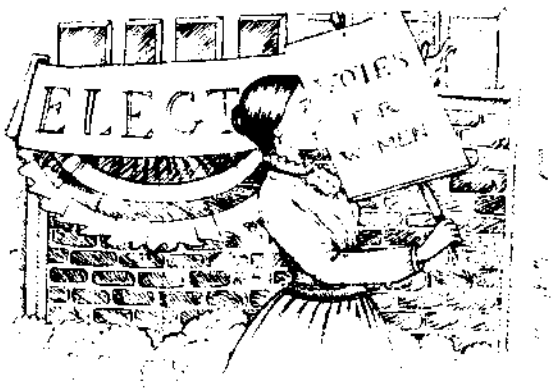
—Pamela Chanko

One Hundredth Day of School

One hundred days of learning,
One hundred days of fun.
One hundred ways to grow and play,
To read, and write, and run.
To see our teachers and our friends,
To eat at lunchtime, too.
One hundred ways,
One hundred days,
Of school for me and you!

—Helen H. Moore





Women's History Month

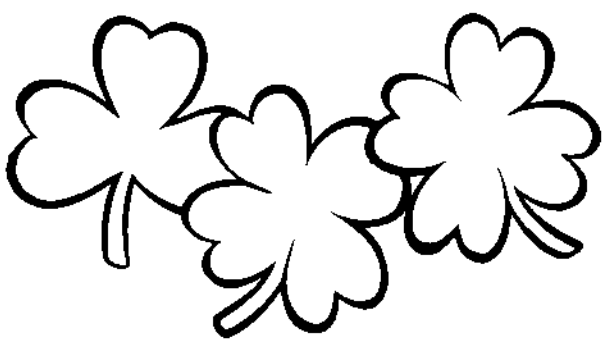
Why do they call it "his-story?"
It's really quite a mystery!
It should be "hers-and-history"
If you ask me!
'Cause women like Harriet Tubman
helped people to be free!
And women got to vote with help from
Susan B. Anthony!
So history was made by hims and hers, you see...
In this land of equal opportunity!

—Helen H. Moore

Shamrock Rock

Let's do the
Shamrock rock.
Let's do the
Shamrock roll.
We've got the shamrock feeling
Way down in our soul.
We've got a St. Paddy's rainbow
And a pot of gold,
And the St. Paddy's feeling
Down in our soul!

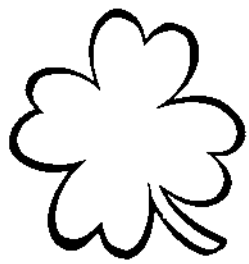
—Helen H. Moore



St. Patrick's Day Is Almost Here

When shamrocks are showing
All over town,
St. Patrick's Day
Must be coming around.
Yes,
March seventeen
Is the day to be seen.
It's the day when we just have to wear
Something green!

—Helen H. Moore



Earth Day Lesson

Chief Seattle was a teacher
Who taught us how to care
For all the living things on earth,
Fresh water, and clean air.
"The earth does not belong to us,"
Great Chief Seattle said.
"We sometime think it does, but
we belong to the earth, instead."

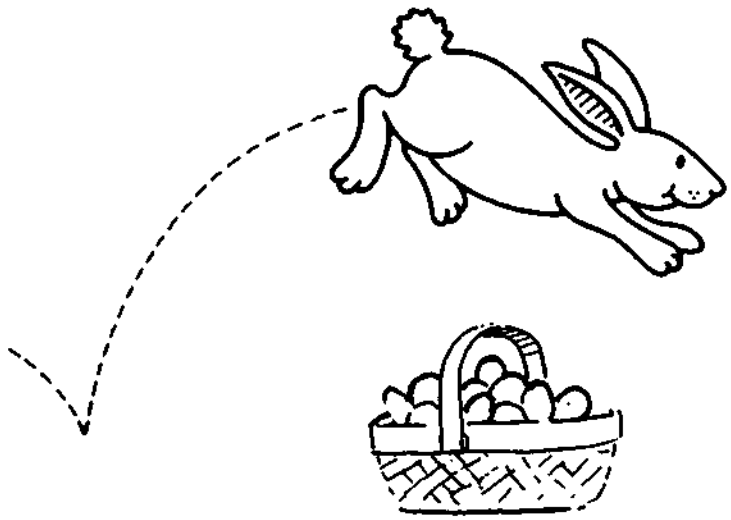
—Helen H. Moore

Easter

Easter baskets,
Easter treats,
Easter clothes, and
Easter sweets.

When Easter comes,
The birds all sing,
They know that Easter
Means it's spring!

—Helen H. Moore

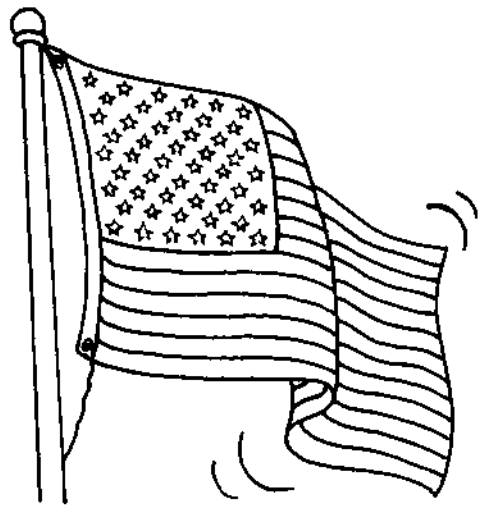


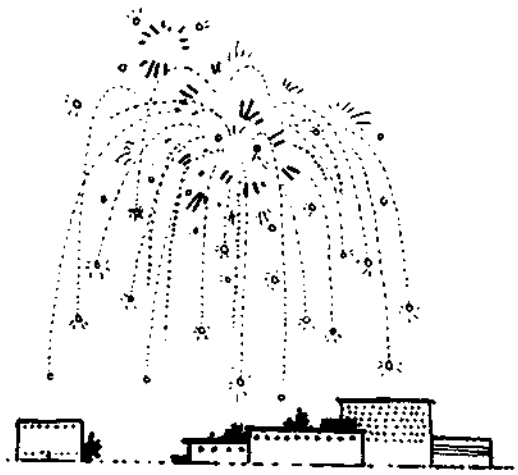
Flag Day

I am the flag, I fly.
I tell the world a story
About our country's birth
About our nation's glory.

Thirteen stripes of red and white
And fifty stars on blue,
I tell the world I'm proud to be
American, aren't you?

—Helen H. Moore





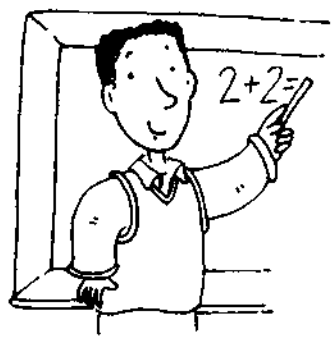
Independence Day

Let's have a parade!
Let's drink lemonade!
Let's have a picnic
In the shade!

Let's celebrate
This happy day,
When we became
The USA!

—Helen H. Moore

Labor Day

When I grow up,
I'll go to work,
Just like the grown-ups do.
On Labor Day,
I'll get to say,
That I'm a worker, too!

—Helen H. Moore