



# Generation Homeschool



E-Mail: [generationhomeschool@gmail.com](mailto:generationhomeschool@gmail.com)

Web: [generationhomeschool.weebly.com](http://generationhomeschool.weebly.com)

Dear Reader,

*Happy St. Patrick's Day! It's that time of year again, when the season is changing! We welcome spring with open arms – a time of rebirth – as the trees begin to bud, the blossoms are ripe with their fragrance, and the birds begin their beautiful melodies!*

*Spring Break, too, is upon us! I'd love to hear what you have planned! Click on any of the social media icons at the top and share with us what your family will be doing!*

*Jayonda*

## LAST MONTH

We are in the process of updating our website! Some content is now live. Be sure to check in often for the latest in freebies, blogs, and vlogs!

Please participate in our [Online Survey](#) regarding homeschool! Only 10 questions and completely anonymous! Survey closes on March 31<sup>st</sup>!

Visit our website for our  
[FREE St. Patrick's Day Mini-Unit Study!](#)



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## Want to share?

If you have something to share, please email us and include in the subject: [Newsletter Add-In](#)

## Subscriber Freebies at the End!



# Homeschool News

## Will Homeschooling Rise?

Welcome to 2017! The year of some of the strangest things happening on Capitol Hill than have happened in my life time. Yet, I can't help but wonder...

Will homeschooling rise now that a strong homeschool advocate is the head of United States Education?

Betsy Devos, a strong spokesperson for homeschooling has all but riddled her thoughts on public schooling and has even proposed to dismantle the public education sector. Many on the right believe that it will save the country money. Many on the left believe she is radical, to put it mildly. However, there are many who are in agreement with her.

While I do not support her beliefs that public school is a waste of time and money, I do believe that each parent should have the right to either homeschool, or enroll their children in a public or private school. Where public school is not for everyone, neither is homeschool. It should be an individual choice for that student and for that family.

I'd love to hear your opinions on the matter. Feel free to e-mail us at [generationhomeschool@gmail.com](mailto:generationhomeschool@gmail.com) and tell us what you think!

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## Quick Facts!

- Families engaged in home-based education are not dependent on public, tax-funded resources for their children's education. The finances associated with their homeschooling likely represent over \$27 billion that American taxpayers do not have to spend, annually, since these children are not in public schools
- Taxpayers spend an average of \$11,732 per pupil in public schools, plus capital expenditures. Taxpayers spend nothing on most homeschool students and homeschool families spend an average of \$600 per student for their education.

Source: <https://www.nheri.org/research/research-facts-on-homeschooling.html>

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## Links and Free Resources

Be sure to check out [Generation Homeschool](#) for the newest freebies for kids and parents!

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## Encouragement

The love we feel and experience is nothing compared to that of our beloved father! Stay strong in your walk and know that He is with you.

*"What we want is to see the child in pursuit of knowledge, and not knowledge in pursuit of the child."*

~George Bernard Shaw, Irish Writer



# *Lessons at EHA*

## Mathematics

- Long Division
- Word Problems
- Time and Money Review
- Number Line Review

## Literature

- Excerpts of St. Patrick – His Life and Writings
- Sarah, Plain and Tall
- Star of Light

## Read Aloud

- Treasure Island

## Science

- Solar System
- Constellations

## Writing

- Informative Essay
- Avoiding Plagiarism
- Review 3.5 Essays

## History

- Geography of Ireland
- Life and Times of St. Patrick
- The Great Potato Famine

## Online Lessons

- Spelling City
- Readtheory
- Xtramath

## Pre-K Lessons

- Counting to 30
- Tracing Lines of diagonals
- Shape Recognition (5-8 sides)
- Number Identification 0,2,4
- Letters U & V
- Writing Name
- Reciting Address
- City and State

## Unit Study

- St. Patrick's Day
- Constellations



# THE MILK JUG

Make your own luck with this traditional St. Patrick's Day meal.

## Corned Beef and Cabbage



### Ingredients

- 1 large head of cabbage
- 1 ½ lb. corned beef
- 1 to 2 lbs. of new potatoes, washed.
- 6 medium Portobello mushrooms, sliced
- ½ white onion, diced
- 1 pan of fresh corn bread (see recipe for Holiday issue)
- 4-6 eggs, fried (1 for each serving prepared)
- 1 large can of whole, peeled, stewed tomatoes in tomato juice
- 3 tsp. of shortening or cooking oil, separated in 1 and 2
- Salt and Pepper to taste
- Several pads of sweet cream salted butter

### What to Do:

- Preheat oven to 350°F
- In a skillet, add 2 tsp of shortening or oil and heat.
- When oil is hot, quickly sear one side of corned beef (about 4 minutes), turn and repeat. Remove from heat.
- Place seared meat into a glass baking dish, surround with new potatoes.
- Cover and bake until the center of the meat reads a temperature of 180° F with a meat thermometer
- Cut cabbage into chunks (careful to avoid extreme centermost portions)
- Place cabbage chunks into large stock pot. Add water just to cover cabbage (it will float, so press it down with your hand to ensure you have it covered).
- Add about ½ tsp. salt, 1 tsp. black ground pepper, and 1 tsp of shortening or cooking oil. Boil until tender
- Prepare cornbread and cook according to directions

### To serve:

Slice corned beef and place on serving dish. Add potatoes, a serving of boiled cabbage and a slice of cornbread with a pad of butter.

*May your pockets be heavy and your heart be light. May good luck pursue you each morning and night. May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of Saint Patrick behold you.*

# AN ACROSTIC POEM

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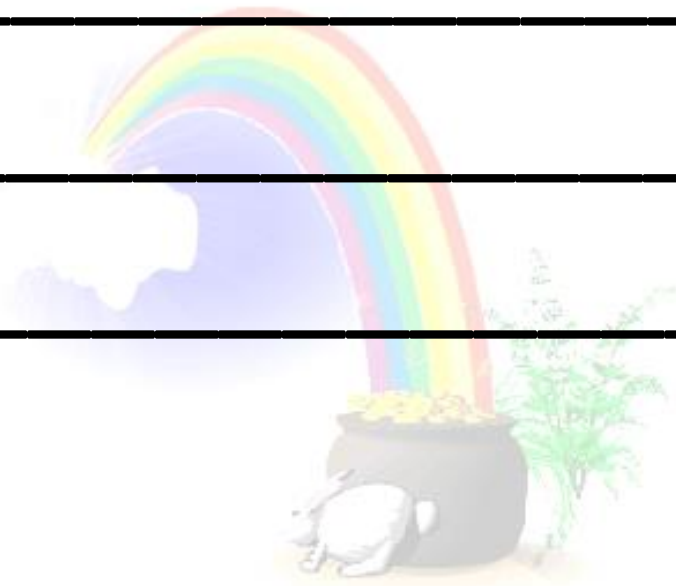




Image courtesy of Google Search

## How Many Words?

Use the letters of the words “Saint Patrick’s Day”. How many can you find?

### Saint Patrick’s Day




# WINKING LEPRECHAUN ACTIVITY



This fun and creative paper plate craft is sure to bring smiles! Thanks to Kix, this fabulous activity is free to all who would like it.

Simply [visit their website](#) for the pattern and instructions  
**NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

## Items you will need:

- Paper plate
- Construction paper: green, black, yellow, orange
- Green glitter (optional)
- Peach paint
- 1 large googly eye
- Pink crayon
- Gold pipe cleaner (or construction paper for the pipe)
- Black marker
- Scissors
- Glue stick and/or white craft glue
- Tape



# The Story of St. Patrick's Day

St Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17th, the traditional religious feast day of St. Patrick and the day he is believed to have died in 460 A.D. The Irish have observed this religious holiday for thousands of years. But, how did we come to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in the United States?

St. Patrick is the beloved patron saint of Ireland. The Irish are famous for spinning exaggerated tales, so despite the infamous stories traditionally attributed to St Patrick, quite little is actually known about his life. We do know that St Patrick was born in Britain and that at the age of 16 was captured by Irish raiders who attacked his family's estate. He was then transported to Ireland where he was held captive for six years, living a solitary, lonely life as a shepherd. It was then that he became a devout Christian, embracing his religion for solace. From his writing, we know that a voice, which he believed to be that of God, spoke to him in a dream, urging him to leave Ireland. He did. Walking nearly 200 miles, Patrick escaped to Britain and undertook seriously religious training.

After 15 years of study, Patrick was ordained as a priest and sent to Ireland. His mission was to minister to Christians and to convert the Irish, then pre-dominantly pagans, to Christianity. Because Patrick was familiar with the Irish language and culture from his years of captivity, he chose to incorporate Irish ritual and symbols into his teachings rather than to eradicate Irish beliefs. Thus, was born the Celtic cross. Patrick superimposed the sun, a powerful Irish symbol, onto the traditional Christian cross so that the result would seem more natural to the Irish.

Believe it or not, the first St Patrick's Day parade was held in New York City on March 17, 1762. Irish Americans were not the first, however, to celebrate the feast of St Patrick. Irish families have traditionally celebrated the feast of St Patrick as a religious holiday for thousands of years—a great pause during the Christian season of Lent when prohibitions were lifted for one day of dancing, drinking and feasting on meat. Corned beef and cabbage anyone?

The history of St. Patrick's Day in America, however, begins with Irish soldiers serving in the British army. Befitting of the Irish, it is a tale of Irish patriotism and evolving political power. That very first parade in New York City not only helped the homesick Irish soldiers connect with their roots through the familiar strains of traditional Irish music – usually featuring bagpipes and drums, but also to help them to connect with one another, finding strength in numbers. Over the years as nearly a million Irish immigrants fled to America in the wake of the Great Potato Famine, St. Patrick's Day parades became a display of solidarity and political strength as these often-ridiculed Irish immigrants were frequently victims of prejudice. Soon

enough, their numbers were recognized and the Irish soon organized and exerted their political muscle, becoming known as the “green machine”.

Today, St. Patrick’s Day celebrations abound. Decidedly less religious, St. Patrick’s Day celebrations continue to be a show of Irish strength and patriotism. So, get your green and get ready to celebrate! Listen to the history in this excellent [Irish song](#).

(Source: [www.hellowkids.com](http://www.hellowkids.com))

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## FIVE LITTLE LEPRECHAUNS

Five little leprechauns knocked at my door.  
One chased a rainbow, then there were four.

Four little leprechauns oh so wee,  
One picked a shamrock, then there were three.

Three little leprechauns hiding in my shoe.  
One found a toadstool, then there were two.

Two little leprechauns dancing in the sun,  
One went in search of gold, then there was one.

One little leprechaun on the run,  
He shined his shoe buckles, then there were none.

~ Author Unknown



## IRISH HOT POTATO



Using green paint and a potato, brush the paint on and allow to dry completely.

**The Set Up:** Have the kids sit on the floor in a circle close to one another. Randomly select one player as the starter and give them one large potato.

**The Rules:** Start playing some Irish music. The person controlling the music should have their eyes closed or be facing away from the circle. The kids pass the potato as quickly as possible to the person to their left for as long as the music is playing. After a random period of time stop the music. The person holding the potato is out and should exit the circle so the game can continue. Eventually there will be just one person remaining who is the winner.

**The Music:** This video from YouTube provides great [audio](#) for the game, or search for your own.