

# CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY

## The History of Mother's Day

By Beverly Hernandez



*On the second Sunday in May, American children of all ages treat their mothers to something special. It is the one day out of the year when children, young and old, try to show in a tangible way how much they appreciate their mothers.*

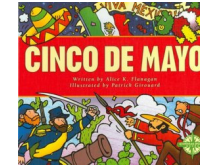
*England was one of the first countries to set aside a day to recognize mothers. In the eighteenth century when many people worked as household servants for the rich, "Mothering Sunday" was reserved for them to return home to be with their mothers. Though this custom stopped when the Industrial Revolution altered the working and living patterns of the people, one Sunday for Mothers was established as a holiday in the twentieth century.*

*In the United States, Mother's Day did not become an official holiday until 1915. Its establishment was due largely to the perseverance and love of one daughter, Anna Jarvis. Anna's mother had provided strength and support as the family made their home in West Virginia and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where her father served as a minister. As a girl, Anna had helped her mother take care of her garden, mostly filled with white carnations, her mother's favorite flower. When Mrs. Jarvis died on May 5, 1905, Anna was determined to honor her. She asked the minister at her church in West Virginia to give a sermon in her mother's memory. On the same Sunday in Philadelphia, their minister honored Mrs. Jarvis and all mothers with a special Mother's Day service. Anna Jarvis began writing to congressmen, asking them to set aside a day to honor mothers. In 1910, the governor of West Virginia proclaimed the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day and a year later every state celebrated it.*

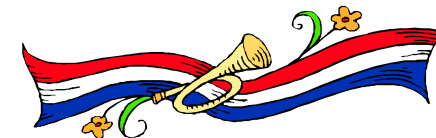
*On Mother's Day morning some American children follow the tradition of serving their mothers breakfast in bed. Other children will give their mothers gifts which they have made themselves or bought in stores. Adults give their mothers red carnations, the official Mother's Day flower. If their mothers are deceased they may bring white carnations to their grave sites. This is the busiest day of the year for American restaurants. On her special day, family members do not want Mom to cook dinner!*



## Flowers for Mommy!



**Cinco de mayo** is celebrated on the 5th of May. Contrary to what many people believe, Cinco de mayo is not Mexico's independence day from Spain. Rather, it's a remembrance of a David and Goliath-like fight. In 1862, as the French invasion of Mexico began, Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza's force of 4,000 soldiers defeated twice as many French soldiers in the Battle of Puebla. The French occupation would continue until 1866. But the Mexican soldiers' courage and determination inspired Mexican Americans. Even back then, historians say, California's Mexican Americans celebrated the win. Later, in the 1960s and 1970s, Chicanos involved in the civil rights movement related the Cinco de mayo story to their quest for respect in the United States.



Memorial Day, originally called *Decoration Day*, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. Though its exact origins are clouded in history, Memorial Day was proclaimed as an official holiday on May 5, 1868, by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. It was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873.

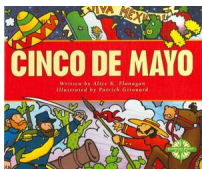
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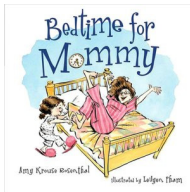
The Book Nook:

**Cinco De Mayo**  
by: Alice K. Flanagan



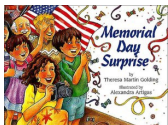
Holidays are a time of tradition, sharing, and fun. This book explores the history, customs, and symbols of Cinco de Mayo. Learn how Cinco de Mayo has changed over time and the different ways it is celebrated. This beautifully illustrated history is also filled with interesting and unusual facts about the holiday such as why Cinco de Mayo is a holiday of freedom and what people wear to perform the Mexican Hat Dance.

**Bedtime for Mommy**  
by: Theresa Martin Golding



When it's Mommy's bedtime, she begs her little girl --Five more minutes? "Ok, but then brush your teeth"! But then Mommy wants another glass of water...another story...luckily this little girl is very patient!

**Memorial Day Surprise**  
by: Amy Krouse Rosenthal



Marco and his mother are heading off to see the Memorial Day parade. They are in such a rush that they do not even stop to see Marco's grandfather, which he thought was most unusual. Mama has told him that there will be a really big surprise for him. As they get to the street and Marco sees his best friend, he asks if that is the surprise, but it isn't. Is it the bands playing or meeting a real firefighter or the candy that was throw at the crowd? No, none of these things are the really big surprise. Suddenly the crowd starts to clap and Marco sees the men and women in uniform marching down the street. Up at the head of the group in his wheelchair was Marco's grandfather in his army uniform and with medals across his chest. Marco is thrilled and shares the candy he saved with his wonderful grandfather.



# Koala Kingdom

## May 2012



**What to Expect in Kindergarten this Month...**

Lessons:

- . Rhyming words
- .High Frequency Words
- .Noun
- .Verbs
- .Writing Sentences
- .Writing Stories
- .Addition and Subtraction
- .Money
- .Natural Disasters

Activities:

- Teacher Appreciation week
- Mother's Day Muffins with Mom
- Friday May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Memorial Day-Center closed
- Monday May 28<sup>th</sup>.

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