

Memorial Day

The Last Monday in May

On Memorial Day, we remember soldiers who died serving our country. Soldiers keep us safe. They protect us. We honor them on this day. There is no school on Memorial Day. Many people do not go to work on Memorial Day. It is a day to remember.



Summary of Activities

Reading: Literature

The Picnic—fictional story with comprehension questions

Reading: Informational Text

Flag Facts—nonfiction passage with a writing activity

Writing

Summer Begins!—activity in which students tell about what they like to do during the summertime

Speaking & Listening

Tell a Memorial Day Story—activity in which students tell a story based on a picture

Vocabulary: grave, honor, memorial, remember, soldier, summertime, uniform, war



Name _____

Date _____

The Picnic

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions on page 62.

Kate woke up early on Memorial Day. She was going to a picnic. She put her swimsuit and towel in a bag. Then she went to the kitchen to help her mom. Kate helped her mom pack the lunch. They put cheese and fruit into a basket.

"I think we are ready," Kate's mom said.

It was a warm day. When they got to the picnic, some kids were in the pool. Kate saw some grown-ups dressed in strange clothes.

"What are they wearing?" she asked her mom.

"They are soldiers," Kate's mom said. "They are wearing uniforms. Our country is free. We can live as we like. We can say what we like. You have to fight for those things. The soldiers fight for us. But some die doing it."

Kate looked at the soldiers. They looked scary to her.

"Do they always dress like that?" she asked.

"No. But today is Memorial Day. It's the day that we remember the soldiers who lost their lives."

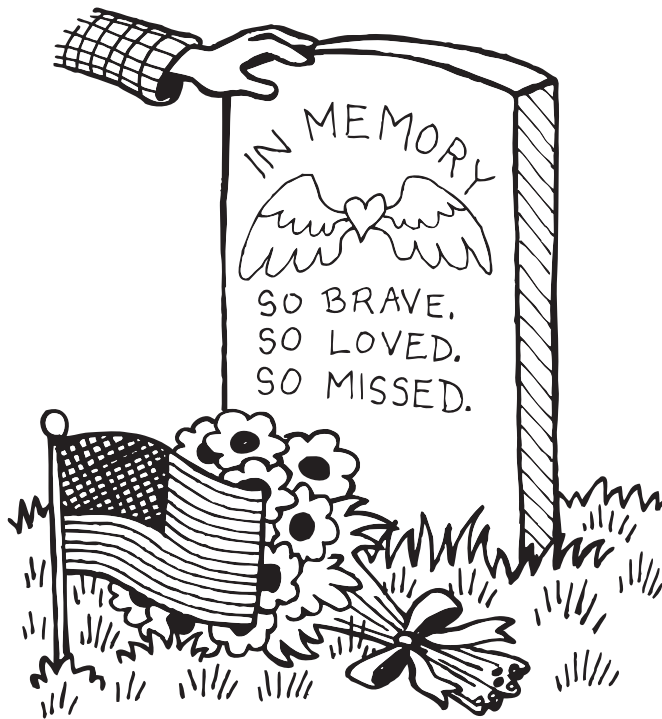
Kate looked sad. "I thought it was the start of summer," she said.

Her mom smiled. "It is that, too. It's O.K. to have some fun. But it is also good to remember."

Kate asked her mom how you remember.

"You can put a flag on a soldier's grave. You can put some flowers there. Most of all, you can remember that some soldiers fought wars and gave their lives so that we could live free."

Kate looked at the soldiers again. This time, she wasn't scared.





Name _____

Date _____

The Picnic *(cont.)*

Directions: Read the story on page 61. Then answer the questions.

1. Where do you think the story is set?
 - a. in a school
 - b. in a church
 - c. in a park

2. Who is the main character of the story?
 - a. a soldier
 - b. Kate's mom
 - c. Kate

3. What should we do on Memorial Day?
 - a. go on a picnic
 - b. remember soldiers who died
 - c. go swimming



Name _____

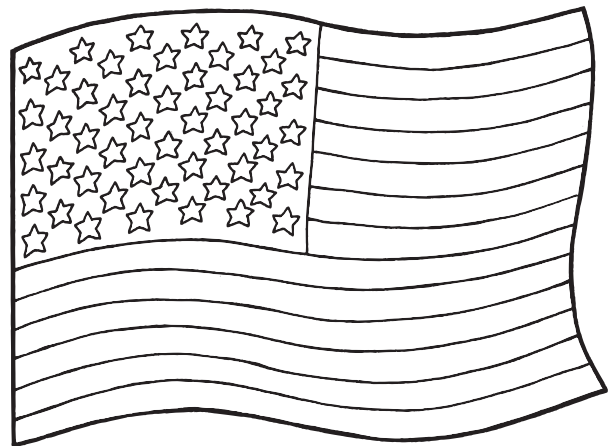
Date _____

Flag Facts

Directions: Read the passage. Then complete the activity.

On Memorial Day, you will see lots of American flags. People put small flags on the graves of soldiers. People put flags in front of their houses. This is a way to honor soldiers who have died. Here are some facts about our flag:

- Our flag is red, white, and blue.
- Our flag has 7 red stripes.
- A red stripe is always at the top and the bottom.
- Our flag has 6 white stripes.
- Our flag has 50 white stars.
- The white stars are on a blue rectangle.
- Each white star has 5 points.



Activity: Write two sentences about the American flag. Make sure to end your sentences with periods.

1. Our flag _____

2. Our flag _____



Name _____

Date _____

Summer Begins!

Memorial Day marks the beginning of summertime! In the space below, write three things that you love to do during the summer months. Make sure to end your sentences with periods.

1. In the summertime, I love to _____

2. In the summertime, I love to _____

3. In the summertime, I love to _____



Name _____

Date _____

Tell a Memorial Day Story

Directions: Look at the picture below. Tell someone a story about what is happening in the picture. Answer these questions:

- Who is in this picture?
- Where are they?
- What are they doing?
- Why is this important?



Answer Key

What to Eat on New Year's Day (page 7)

1. b
2. a
3. a

The Lot (pages 11-12) F,A,E,B,D,C

Helping Out (page 13)

1. a
2. b
3. c

Animal Fact File (page 18)

1. b
2. a
3. b

Hello, Valentine! (pages 22-23)

1. a
2. b
3. c

The Heart (page 24)

1. b
2. c
3. a

Mount Rushmore (page 29)

1. a
2. b
3. c

How the Years Got Their Names (pages 33-34)

8, 10, 11, 12, 9, 7, 3, 4, 1, 6, 2, 5

How Do You Eat? (page 35)

1. a
2. b
3. b

One Potato, Two Potato (page 41)

1. a
2. b
3. c

The Piñata (pages 50-51)

1. c
2. a
3. b

A Gift for Mom (page 57)

1. a
2. c
3. b

The Picnic (pages 61-62)

1. c
2. c
3. b

The Best Dad Ever! (page 67)

1. b
2. a
3. c

Fruit of the Palm Tree (page 73)

1. a
2. b
3. c

Going to See the Fireworks! (page 77)

1. b
2. a
3. c

A Mouse's Favorite Day (pages 88-89)

1. b
2. b
3. a

How to Roast Pumpkin Seeds (page 95)

1. c
2. b
3. a

Sue's Big Surprise! (pages 99-100)

1. Sue's Big Surprise!
2. Sue was in the school play.
3. Sue walked out onto the stage to say her lines.
4. Sue saw her mom sitting in the front row.
5. Sue ran off the stage into her mom's arms.

Uniforms of the Armed Forces (page 101)

1. a
2. c
3. b

Nana's Pumpkin Pie (page 105)

1. a
2. c
3. b

The Dreidel (page 111)

1. a
2. b
3. c

One Last Thing (pages 115-116)

1. b
2. c
3. a

The Kinara (page 123)

1. c
2. a
3. a