

The Good Readers' Corner

Conducted by Mrs. Juliana C. Pineda*

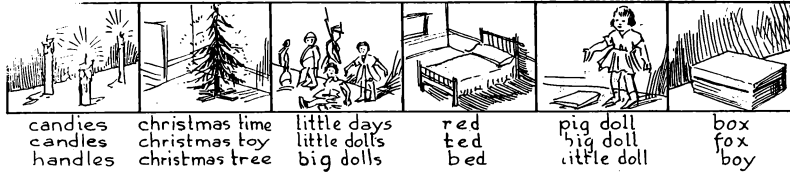
GRADE ONE

What did Ana find on Christmas morning?

Ana woke up very early on Christmas morning. She jumped out of bed and ran out of the room. There was a big Christ-

mas tree in the sala. Red, yellow, and blue candles hung from the branches. A box was under the tree. When Ana opened it, she saw a big doll.

Draw a line under the correct name.



candies
candles
handles

christmas time
christmas toy
christmas tree

little days
little dolls
big dolls

red
ted
bed

pig doll
big doll
little doll

box
fox
boy

GRADE TWO

Jose lived in a small bamboo cottage in a place where many small houses were built close together. For breakfast, lunch, and supper, he had rice and fish. The clothes he wore were old and often torn. There was no yard where he could play. He played with the other ragged boys right in the street.

Jose was (wealthy, poor, rich).

Did he live in a small house? Yes, No.

Did he eat good food? Yes, No.

Did he wear fine clothes? Yes, No.

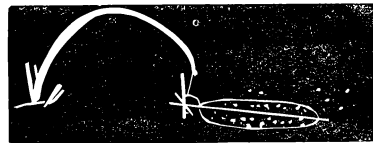
Did he use the street as a playground? Yes, No.

GRADE THREE

Andres has just gathered some vegetables from his garden. He wants to catch a big hen for his Christmas dinner. His mother will prepare chicken stew with cabbage, beans, and camotes.

In the picture below, there is no chicken.

Draw a hen running toward Andres.



GRADE FOUR

Little Nita knew that her parents were poor and could not afford to buy any Christmas gift for her. Her father was out of work. Her mother peddled fish the whole morning. The family prepared their lunch only when the mother came home. When Nita went to bed on Christmas Eve, she did not ask God for toys and good food she used

to have. When she got up on Christmas morning, she found on her mat a big doll, a toy, telephone, some big red apples, and nuts! She rubbed her eyes to see if she was not dreaming.

Choose the best answer:

Nita was (sad, pleased, surprised).

(Turn to page 313 for the answers.)

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TRUE STORIES

TRICKS OF FLOWERS

You have read about a number of flowers and must have observed many of them. Some flowers have bright colors, some are fragrant, and some grow in heads. These qualities of flowers are mere tricks of theirs to attract bees and other insects which help them in developing seeds.

You are familiar with flowers that are big and of bright colors. They are easily seen by bees even from a distance. Some flowers are white and not easily seen. Because of their sweet odor, the insects have no difficulty in finding them. The rosal, sam-paguita, and dama de noche are possessed with such fragrance that seems to call visitors. Some plants have tiny blossoms. To be attractive, the little flowers group themselves together into clusters which are sometimes long and sometimes rounded. Study the lantana, the santan, the cacawate, and the bridal bouquet. Would they be beautiful if only a single flower grew on a stem?



Flowers and insects are friends. The flowers give insects the sweet juice called nectar, and pollen, the yellow dust, which is made into bread by some insects. In return the insects help the flowers in forming seeds. Later you will learn how the insects perform this service for the flowers. Butterflies, bees, and moths are some of the flowers' friends. Can you name other insects that visit flowers?

ON THIS EARTH OF OURS

True—False

1. The trembling of the earth is called an earthquake. True, False.
2. The volcano is the only cause of the earthquake. True, False.
3. An earthquake is always destructive. True, False.
4. Sometimes earthquakes cause destruction of property and loss of life. True, False.
5. The Taal Volcano has not yet done any harm. True, False.
6. The earthquake that destroyed San Francisco in 1906 was caused by the slipping of rocks inside the earth. True, False.
7. Mt. Vesuvius is in Italy. True, False.
8. Melted rock that flows out of a volcano is very hot. True, False.
9. Mt. Vesuvius completely buried two cities when it erupted in the year 79. True, False.

ON ANT WAYS

Choose the correct answer:

1. Ants like (sweet, sour) food.
2. Ants are very (lazy, industrious).
3. They (eat all, store) food.
4. They are (wise, foolish).
5. Ants live (alone, in great numbers).
6. There are (two, many) kinds of ants.
7. Ants have a (weak, strong) sense of smell.
8. They smell with their (feet, noses).
9. They get their milk from (real cows, aphids).
10. There are (three, thirty) kinds of ants in a nest.

(Answers on page 327)

10. A volcano may cause the disappearance of a whole island. True, False.

(Answers on page 327)

QUESTIONS ON TRICKS OF FLOWERS

Do you remember what you have read about flowers?

1. Are flowers of different colors? Yes, No.
2. Do they all have bright colors? Yes, No.
3. Do they like bees for their visitors? Yes, No.
4. Does the sweet odor of some flowers attract insects? Yes, No.
5. Do all flowers smell sweet? Yes, No.
6. Does a stem always hold one flower? Yes, No.
7. Does a bee help a flower? Yes, No.
8. Does a flower serve the bee? Yes, No.
9. Is a santan head composed of many flowers? Yes, No.
10. Do the flowers of gumamela grow in clusters? Yes, No.

(Answers on page 327)

YOUNG WRITERS

(Continued from page 325)

toy store he saw a toy rifle. He liked it very much but when he saw the price he turned away from the window. It cost P5.95 and Lucas could never hope to save that much.

When he reached home he told his mother about it and she only laughed at him.

The next morning he passed the store again. He looked at it once more and saw that the price had been lowered to P5.00. Only one week before Christmas and he could not save that much. Just as he turned he saw an old man trying

to cross the street but he could not because he was too weak.

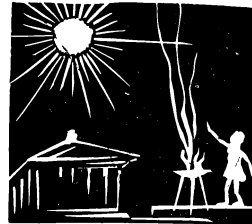
Lucas ran to help him. The old man looked at him but said nothing. Silently he offered his arm and they crossed the street safely.

When they reached the other side, the old man took out his wallet and took out P10.00 and gave it to Lucas and before Lucas could thank him he had disappeared.

Lucas was very happy and ran to tell his mother about it. She consented to buy the rifle and they went to the store together. So Lucas got his rifle and they had a good Christmas dinner.

Erlinda Alcantara

**THE MONTH
of
DECEMBER**



In the old Roman calendar, December was the tenth month and its name was derived from a Latin word that means ten. On the twenty-fifth of this month, the ancient Romans, who were not Christians, held a festival called the Birthday of the Unconquered Sun. If you lived in a country where winter is very cold, you would appreciate better the importance of the sun to men. You would then realize why a festival should be held in honor of the sun, which was believed to be a god.

The early Christians celebrated the birthday of the Christ Child at different times during the year. They finally decided to hold it at a fixed date and December 25 was the date chosen, perhaps because of the old heathen festival.

In early times, at Christmas time, boxes were hung in churches. It was in these boxes that the rich put their gifts for the poor. This practice developed into our custom of giving gifts on Christmas. The custom of having a Christmas tree hung with toys was also started by the Romans in connection with the Saturnalia, another important festival held in December.

The Christmas season is also referred to as Yuletide. Before the Northmen of Europe became Christians, they kept a great festival called Yule. Like the old Roman feast, it was held in honor of the sun.

GOOD READERS' CORNER

Answers to Questions

GRADE ONE

1. candles
2. Christmas tree
3. little dolls
4. bed
5. big doll
6. box

GRADE TWO

- | | |
|---------|-------|
| 1. poor | 3. No |
| 2. Yes | 4. No |
| 5. Yes | |

GRADE FOUR

1. surprised

ON THIS EARTH OF OURS

KEY

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. True | 3. False |
| 2. False | 4. True |

TRICKS OF FLOWERS

KEY

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 1. Yes | 6. No |
| 2. No | 7. Yes |
| 3. Yes | 8. Yes |
| 4. Yes | 9. Yes |
| 5. No | 10. No |

ON ANT WAYS

KEY

1. sweet
2. industrious
3. store
4. wise
5. in great numbers
6. many
7. strong
8. feelers
9. aphids
10. three

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 5. False | 8. True |
| 6. True | 9. True |
| 7. True | 10. True |

Christmas Greetings

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