

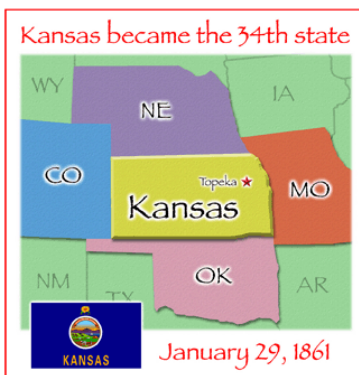


American New Year Traditions

In the U.S., New Year's Day is becoming a time to relax and recover from the previous holidays; e.g.,

- Watching the spectacular Rose Bowl Parade and game on television
- Observing good-luck shenanigans that are popular in other countries; such as, Shuistrology for teens described on our page under Holiday Traditions
- Eating our way to a prosperous new year. Lucky foods include:
 1. Corned beef and cabbage (money)
 2. Pork (prosperity)
 3. Black-eyed peas, hog jowls, ham, and rice (luck)
- Other activities include:
 1. Taking down the Christmas tree
 2. Visiting relatives
 3. Making New Year's resolutions (admirable but mostly forgotten in a very short time)

History not to be forgotten...



Happy New Year

Ring out the old, Ring in the new!

This year, instead of resolutions we are concentrating on goals.



As the New Year begins, we take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in our BuzzLetter and website. With your continuing support in the coming year, we will be able to move forward toward our goals of making them better, more informative and more entertaining. We thank you in advance for your help.

Happy New Year to you and yours! May 2010 be a time of working toward satisfying goals for you as well—at home, work, or school.

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other. ~Author Unknown

CHALK TALK

2010 marks memorable dates, anniversaries in American history

200 years ago, 1810

- King Kamehameha became ruler of the Hawaiian islands.
- The U.S. assumed control over west Florida, which became parts of Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi.
- The third U.S. Census found the population to be 7,239,881. It was a 36.4 percent increase since 1800.

150 years ago, 1860

- The first rider for the Pony Express left St. Joseph, Mo. It took him 11 days to reach Sacramento, Calif.
- Milton Bradley became a manufacturer of board games.
- The first steam-powered flour mill opened in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- U.S. population 31,443,321. There were 33 states in the Union.



100 years ago, 1910

- An estimated 1.8 million children were employed full time. The high school graduation rate was about 10 percent.
- U.S. population: 93,402,151, of which 1,041,570 were immigrants. There were 46 states in the Union.
- "Down by the Old Mill Stream" by Tell Taylor was a popular song.

75 years ago, 1935

- Amelia Earhart became the first pilot to fly solo from Hawaii to California. President Franklin Roosevelt approved the Social Security Act and the Works Progress Administration. In Richmond, Virginia, canned beer was sold for the first time.
- "Red Sails in the Sunset" was recorded by Bing Crosby and Guy Lombardo.
- U.S. population: 127 million.

50 years ago, 1960

- John F. Kennedy was elected president of the U.S. at age 43.
- Hawaii became the 50th state.
- U.S. population: 179,323,175.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Quick thinking teenagers:

The newly licensed teenager was going the wrong way on a one way street. He was stopped by a cop who said: Look kid, where do you think you're going? The teenager looked up at the officer and said: Oh, well it's okay, I guess I'm too late anyway. I see everybody's coming back.

Another kid was stopped for speeding and the cop told him, "I've been waiting for you all day!" "Yeah?" the kid replied, "I got here as fast as I could." When the cop stopped laughing, he let the kid go.

A Rhyming Riddle

I love to move around,
but usually not on the ground.
I'm quite strung out when way up high.
I like to sail, but I stay dry.
A helpful hand is all I need.
What am I?

See answer next month.

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

A good pun is its own re-word!

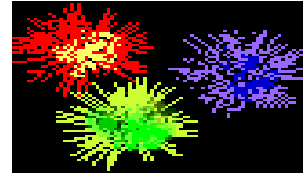
- Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
- Without geometry, life is pointless.
- When you dream in color, it's a pigment of your imagination.
- Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.
- A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired.



- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- Energizer Bunny arrested - charged with battery.
- A lot of money is tainted. It t'aint yours and it t'aint mine.
- Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.

January Project

Chinese Fireworks Paper Craft



These fireworks pictures are great decorations for the New Year and Chinese New Year. (The Chinese invented fireworks thousands of years ago.)

Create your own fireworks pictures by using dark construction paper, glue and different colors of glitter.

Supplies:

Black or very dark construction paper
Glitter
White glue
Old newspapers
A straw (optional)

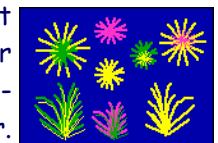


1. Work on old newspapers. Spread glue on the paper in geometric shapes. If the glue is soft enough, you can put a small blob of glue on the paper, and then blow some air through a straw to spread it into interesting shapes. You can experiment with the consistency of the glue and the angle of the straw.

2. Sprinkle glitter onto the glue. Slide the excess glitter off your picture and back into the glitter container.



3. Optional: Repeat the glue and glitter process with different colors of glitter. Let the glue dry.



~ www.enchantedlearning.com/

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SEASONAL



FROST

*Someone painted pictures on my
Windowpane last night --
Willow trees with trailing boughs
And flowers, frosty white,
And lovely crystal butterflies;
But when the morning sun
Touched them with its golden beams,
They vanished one by one.*

~ Helen Bayley Davis

Reminder:

The holidays are over and it's time for kids to write thank-you notes for the gifts received. Keep a supply of cute kid note cards on hand or use your computer to print cards or stationery.

Thank-you notes from kids don't have to be formal. They can use a word processor or card-making program for a creative learning experience or pick up a box of card-making paper and envelopes at your local discount or office supply store. Most kids love to have a reason to make cards and thank-you notes are the perfect opportunity.

Here's a sample:

*Dear Grandma and Grandpa,
Thank you for the Christmas check. I
have been saving for a new catcher's mitt
and now I can buy it. You're the greatest.*

**Love,
Johnny**