



pack chat

April 2019

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scouting for boys

"So, go ahead, read the book, take in The Scout, practice all that these teach you and I hope you will have half as good a time as I have had as a Scout."

Extract: Lord Baden Powell's introduction to his book Scouting for Boys (1908).

adventures with books

By Velda Blumhagen

Books are ships that sail the seas to lands of snow or jungle trees.
And I'm the captain bold and free who will decide which place we'll see.
Come, let us sail the magic ship.

Books are trains in many lands, crossing hills or desert sands.
And I'm the engineer who guides the train on its exciting rides.
Come, let us ride the magic train.

Books are zoos that make a home for birds and beasts not free to roam.
And I'm the keeper of the zoo, I choose the things to show to you.
Come, let us visit in a zoo.

Books are gardens, fairies, elves, cowboys, and people like ourselves.
And I can find with one good look just what I want inside a book.
Come, let us read! For reading's fun!

"book buddies"



"You'll never guess what happened to me today!"

Storytelling is a key part of our lives. When we arrive home after a busy day at work or school, we tell our families in great detail about the events of our day. When we arrive at work in the morning, our colleagues and friends will hear all about the

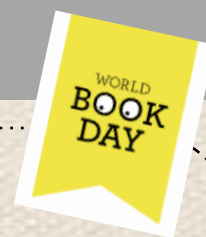
nightmarish journey and how long our trains were delayed for. We will describe and detail, exaggerate and embellish and relish in our listeners' reactions to the tale we have told. We all tell stories every day.

In schools, storytelling can be a rich experience for children, sometimes happening before they shape texts in writing, sometimes when telling stories for their own sake. It is what writing is built upon and skilled teachers know about its importance when using storytelling as part of the language curriculum to build children's literary skills.

Source: <http://www.consider-ed.org.uk>

did you know?

- World Book Day was designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and is marked in over 100 countries around the globe.
- World Book Day is celebrated on 23 April 2019. Celebrations take place all over the world to recognize the magical power of books – 'a link between the past and the future, a bridge between generations and across cultures.



games

Book Tag

In Book Tag, a book (which must stay in sight) is passed from Cub to Cub. "It" may chase and tag only the Cub who is holding the book. The Cubs, of course, are constantly trying to hand off the book to someone else. They hand off the book by touching another Cub with the book. If a Cub is tagged while carrying the book, they pass the book to "it" and they become the new "it". The new "it" must count to three, giving the old "it" a chance to get away before beginning the chase. Any Cub who drops the book automatically becomes "it".

Book Balancing

Two teams of Cubs each form a line parallel with each other. Each team has a book. One member of each team must walk down the length of the team and back to their place, balancing a book on their head, whilst their opposite number in the other team does the same thing. If the book is dropped on the way, the player must pick it up, go back to their starting point and begin again. The team that finished first is the winner.



Who Did Patrick's homework?

Patrick never did homework. "Too boring," he said. He played baseball and basketball and Nintendo instead. His teachers told him, "Patrick! Do your homework or you won't learn a thing." And it's true, sometimes he did feel like a ding-a-ling. But what could he do? He hated homework.

Then on St. Patrick's Day his cat was playing with a little doll and he grabbed it away. To his surprise it wasn't a doll at all, but a man of the tiniest size. He had a little wool shirt with old fashioned britches and a high tall

hat much like a witch's. He yelled, "Save me! Don't give me back to that cat. I'll grant you a wish, I promise you that."

Patrick couldn't believe how lucky he was! Here was the answer to all of his problems. So he said, "Only if you do all my homework 'til the end of the semester, that's 35 days. If you do a good enough job, I could even get A's."

The little man's face wrinkled like a dishcloth thrown in the hamper. He kicked his legs and doubled his fists and he grimaced and scowled and pursed his lips, "Oh, am I cursed! But I'll do it."

And true to his word, that little elf began to do Patrick's homework. Except there was one glitch. The elf didn't always know what to do and he needed help. "Help me! Help me!" he'd say. And Patrick would have to help -- in whatever way.

"I don't know this word," the elf squeaked while reading Patrick's homework. "Get me a dictionary. No, what's even better. Look up the word and sound it out by each letter."

When it came to math, Patrick was out of luck. "What are times tables?" the elf shrieked.

"We elves never need that. And addition and subtraction and division and fractions?"

Here, sit down beside me, you simply must guide me."

Elves know nothing of human history, to them it's a mystery. So the little elf, already a shouter, just got louder "Go to the library, I need books. More and more books. And you can help me read them too."

As a matter of fact every day in every way that little elf was a nag! Patrick was working harder than ever and was it a drag! He was staying up nights, had never felt so weary, was going to school with his eyes puffed and bleary.

Finally the last day of school arrived and the elf was free to go. As for homework, there was no more, so he quietly and slyly slipped out the back door.

Patrick got his A's; his classmates were amazed; his teachers smiled and were full of praise. And his parents? They wondered what had happened to Patrick. He was now the model child. He cleaned his room, did his chores, was cheerful, never rude, like he had developed a whole new attitude.

You see, in the end Patrick still thought he'd made that tiny man do all his homework. But I'll share a secret, just between you and me. It wasn't the elf; Patrick had done it himself.



By Carol Moore

Source: www.magickeys.com

*A book is a gift you can
open again and again.*

—Garrison Keillor

ideas for pack meetings:

- ◆ Make paper
- ◆ Create a book mark
- ◆ Donate books in your name or your family's name to a worthy cause
- ◆ Visit your local library
- ◆ Make a mini-book from 1 sheet of paper

More tips, games and crafts in
the next edition of **pack chat**

Stay tuned!

Your **pack chat** Team
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