



Saint Valentine's Day

History, Customs and Traditions



Valentine's Day

Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday? We know many legends of how St. Valentine's Day began. Today in our lesson we discuss some of them.



Legends of Valentine's Day



- This is a very popular holiday in Europe and America. It's a day of love and friendship. We send greetings cards to our sweethearts and friends and ask them "be my Valentine". It means "be my beloved", or "be my friend". We also decorate classrooms with big red hearts and give red roses and sweets to our sweethearts, friends and family.
- *Этот праздник очень популярен в Европе и Америке. Этот день любви и дружбы, но не только возлюбленных, но и членов семьи, друзей, родственников. Мы посылаем в этот день открытки возлюбленным и друзьям и призываем их «будь моим Валентином». Это означает «будь моим (моей) возлюбленной или другом(подругой)». Мы украшаем помещения, где проходят праздники, красными сердцами, и дарим цветы, сладости как символ любви и счастья.*

Legends of St Valentine's Day

Saint Valentine of Rome - I



- According to one very popular legend, Valentine was a priest in Rome who lived during the reign of **Emperor Claudius II**. Under his regime, Claudius is said to have engaged Rome into several bloody battles. Claudius found that not many soldiers were keen to join the army because of attachment with their wives and families. Claudius cancelled all marriages and engagements in Rome. Valentine - a romantic at heart priest, defied this callous decree of Claudius by secretly arranging marriages of young men and women. When Valentine's defiance was discovered by the Emperor, he was brutally beaten up and put to death on February 14, about 270 AD.

For his martyrdom and dedication for the cause Valentine was named a Saint after his death.



Legends of St Valentine's Day

Saint Valentine of Rome - II

Another famous legend on Saint Valentine states that Valentine was an early Christian in Rome who was very popular among children. But during the time when Valentine lived, Roman regime was not in favor of Christianity. In spite of this strict law, Valentine continued to practice his faith and refused to worship Roman Gods. This enraged Emperor Claudius II and he put Valentine into prison.

Valentine is said to have spent a year in imprisonment during which he was missed a lot by children. They began to toss loving notes and flowers between the bars of his cell window. To an extent, this legend may explain the tradition of exchanging notes and flowers on Valentine's Day.



Legends of St Valentine's Day

Saint Valentine of Rome - II



- Some scholars believe that during his stay in prison Valentine made friends with jailer's blind daughter who at times brought to him notes and flowers from children. Whenever, possible Valentine also replied to the notes. Days before his execution, Valentine prayed for the jailer's daughter and she regained her sight. Before his death, Valentine is also said to have written a farewell note for the jailer's daughter and signed it "**From Your Valentine**". This expression is popular even till date. Valentine was beheaded on February 14.



Traditions and Customs of Valentine's Day



- Romantic festival of St Valentine's Day is celebrated with enthusiasm and fond regard in several countries around the world. Most commonly observed Valentine's Day tradition and custom is expressing one's love with an exchange of cards, flowers and gifts. Pampering one's beloved and making a romantic proposal to one's sweetheart is the other popular tradition of the festival that celebrates love.
- На Руси, в православном мире. Днем любви считается 8 июля (по новому стилю) - День памяти святых Петра и Февронии. Князь Муромский и его супруга жили долго, счастливо и умерли в один день.
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Valentine's Day Symbols



● There are several symbols attached to the romantic festival of Valentine's Day. The most commonly attached Valentine's Day Symbols include Roses, Hearts, Cupid, Lovebirds and Dove besides Love Knots and Laces. Each of these Valentine's Day Symbols has an interesting story about how they become attached with the festival. Over the years these symbols have become a part of the Valentine's Day Tradition. The present generation may not know the story behind these symbols but they surely recognize the festival with its traditional symbols.

- **Valentine's Day Roses**
- **Valentine's Day Hearts**
- **Cupid**
- **Lovebirds & Doves**
- **Love Knots**
- **Valentines Day Lace**



Valentine's Day Symbols



Valentine's Day Roses



Valentine's Day Hearts



Cupid



Lovebirds & Doves



Love Knots



Valentines Day Lace





Contest 1



□ Valentine's Day Puzzle. Here you can see some words, but they are not right. Try to do words from these letters.



□ TEARH

□ CNAYD

□ WESRFLO

□ LEOV

□ DACRS

□ DUPIC





♥ Contest 2 ♥



□ Decode a message:

□ 33=D 83=H 7=A 77=L 79=N 69=T 19=I
56=O 17=U 51=S 8=E 26=R 42=Y 66=V
2=P

□ 19 83 8 7 26 69 77 42

□ 83 56 2 8

□ 42 56 17 83 7 66 8 7

□ 83 7 2 2 42

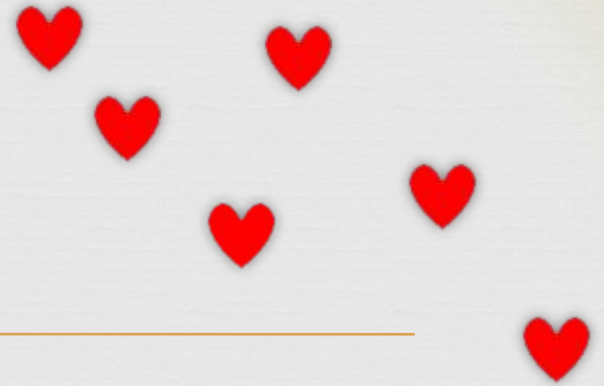
□ 66 7 77 8 79 69 19 79 8

□ 51 33 7 42





Contest 3



- Game “Broken Heart”. You see some names, some of them are women, others – men. You should do the pairs with these names.
- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| □ Adam | Daisy |
| □ Tarzan | Ken |
| □ Romeo | Minnie |
| □ Beauty | Jasmine |
| □ Simba | Eva |
| □ Aladdin | Jane |
| □ Mickey | Juliet |
| □ Barbie | Beast |
| □ Donald | Nola |



Contest 4



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- Sometimes we can't just talk about love, we must show it! So, try to pantomime these words to another team so that they can name them.
 - a heart
 - a kiss
 - a guitar
 - a flower
 - love
 - a letter



Love is ...

(by Greg Scelsa)

Love is ... a tender feeling,
Love is ... a way of being,
Love is ... just showing someone you care.
Love is ... helping with the dishes,
Love is ... feeding your pet fishes,
Love is ... just giving from your heart.
Love is so very simple,
It's not a mystery.
When you treat those around you
The very same way
You want them to treat you.
Love is ... your baby sister,
Love is ... playing with her,
Love is ... holding her when she cries.
Love is ... sharing your candy,
Love is ... being all that you can be,
Love is ... lending a helping hand when someone needs you.
Love is ...
L-O- V- E
Love is ...
For you and me.
Oh! Love is the greatest thing in the world.





□ But what is love for
you?

