



## Activities for Grades K–2

Compliments of Teacher Created Materials and Wintergreen Learning Materials

# Mother's Day



## Background Information

Mother's Day in the United States is approximately 100 years old. However, scholars tie the day to ancient times. The worship of the mother goddess, Cybele began in Rome, approximately 250 B.C.E. The month of March included a series of festivals that concluded with Hilaria, the festival of joy in honor of Cybele. This religious festival differs from our current honoring of mothers.

The early Church honored the Mother of God, Mary, on the fourth Sunday in Lent. Although its time of origin is unknown, young men and women in England who were apprenticed and therefore away from home for long periods of time in the 18th and 19th centuries began returning to their homes on Mothering Sunday. They would bring small tokens of affection, such as cakes or nosegays of violets. Families attended church together and had a dinner, with the mother honored as a queen. This practice was called to *go a-mothering*.

In the United States, Mother's Day can be traced to Anna M. Jarvis (1864–1948). A devoted daughter, Miss Jarvis decided

after her mother's death to establish a Mother's Day. She worried that mothers of adult children were neglected and hoped that having a Mother's Day would foster recognition of the sacrifice of mothers. The first Mother's Day observances were church services held in Philadelphia and Grafton, West Virginia, on May 10, 1908. Miss Jarvis supplied carnations at the Grafton service. Over time, red carnations were worn in honor of a living mother, and white carnations were worn for a mother who had died.

By 1911, Mother's Day proclamations had begun to spread across the country. By 1913, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first presidential proclamation, a practice that continues yearly.

## Around the World

By 1911, observances were celebrated in Mexico, Canada, China, Japan, and Africa. The Mother's Day International Association was established in late 1912. Although it has spread to more countries, some celebrate it on different days.

## Recommended Books

Anderson, Laurie Halse. 2001. *No Time for Mother's Day*. Park Ridge, IL: Albert Whitman.

Balian, Lorna. 2004. *Mother's Mother's Day*. Cambridge, MA: Star Bright.

Bunting, Eve. 1988. *The Mother's Day Mice*. New York: Sandpiper.

Eastman, P.D. 1960. *Are You My Mother?* New York: Random House.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Ways to Say Mom

**Directions:** Use the ways to say *mom* in the Word Bank to help you unscramble the words below.

**Word Bank**

ma	mom	mother
mama	mommy	mum

<p><b>1. omm</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>-----</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><b>2. omrthe</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>-----</p> <p>_____</p>
<p><b>3. mmmoy</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>-----</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><b>4. amam</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>-----</p> <p>_____</p>
<p><b>5. am</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>-----</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><b>6. umm</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>-----</p> <p>_____</p>

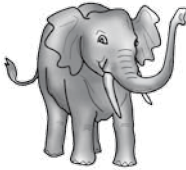


# Animal Moms

**Directions:** Use the Word Bank to solve the animal-mom riddles below.

**Word Bank**


alligator      elephant      koala

1.  This mom has the biggest baby on land.  
What is it?

\_\_\_\_\_

-----


\_\_\_\_\_

2.  This mom keeps her baby in her pouch for six months.  
What is it?

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

3.  This mom carries her babies in her jaw.  
What is it?

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Mother Palindrome Fun

**Directions:** The word *mom* reads the same way forward and backward. Those words are called *palindromes*. Use the Word Bank to figure out the palindromes below.

### Word Bank

bib  
tot

mom  
pop

eye  
Bob

1. It's a word for a mommy.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

o

2. It's another word for a father. It's also a word for a soft drink.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

o

3. It's what you see with.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

y

4. It's a word for a little kid.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

o

5. It's a boy's name.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

o

6. It's what a baby wears to keep clean when eating.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

i

## A Poem for Mother

**Directions:** Write an acrostic poem about your mother using words that describe her.

M	_____
	-----
	_____
O	_____
	-----
	_____
T	_____
	-----
	_____
H	_____
	-----
	_____
E	_____
	-----
	_____
R	_____
	-----
	_____

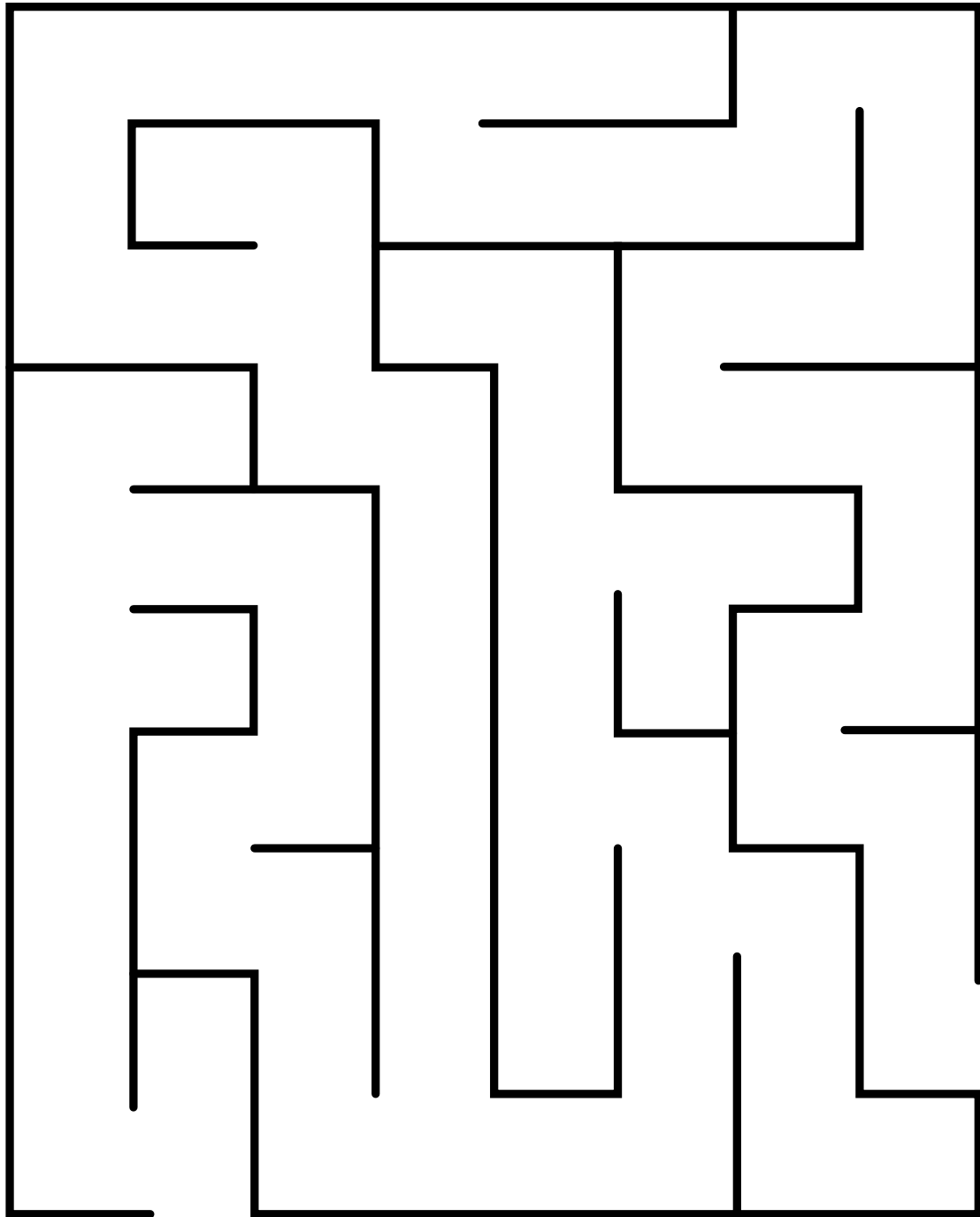




Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Find the Mother

**Directions:** Help the child find her mother.



**Start**

**Finish**





## All Sorts of Moms

**Directions:** Give each student one line to read. Have everyone read the last line together.

**Reader 1:** Some moms give kisses.

**Reader 2:** Some moms give hugs.

**Reader 3:** Some moms get rid of

**Reader 4:** Big, scary bugs.

**Reader 5:** Some moms get the monsters.

**Reader 6:** From under your bed.

**Reader 7:** Some moms tuck you in

**Reader 8:** With a kiss on the head.

**Reader 9:** Some moms get tired.

**Reader 10:** Moms don't get much sleep.

**Reader 11:** This Mother's Day morning

**Reader 12:** I won't make a peep!

**Reader 13:** Here's to all moms.

**Reader 14:** We want to say,

**Reader 15:** Have a happy and

**Everyone:** restful Mother's Day!







# Mother's Day Bookmark

**Directions:** Make a bookmark for Mom.

## Materials

- 6" x 2" construction paper
- two or three small flowers and/or leaves, pressed until dry
- markers
- glue
- yarn or ribbon
- contact paper
- hole punch



## Steps

1. Arrange the dried flowers on construction paper.
2. Glue in place.
3. Add a stem or leaves with marker, if desired.
4. Cover the bookmark with contact paper.
5. Punch a hole in the top of the bookmark with the hole punch.
6. Loop the ribbon or yarn through the hole. Tie a knot.