

St. Patrick's Day



Do you know what St. Patrick's Day is? St. Patrick's Day is a holiday that is celebrated every year on March 17th. It is a special day to remember St. Patrick, a saint of Ireland. St. Patrick was born in Britain and was captured by Irish raiders when he was 16. He was taken to Ireland where he worked as a shepherd for 6 years. During this time, he became a Christian and when he was 22 years old, he escaped to Britain. St. Patrick later became a priest and then returned to Ireland. He shared the Christian faith and built churches. According to the legend, he is also known for driving out the snakes from Ireland. The color green is very important on St. Patrick's Day. Green is the color of the shamrock, which is a symbol of Ireland. The holiday is celebrated in many different ways. People wear green clothing and put shamrocks on their lapels to celebrate. People go to parades, eat Irish food, and drink green beer. Some people even paint their faces green or wear green hats. The most important tradition of St. Patrick's Day is to remember the life of St. Patrick and his work in converting the Irish people to Christianity. People often visit churches, sing hymns, and say prayers in honor of the saint. St. Patrick's Day is a fun holiday to celebrate and remember St. Patrick. So, on March 17th, wear something green and join in the celebration!

1. Read the passage about St. Patrick's Day
2. Underline each word or sentence you don't understand.
3. Circle each word that took you more than 1 try.
4. Answer the questions.

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Answer according to the reading passage:

1. **St. Patrick's falls on _____ every year:**
 - a. September 17th
 - b. April 17th
 - c. March 17th

2. **The color green is very important because:**
 - a. Ireland is known for having a lot of green grass
 - b. It's the color of a shamrock, the symbol for Ireland
 - c. It was St. Patrick's favorite color

3. **According to legend, St. Patrick was famous for driving _____ out of Ireland:**
 - a. snakes
 - b. churches
 - c. shamrocks

4. **St. Patrick was a:**
 - a. teacher
 - b. farmer
 - c. priest

5. **To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, many people wear:**
 - a. black
 - b. green
 - c. hats

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Open Response Questions

Open Response Questions for Thinking Skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. Why do you think St. Patrick's wanted to spread Christianity through Ireland?
2. What did this reading passage remind you of? (*previous St. Patrick's Day event, wearing green at....*)
3. In 2-3 sentences, summarize what this passage is about.
4. What images go through your mind as you think about this writing passage?