

# Polly Evans' Story Page

## Five Gentle Little Bunnies FOR BABY FINGER PLAY



This is a cunning exercise in finger play for the tiny little folks. You can give them a little time of pleasure this morning with it.

With the child on your lap, first give it a nice look at these pictures, and let it have a good time talking about the rabbits. Then take one of its hands and begin the finger exercise, reciting each verse as you reach the finger it belongs to.

If you are good at making up verses yourself, you might make up some verses to recite, going backward from one finger to all five fingers, telling about the reunion of the family and what happened to each rabbit when he got back.

## The Queen's Gam

THIS is another Kandahoo story. You remember, do you not, the last time Princess Mary, Princess Ruth and Prince George were home? It was in October, after the school term had opened, and they celebrated their mother, the Queen's, birthday.

Time went by, and at last Guy Fawkes' day—the 5th of November—drew near. Although it is an English day, the King of Kandahoo knew all about it, because he had visited England and seen how the people celebrated it with bonfires and fireworks. And the children knew all about it, because the King had told them all about it.

So now he was not surprised to receive a line from Prince George, saying: "Please, may we come home for Guy Fawkes' day, and please get some ripping fireworks."

The King frowned over the missive word, but he reflected that excitement is enough to make any missive, so he turned over two big bright guineas to the Queen, and said: "Those are for the fireworks, my dear."

So off went the Queen, highly delighted, to buy fireworks, and the first thing they saw in a shop was a big, ugly effigy of Guy Fawkes, all ready to be burned.

"I declare, I'll get it," said the Queen, "how pleased the children will be."

## THE QUEEN'S SECRET

But when she asked the price, it was too high.

"I believe I could make a beautiful one myself," thought she, "and that will leave me all this money for fireworks."

She laid all the money out in every kind of lovely fireworks—rockets, squibs, firecrackers, Catherine wheels, roman candles, and every other kind you have ever heard of.

All through the following week she spent her evenings looking up in the attic doing something mysterious, which she kept secret from everybody, even the King.

Could you have peeked in on her those days you would have cried her sneaking in from the stables with armfuls of straw, which you would have seen her stuff into a suit of antique clothes which she found in silk waistcoat, then, knickerbockers and white silk coat, and finally a red velvet cloak trimmed with white ermine. She made it at last out of a bush and comb bag, and marked the eyes when it was all finished, she burnt cork for the particular with the dragage, she painted, "I shall come down last thing and tie it up to the old flagpost around the corner."

Of course, you all know what fireworks are like. Well, the children, had a fine time with them, and they got very black hands and faces in consequence.

Prince George mischievously dropped a firecracker at his father's royal heels and laughed and laughed to see the King jump.

How the children laughed at mother, who was so sure she'd catch fire somehow that she came out in a long shiny waterproof and drawn its hood tightly over her head.

At last, when they'd all shouted themselves hoarse and a colored light that turned everybody and everything into a beautiful crimson, the King said: "By the way, how about that surprise of yours?"

## MORE THAN ONE SURPRISE

"Yes, yes, the surprise!" chorused the children.

"This way, all of you!" cried the Queen, who was waiting excitedly for this particular surprise, and she led the way behind the coach house, where she had a broken flagstaff, with its arm sticking stiffly out on each side of it was—

"Hoora! Hoora! Hoora!" said the children, "made it every bit myself!" said the Queen proudly. "Will you have the lantern?"

"No, no, my love," began the King.

But the Chamberlain obediently took a box of matches and walked up to the King.

"At last! At last!" said the Queen, waiting in tremendous excitement, and saw the match go off directly it touched the effigy of Guy Fawkes. The Chamberlain lighted another, and another, but

## The Busy Bee and Other Games

THE Busy Bee is a new and amusing game for parties.

You must prepare for it beforehand, as follows: Take nice correspondence cards enough to go around the entire number of players, and write ten descriptions, each followed by a blank space for the answer, as shown below, and numbered from 1 to 10.

1. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
2. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
3. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
4. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
5. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
6. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
7. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
8. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
9. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.
10. This busy bee is a kind of nut tree.

The object of the game is to fill in the blank spaces with words beginning with "B", and answering to the descriptions given.

You should have the list of correct answers handy to read aloud when, at the end of the time limit—say, thirty minutes—the players are told to exchange cards and correct each other's answers. Tell them to give one mark for each correct reply as follows:

1. Be-gins.
2. Be-ware.
3. Be-gins.
4. Be-gins.
5. Be-gins.
6. Be-gins.
7. Be-gins.
8. Be-gins.
9. Be-gins.
10. Be-gins.

You can see, of course, that it is possible for you to add many more words to this list, if you desire more than the ten given. You may suit the dictionary for the additional words.

Words identical with those on your list of answers should be marked as correct, but they should not be counted as correct answers. People who are to be given the list of answers should be given a list of the correct answers.

The player with the most correct words receives the prize.

It is surprising how much fun can be caused by the guessing. People who are to be given the list of answers should be given a list of the correct answers.

Who wrote "The Farmer's Boy"? Bloomfield, a shoemaker.

Who established the "Quarterly Review"? George Fox, a shoemaker.

Who started the Ragged School movement? John Pounds, a shoemaker.

Who gave the Bible to the Chinese in their own mother tongue? Dr. Morrison, a shoemaker.

Who gave the names, which have become in greater or less degree household property, to Hans Sachs, the poet of Nuremberg; Richard Savage, Sir Cloudesley Shovel, the redoubtable admiral; Sir William Reed, the Radical; Hardy, the astrolatrical Partridge; Sir Simon Ayre, Jacob Boehm, Samuel, Drew, Hans Christian Andersen, Dr. Marshall, Dr. Kitto, Thomas Edward, the Baptist naturalist; and last, but not least, William Carey, the virtual founder of the Baptist Missionary Society. All these were shoemakers before they turned their thoughts and energies into other channels.

Who founded the Society of Friends? George Fox, a shoemaker.

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## A Dancing Egg

GET a hard-boiled egg and place it on the reverse side of a smooth, polished plate or bread platter.

If you now turn the plate around and around while holding it in a horizontal position, the egg, which is in the middle of it, will turn around also; and, as the pace is quickened, the egg will move more and more quickly, until it stands up on one end and spins around like a top.

In order to be quite sure that the experiment will succeed, you should keep the egg upright while it is being boiled, so that the inside may be hardened into the proper position.

"KEEP IT UPRIGHT"

Nothing Like Leather

WHO founded the science of botany? Linnaeus, a shoemaker.

Who disclosed the headless and marvellous of antique sculpture? Winckelmann, a shoemaker.

Who was the mainstay of the Society of Antiquaries? John Bond, a shoemaker.

Who wrote "The Farmer's Boy"? Bloomfield, a shoemaker.

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## How They Eat in Japan

IF YOU could see the things that the people in some countries have for dinner and the way they eat them, you would laugh, indeed, and then if you should visit those countries and do as the other boys and girls do, you would laugh still more.

I believe you would like Japan best. True, you would not have any chair to sit on, nor any knife, fork or spoon, but then you would have two dainty little sticks, which the Japanese children call "chopsticks," and which they use very cleverly. Then, besides, there is always such a lot of candies and other sweets, and what you could not eat you would be not only allowed, but expected to take home with you. Think of that!

Often, at great feasts, the guests bring their servants, who carry baskets and whatever is left from dinner is packed in these baskets and taken home.

In China you would have the same "chopsticks," but very different dishes. One especially, I believe, you would not like at all. It is a live crab, and very tiny ones, too.

Just as dinner is ready the crabs are put in a dish of vinegar. This makes them quite lively. Next they are ready to be eaten. A dish and placed upon the table. Then, when every one is ready, the cover is taken off. Those crabs don't hesitate a second, but scramble out and run for their lives.

But the guests are in a big hurry, too. They seize them with both hands, and filling their mouths as full as they can, they swallow the wriggling things as though they were the daintiest bits imaginable. I do not know whether they are better or worse than roasted spiders. They would be sure to be in New Caledonia and some people who have eaten them say they taste like nuts and are very nice.

In India they would serve you roasted worms instead of fruit and vegetables, and in Burmah locusts stuffed and fried. In Siam you would be treated to ants' eggs, and some of our Indians think they can offer a guest no greater delicacy than roasted grasshoppers. So you see there are many kinds of tastes.

Table manners also vary greatly. In Turkey you must sit cross-legged on the floor and eat with your fingers from the same dish that every one else uses.

Telling the Time

THE earliest timepiece of which a record is preserved is the water clock of Hwang-ti, a Chinese mechanical genius who lived three centuries before Christ.

A simple device for measuring time is in use among the Malays. In a vessel of water a coconut shell is set afloat. It has a small perforation at a point near the water line, through which the water slowly oozes out, and as the shell sinks to the bottom, a native calls out the hour, rescues the primitive timepiece, and resets it. As each operation represents a fairly regular period, a rough time measurement is made.

A step in advance of this is the clock in use among the natives of Southern India. Here a copper bowl takes the place of the coconut shell. When the bowl fills and sinks, the attendant strikes vigorously on its metal surface, and thus tells the time by the striking of the clock.

Three-Circle Puzzle

THE three-circle puzzle mentioned below is this:

Can you divide it into four pieces of similar shape and size, each containing three circles? See if you can do it.

Conundrums.

1. Why is it certain that "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was not written by the hand of the author?

2. Why is a fishmonger never generous?

3. What is that which works when it plays and plays when it works?

5. Why are fowls the most profitable things a farmer can keep?

6. What English coin doubles its value when you take away half?

7. Why is it dangerous to walk in the meadows in spring?

8. Why is a vine like a soldier?

9. If a man who is carrying a dozen glass lamps drops one, what does he immediately become?

10. What belongs to yourself, but is used more by your friends than by yourself?

Behanding and Curtailing.

1. Behand a grain and leave warmth. Behand warmth and leave to consume. Behand to consume and leave a preposition. (Begin with a five-letter word.)

2. Behand a grain and leave a preposition. Behand a preposition and leave a Spanish slave. Behand a Spanish slave and leave a very great period of time. Behand a very great period of time and leave a five-letter word. (Begin with a five-letter word.)

Transpositions.

1. Transpose the letters of a word and you make a night bird.

2. Transpose a numeral and make something used to catch fish.

Hidden Words.

My first was a very cruel Roman Emperor.

My second is one of Longfellow's heroines.

My third is the king of beasts.

My fourth is a bird of right.

My fifth is a favorite fruit.

My sixth is a very secluded religious woman.

When you have set the above described words down in a list, read

## A Lucky Little Boy

HOW would you like being a little prince and having a whole island—a real island, with trees and brooks and a sandy beach and a house on it—presented to you?

That is what has happened to little Prince Olaf, whose father and mother, you remember, were last summer crowned King and Queen of Norway.

The Queen is the youngest daughter of King and Queen of Norway.

Prince Charles accepted their invitation, and before very long he and his wife and little Olaf sailed from their Danish home to Norway, and when they stepped ashore little Olaf seized the flag of Norway and waved it.

This made the people fall in love with their new little Prince, and they could not do enough for him. The children of Christiania (do you know where that is, and what important position it occupies in Norway?) gave him a beautiful beak and some lovely furniture for his room in the palace.

Olaf is only a trifle over 3 years old, and is said to be as happy and healthy and lovable as he looks in his picture. Do you suppose he will play Robinson Crusoe and treasure seeker and pirate on his island?

Tongue Twisters

IN Frederick Saunders' "Salad for the Solitary and the Social," he says: "The naturalist, Lovell, published a book at Oxford in 1811, entitled 'Pannologicomorphologia,' which is hardly as long a word as Rabelais' 'Proposition d'un dictionnaire de l'Antiphrasie metaphysicodidactique.'"

And in a footnote he gives two others from a pamphlet in his possession, published years ago in London. The first is, "Chronicotology," the most 'tragical' tragedy that ever was 'tragicalized' by any company of tragedians. The first two lines of this confusion read: "Alchibonitophosphorus."

Where left you Chrononotology, so-called?

It is stated that there is an English dictionary containing "Rhoricabillitinity." "Disproportionableness" is given as the longest reasonable word in the English language.

## Some Puzzles to Solve

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January 27 Answers

The lawyer's scheme was as follows: He fetched his own horse from his stable and placed it in the Smith stable.

That made 12 horses in all. He gave half this number—6—to Brown, a third of the number—4—to Jones, and a ninth of the number—2—to Green, in exact accordance with the terms of the will, and still had left his own horse, which he then returned to his own stable.

WORD PUZZLE.

WHOLE-SIDEBOARD.

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