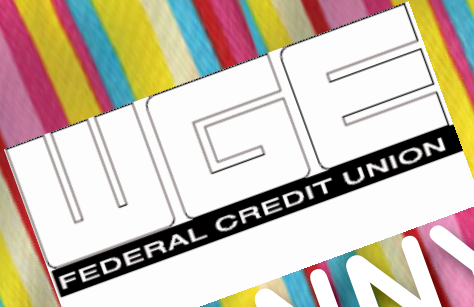


# GRANNY'S GOODIES



## Goodie of the Month



A snowman eraser to take back to school.

**JANUARY**



A ruler bookmark for home or school.

**FEBRUARY**



Magic tricks for you to try at home.

**MARCH**

## Year of the Rabbit

1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011

People born in the Year of the Rabbit are articulate, talented, and ambitious; are virtuous, reserved, and have an excellent taste. Rabbits are admired, trusted, and are often financially lucky. They are fond of gossip but are tactful and generally kind. Rabbits and their people seldom lose their temper. They are successful at business and being contentious, never back out of a contract. They would make good gamblers for they have the uncanny gift of choosing the right thing. However, they seldom gamble, as they are conservative and wise. They are most compatible with those born in the years of the Sheep, Pig, and Dog.



Rat	1996	Horse	2002
Ox	1997	Sheep	2003
Tiger	1998	Monkey	2004
Rabbit	1999	Rooster	2005
Dragon	2000	Dog	2006
Snake	2001	Pig	2007

## Three Ways to Motivate Yourself to Save Money

1. Ask your parents to match your savings dollar for dollar...or quarter for dollar. What better incentive for you to save your money than for you to know that for every dollar you put away, it will be matched by a given amount.
2. See the power of compound interest. See what can happen to your money over time if you save it and it is earning interest. This is called compound interest, the building of an account's value on itself. Ask your parents to show you how it works, or come into any branch and ask an employee.
3. Set up a personal financial goal. Give yourself a concrete reason to save. That really cool bike that you just have to have, or the newest video game coming out in March are good reasons to save. Ask your parents to help you create a plan to save the money to buy the item yourself.

## Peanut Butter Pancakes

Hot pancakes on a cold morning really hit the spot. Freeze extras between layers of waxed paper, then simply heat them in the microwave for 35 seconds, flipping halfway through, for a busy-morning breakfast.

### Ingredients

- 1 cup flour
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons milk

### Instructions

1. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, baking powder, and salt, and set aside.
2. In a small bowl, whisk together the peanut butter, sugar, and oil until smooth. Beat in the egg, then the milk. Pour the milk mixture into the flour mixture, stirring until blended.
3. Next, lightly coat a griddle or skillet with oil and heat it over medium-high heat. Drop the batter onto the griddle by 1/4-cup measures. Cook until tiny bubbles appear on the surfaces of the cakes, then flip them and cook a few minutes more. Makes twelve 4-inch pancakes.

## Clairvoyant Crayons

In this easy magic trick, you hand out several different colored crayons to a spectator. After turning your back, you ask the spectator to place a single crayon into your hand, which is behind your back. Even though you can't see the crayon, you can tell the spectator its color.

### Materials:

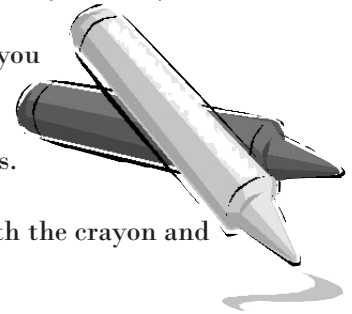
Several crayons of different colors.

### The Secret:

You secretly mark your finger with the crayon and sneak a peek at the color.

### The Trick:

1. Hand the crayons to the spectator.
2. Turn around and extend your hands behind your back to receive a crayon.
3. Turn around and face the spectator.
4. With your hands behind your back, mark your thumbnail with the crayon. Say that you're trying to "visualize" the color of the crayon.
5. Turn around and hand the crayon back to the spectator.
6. Pretend to concentrate and then bring your hand (with the crayon mark on the thumbnail) forward and rest your hand on your forehead (as if you're thinking). Be sure to gesture in a natural way.
7. Steal a peek at your thumb to determine the color.
8. Put your hand down.
9. After thinking awhile, reveal the crayon's color to the spectator.



## The Legend of Punxsutawney Phil

The legend of Groundhog Day is based on an old Scottish saying: "If Candlemas Day is bright and clear, there'll be two winters in the year."

Every February 2, people gather at Gobbler's Knob, a town just outside of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.

Residents say the groundhog has never been wrong.

The ceremony in Punxsutawney was held in secret until 1966, and only Phil's prediction was revealed to the public. Since then, Phil's fearless forecast has been a national media event.

The groundhog comes out of his electrically heated

burrow, looks for his shadow and utters his prediction to a Groundhog Club representative in "groundhogese." The representative then translates the prediction for the general public.

If Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, it means six more weeks of winter. If he does not see his shadow, it means spring is just around the corner.

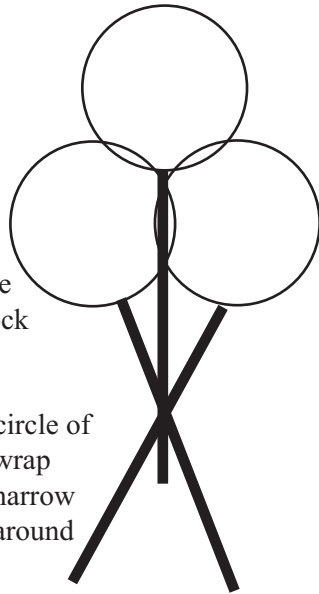
Approximately 90% of the time, Phil sees his shadow.

Phil started making predictions in 1887 and has become an American institution.



# EDIBLE SHAMROCK PIN

Green lollipops  
Twist tie  
Plastic wrap  
Green or white ribbon  
Tape  
Safety pin



1. Unwrap three lollipops and lay them with the sides butting and the sticks overlapping, form a shamrock and secure it with a twist tie.
2. Cover the candy tightly with a circle of plastic wrap and twist the excess wrap around the sticks. Tie a length of narrow green or white ribbon into a bow around the twist tie.
3. Use a strong piece of tape to attach a large safety pin to the back of the top lollipop. Don't forget to wear your pin on March 17!

Variations: For a longer-lasting but nonedible pin, unwrap the lollipops and paint them with white glue or polyurethane. Insert the lollipops into a potato half so they stand free when drying. Then arrange the dried lollipops on foil to form the shamrock. Squeeze glue on the sticks where they overlap and allow to dry. Tie bows around the sticks, and add a safety pin to the shamrock's back.

## Valentine Cards You Can Make

Here, two classic Valentine's Day gifts — flowers and candy — combine to make one sweet treat.

**Materials**  
Scrapbooking paper or card stock  
Scissors  
Lollipops  
Tape



### Instructions

1. For each, cut three heart-shaped petals, two leaves, and two flower centers from scrapbooking paper or card stock.
2. Poke a small hole in each, crease the petals as shown, and slide the pieces onto a lollipop stem. Tape the bottom to secure.

### Possible Messages

If you were a flower, I'd pick you.  
Our friendship is blooming!  
You're a sweet heart!  
Stop and smell the roses.  
Be my bud-dy!

# MONEY MATTERS

**Ben Franklin made lots of money...but whose?** The design for the Continental Dollar coin that came out during the Revolutionary War was based on a paper dollar designed by Benjamin Franklin. He also found a way to keep crooks from printing phony bills—but that's another Fun Fact...

**Ben Franklin helped to stop counterfeiters...** In the 1700s, it was pretty easy to print money that looked real. But it was Franklin who finally hit on a good idea in 1739: He cast real leaves in lead and called it the "nature print." He kept the process so secret that no one figured out how he did it until the 1960s. And, can you guess who said, "A penny saved is a penny earned"? Why, Ben Franklin, of course!



# Beat the Snowy Day Blues

When Granny's grandkids come over on a snowy day, I pull out my secret weapon – cupcakes! We all begin making fancy cupcakes for no reason at all. The bright colors, the busy hands, the lure of a sugar buzz all have us jumping for joy by the end of the day. Before my grandkids come over, I gather some fun cake decorating supplies: candy hearts, sparkles, marshmallows, tubes of frosting, raisins, pieces of broken candy, the fancier the better. Then we all sit at the table and begin making the brightest, most fancy cupcakes we can. And the best part – we eat them all when we are done. Sometimes, if I don't have cupcakes, we decorate sugar cookies!



## Snow Treasure Island Hunt

Hide a chest full of loot in the snow, then watch young castaways track it down clue by clue.

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Cooler  
Treats  
Magazines (optional)  
Paper  
Markers  
Plastic bags



### HOW TO PLAY:

1. Pack a cooler full of fun treats and then hide the "treasure chest."
2. Create a series of clues leading to the chest. Use either pictures from magazines or create your own with markers and paper.
3. Place each clue in a plastic bag and hide it in the snow.
4. Begin the hunt by handing the players their first clue.

### VARIATIONS:

For more sophisticated castaways, give them their clues in riddles or use rebuses.

### TIPS:

Look around the yard for good clue hiding places and plot them on paper. Then create the picture clues for each spot and hide them in order (keep the master list just in case a clue gets lost).

## Popcorn S'mores

1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar  
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine  
1/2 cup corn syrup  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
10 cups freshly popped popcorn  
1 package (10 1/2 oz.) miniature marshmallows  
2 cups mini graham cookies  
1 cup chocolate chips

With an adult's help, combine brown sugar, butter and corn syrup in medium saucepan. Cook over high heat for 5 minutes; remove from heat and stir in baking soda. Combine popcorn and marshmallows in large bowl. Pour sugar mixture over popcorn to coat. Gently stir in graham cookies and chocolate chips. Spread mixture evenly into greased 15 x 10 inch pan. Let cool completely. Break into pieces. Store in an airtight container or eat them all now!

**January 19 is  
National  
Popcorn Day**