

April Fool's Day

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What do you know about April Fool's Day?

Definitions:

- Assign – to give as a task



Reading

15 “Look! There’s a camel walking down the street. April Fools!” “There’s a spider in your
31 hair. April Fools!” A teacher says to her students, “I’m not assigning any homework tonight.” The
47 students are thrilled; they have wide smiles on their faces. The teacher then says, “...April Fools!”
We can spread April Fool’s Day fun through our words and actions.

59 Sam took the sugar out of the sugar bowl and replaced it with salt. His Dad mixed a
77 spoonful of what he thought was sugar into his morning cup of coffee. After just one sip, Sam’s
95 Dad spit the coffee out and onto the table. It tasted awful! Sam, who was quietly eating his
113 breakfast, proudly **exclaimed**, “Happy April Fool’s Day, Dad!” They both had a good laugh.

127 April 1st is April Fool’s Day. Many people like to play jokes or tricks on this day. These
145 jokes are for fun only. They are silly, not **harmful** or mean. You will often hear April Fool’s Day
164 jokes on the radio or TV. Some even appear in the newspapers. If you believe the jokes and silly
183 stories on the radio, TV, or in newspaper, you are an “April Fool”.

196 Where did the April Fool’s Day holiday begin? Why on April 1st? No one knows where or
213 when April Fool’s Day began. Some people believe it started in France in the 1500’s. Others
229 believe it began in Italy. April Fool’s Day has been celebrated in England and Scotland since the
246 1700’s.

247 Some people think April Fool’s Day started because of the spring weather. In the spring, the
263 weather changes every day. One day it may be 80 degrees, and the next day it could be 50. The
283 spring weather tricks people.

287 No matter how or when it began, April Fool’s Day is a fun, silly holiday celebrated by
304 people all over the world. People enjoy the fun and laughter of playing tricks on each other. Mark
322 Twain said, “The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year.”
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Understanding

1. What is a fool? _____

2. What does the word **exclaim** mean? _____

3. Where did April Fool's Day begin? _____

4. How do people celebrate this holiday? _____

5. What does the word **harmful** mean? _____

6. April Fool's Day is celebrated in what season? Why? _____

7. What does the quote from Mark Twain mean? _____

Writing

Option A: In your own words write about April Fool's Day.

Option B: How do you celebrate April Fool's Day?
