

# Easy English NEWS



April 2020

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See page 10 for prices and ordering information.

## How will the U.S. fight the coronavirus?



Xiugen Zhang, a **microbiologist\***, is running a test for COVID-19 in a lab in Rocky Hill, Connecticut on March 2, 2020. (AP Photo/Jessica Hill)

The coronavirus has a new name: **COVID-19\***. The World Health Organization has called it a **pandemic\***. As of March 13, there were 130,000 cases in 100 countries. The most cases were in China, Italy, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, and Iran. The U.S. had 1,700 cases. The numbers increase every day. At this date, no one really knows how many cases there are in the U.S. There were not enough testing kits to test people.

### What does COVID-19 do?

This is a new disease. Doctors don't yet know everything about the virus. People have no **immunity\*** to it. There is no **treatment\*** and no **vaccine\*** so far.

**Symptoms\*** of COVID-19 are cough, **fever\***, and difficulty breathing. Most people have only a **mild\*** case. Some people have the virus and don't even know it. The virus can turn to **pneumonia\***. This is a danger for old

(continued on page 6)

Words in **black print** with a star (\*) are in **WORD HELP** on page 12.



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## Life in the U.S.A. Laws about work



There are many laws and **regulations\*** about work in the U.S.

### Who can work?

- Employers may **hire\*** only legal workers. They must be old enough to work legally. Children are not allowed to do all of the same jobs that adults can do.
- New workers must bring identification and fill out an **Employment Eligibility Verification\*** Form (I-9).
- Children under 14 may deliver newspapers or work as actors. They may do small **chores\*** around a home.



Employers do not have to pay the minimum wage to waiters and other **service workers\***, who get **tips\***. Bigstockphoto.com

Children 12 and older can baby-sit.

- Children aged 14 and 15 may not work during school hours. They may not work more than three hours on a school day, eight hours on a non-school day, or 40 hours in a non-school week. They may not work in **hazardous\*** jobs, in factories, or in **mines\***. In some states, children need special working papers signed by their parents and employer.
- Children aged 16 and 17 may do any non-hazardous job. They may work any number of hours. People who are 18 years or older may work at any job.

### Wage laws

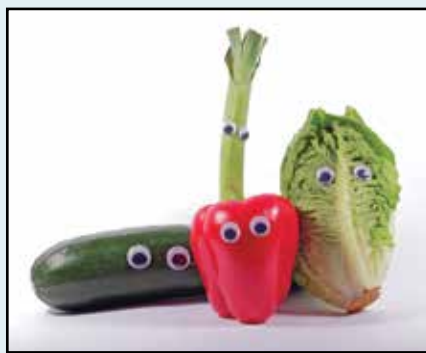
- At many jobs, employers must pay at least the **minimum wage\***.

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# Events

## April Fools' Day

The first day of April is a day of fun. People play **tricks\*** on each other. They tell lies to make people believe **foolish\*** things. Then they shout, "April Fool!"



The jokes, tricks, and lies on April first should be **harmless\***. People usually make up their own lies and tricks. Some stores sell "practical jokes." April Fools' Day is for fun, not for hurting anyone.



*One April Fools' trick is to put "googly" eyes on a person's books, backpack, food, or other objects. What other tricks can you think of?*  
Photos: Dreamstime.com

## National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month. A poem is a piece of writing for the ears, the eyes, the **imagination\***, or the heart. A poem may tell a story or show feelings. A poet chooses words carefully. He or she uses **rhythm\***, **meter\***, and powerful **images\***. Some poems **rhyme\***, and some don't.

During National Poetry Month, schools may have poetry readings, poetry writing, and poetry contests. Read the poem *The Crocodile* by Lewis Carroll on page 9. Learn how poets can say a lot with just a few words.

## National Cherry Blossom\* Festival

March 20 to April 12, 2020, is the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C. This **annual\*** tradition began in 1912. The people of Japan gave 3,020 cherry trees to the people of the United States.



*Cherry Blossoms in front of the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C. Bigstockphoto.com*

There will be **concerts\***, kite flying, fireworks, and many other events. Because of COVID-19, the events in March have been canceled.

## Income-tax deadline\*

People who earned money in 2019 must **file\*** an **income-tax return\*** by midnight, April 15, this year. This is the deadline for paying taxes for the year 2019. There is a **penalty\*** for late payments. Some Post Offices are open until midnight on this day. You can get the forms to file your taxes at **IRS.gov**.



*Uncle Sam\* wants you to pay your taxes! Bigstockphoto.com*

April 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## Passover

Passover is a Jewish celebration that lasts eight days. This year, it begins on the evening of April 8. Before Passover, families clean their homes. They buy special foods to eat during Passover. They do not eat regular breads and cakes. They eat a flat bread called **matzoh\***.



*Special things at a Passover Seder table: a boiled egg, a lamb bone, salt water, charoses\* [khuh RO sihs], wine, and bitter herbs\* Bigstockphoto.com*

Stores sell many special foods for Passover.

On the first night of Passover, many Jewish families go to their **synagogue\***. Later, they have a special dinner called a **seder\***. At the seder, the youngest child asks questions about this special night. There are special things on the dinner table. These things all help tell the story of the first Passover. There are songs that help to tell the story, too.

The family reads the story of the first Passover from special books. The story tells how Moses led the Jews out of Egypt about 3,500 years ago. The Jews had been **slaves\*** in Egypt. The story tells how God did many **miracles\*** to help Moses. Finally, God sent the **Angel of Death\*** to kill the firstborn boy in every Egyptian family. But Death *passed over* the homes of the Jews.



*A man tells the story of Moses during a seder. iStockphoto.com*

At last, the Jews **escaped\*** from Egypt. They crossed the Red Sea and started to walk to the land that God promised them.

Moses went to the top of a great mountain. He stayed there 40 days. When he came down, he carried two large stone **tablets\***. Moses said that God had written ten **commandments\*** on the tablets. The Ten Commandments became the laws for the Jewish nation. Later, they became laws for Christianity as well. Jews have celebrated this Passover since 1300 B.C.

# in April

## Easter



Easter is the holiday when Christians celebrate the **resurrection\*** of Jesus Christ. It is the most important holiday for Christians.

The Easter season has many parts. Some events are religious and some are not. February 26 was **Ash Wednesday\***. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of **Lent\***. Lent is the 40-day period of **sacrifice\*** before Easter Sunday.

### Palm\* Sunday

The Sunday before Easter Sunday is called Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday is April 5 this year. It reminds Christians of Jesus' arrival in the city of Jerusalem about 2,000 years ago. It was five days before he died.



Jesus on the cross © Angkawijaya92 | Dreamstime.com

### Good Friday

April 10 is Good Friday. It marks the day that Jesus died on the **cross\***. It is the saddest day of the Christian year. The **Bible\*** story says that Jesus' friends wrapped his dead body. They put it into a **tomb\***. They rolled a **huge\*** stone in front of the tomb. Two Roman soldiers **guarded\*** it.

### Easter Sunday

The Bible story says that Jesus' friends came to his tomb three days after he died. They were surprised: the huge stone had been moved. Jesus' body was not in the tomb. An **angel\*** told them that Jesus was alive again. The story says that later the friends met Jesus. They walked and talked with him. He had been resurrected.

In the story, Jesus said that people who believed in him would go to **Heaven\*** after they died. They would live with him forever.

Many Christians go to church on Easter Sunday. It is the happiest day of the year for them. They wear new spring



Children roll Easter eggs on the White House Lawn April 22, 2019. Photo: Andrea Hanks/Whitehouse.gov

clothes. They have a big family dinner. This year, Easter Sunday is April 12.

### Other Easter events

During the spring, we see many **symbols\*** of new life. Children color hard-cooked eggs in school or at home. On Easter Sunday, children look for their Easter baskets. The baskets are filled with colored

eggs, chocolate rabbits, and candy. They believe that the "Easter **Bunny\***" brought them.

Many towns have spring events in the parks for children. There are egg hunts and games with eggs. In Washington, D.C., many children go to the **White House\* lawn\***. They roll Easter eggs up a hill with a spoon. They may see the President or the **First Lady\***.

## Ramadan

Ramadan is a **holy\*** month for **Muslims\***. This year, the first day of Ramadan in the U.S. is Thursday, April 23.

During Ramadan, Muslims over age 12 **fast\*** during the daylight hours. They eat breakfast early in the morning before the sun is up. They do not eat or drink again until the sun goes down. Fasting

helps Muslims learn **self-discipline\*** and **sympathy\*** for hungry people. Young children, sick people, pregnant women, and travelers do not have to fast.

Muslims read the **Koran\*** each day during Ramadan. They go to **mosques\*** for prayers. Muslims give money to their mosques and food to poor families.

The Muslim calendar has 354 days. For this reason, the month of Ramadan begins 11 days earlier on the western calendar each year.

### Eid al-Fitr

At the end of Ramadan (May 23), Muslims celebrate a special holiday called *Eid al-Fitr* [EED al FITruh]. They decorate their homes. They get together for a big meal with their families and friends. They wear their best clothes. They give gifts of money to children.

Source: The Fiqh Council of North America



The Koran Dreamstime.com

## Earth Day

Earth Day is April 22. There are many events around the world in the month of April. Schools may use the whole month of April for teaching about the **planet\*** Earth. There are community events and special TV programs. People work together to clean up rivers, parks, forests, **wetlands\***, and beaches during this time. Read about Gaylord Nelson and the first Earth Day on page 6.

Find out what your school or community is doing for Earth Day. Find out more about Earth Day at [Earthday.org](http://Earthday.org).



Our planet, as seen from space Photo: NASA

## Office Workers Day

April 27 is **Administrative Professionals\*** Day. It's a special time to thank the **support team\*** at your school or job.

Businesses, schools, government offices, hospitals, and doctors' and dentists' offices cannot work well without these teams of workers.

They are secretaries, **receptionists\***, **customer service\*** workers, order takers, editors, bookkeepers, mail clerks, and office managers.

At *Easy English NEWS*, we thank our customer service people, Amanda Scott and Elaine Simpson; our managing editor, Carol Brigham; our bookkeeper, Rebecca Beamon; and our wonderful copy editors, Sharon Flynn, Lynn Schaefer, Cathie Whitmire, Fran Davis, Nancy Huddleston, and Nadine Simms; and our tech advisor, Mike Mercer.

Without these people, *Easy English NEWS* would not get to you!

# This is your page

## Unlucky surprise

One sunny day, I walked to Walgreens to get my mother-in-law's medicine. I was under a telephone pole, waiting for the traffic light. Suddenly, I felt something wet on my head and face. I thought it was rain, but then I smelled something bad.

I wiped my face and realized it was **poop**\*. I heard, "Caw, Caw." I looked up and saw a black crow standing on the pole. It looked like it was laughing at me. At first I was mad. Then, I thought it was funny.



Black crows are unlucky birds in Chinese folktales. I hoped that more bad things wouldn't happen to me that day.

*Rita Li  
New Hope, Minnesota  
(China)*

## Confusing directions

I went to the dentist for the first time in the U.S. She started to clean my teeth. After a few minutes she said, "Close." I moved a little bit closer to her. Once again she said, "Close." I moved closer to her. I was right next to her.



Then she said, "Close your mouth." I finally understood what she wanted! She didn't want me to move *closer* to her. She wanted me to *close* my mouth. I was so embarrassed!

I learned the difference between the verb *close* [kloz] which means to shut and the adjective *close* [klos] which means nearby.

Six months later, I went to the same dentist. This time when she said the word *close*, we both started to laugh. I love this dentist now and look forward to seeing her next time.

*Megumi Doura  
Fishers, Indiana  
(Japan)*

## No more fear

My daughter is in her last year of high school. She wanted to have some fun memories and **adventures**\* before she left the school. She took a Project Adventures class. This is a class where students climb to different heights. They begin at 35 feet and go up from there.

When she told me, I was surprised. I know she is afraid of heights. She came home and told me that her first climb didn't go well. She went up the 35-foot pole. She said that she was fine climbing up the pole. When she got up there, she realized she had to walk on a line to get to the other side.

She looked down and saw how far she was from the ground. She started to **panic**\* and began to shake. She told me she had never felt this scared in her life. She was so afraid that she couldn't move and asked to come down. When her feet touched the ground, she started to cry.

She didn't want to fail the class. She had no choice but to do all the other climbs. She didn't let fear hold her back. She was able to finish the class with 12 climbs. She got an A. I'm so proud of her.

*Romeles Mesidor  
Maplewood, New Jersey  
(Haiti)*

## Locked out

When we moved to the USA, my daughter was almost two years old. She liked to play with her toys in the living room.

One spring day, we were playing indoors. I looked out the window and saw a towel blow away in the wind. I went outside to get it. The door closed behind me and locked. I couldn't get back in!



My daughter couldn't reach the lock. I told her to sit right there. I would be back. I ran to the front of the house. I asked some man if I could use his phone. It was an emergency!

I called my husband and said, "Don't ask any questions. I need you to come home now. Our daughter is inside the house and I am locked outside. You need to unlock the door!" I thanked the man and ran back to my house.

My daughter was playing with her toys. I told her to get some storybooks and sit on the floor near the back door. I read to her as she turned the pages. My husband came home 25 minutes later. He saw a **calm**\* and happy scene. She saw her father and got up to hug him. I was glad to see him too.

After this, I hid an extra key in the backyard. I never want to go through this again.

*Suzi Chaves  
Maple Grove, Minnesota  
(Brazil)*

## Happy ending

Last month I ordered clothes from the internet. They were supposed to come in four days. Nothing came. I looked up the **tracking number**\*. It said that the order had arrived.



I called the delivery service. I told them that my order didn't come. They told me that the order was left near my mailbox.

I looked again, but nothing was there.

I wrote to the website and told them what happened. They told me they would get back to me. Two days later an email said they would return my money. I got it the next day.

I was very happy. I really didn't expect this. I thought my money was gone forever!

*Halyna Savanchuk  
Newark, New Jersey  
(Ukraine)*

## Interesting fact

We use *Easy English NEWS* in our ESL class. One day, I read Patriot Day in the "Events in September" page. It said that One World Trade Center was built next to where the Twin Towers had been. One World Trade Center is 1,776 feet tall. It's the tallest building in the United States.



The number was familiar. The **Declaration of Independence**\* was signed in 1776. They did it on purpose. The height in feet is the same as the year when the United States Declaration of Independence was signed. It was done to remind us that America is the home of the **brave**\* and the land of the free.

*Lan Nguyen  
Irving, Texas  
(Vietnam)*

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Bigstockphoto.com**

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*Dr. Lynn Corigliano*

# Who will be the presidential candidates\*?

## The Republicans

The Republicans already know that Donald Trump will be their candidate for president. He is the **incumbent\*** president. That gives him many **advantages\***. He is in the news every day.



Donald Trump  
Photo: Michael Vadon

Everyone knows him. He has held many **rallies\*** to get his **supporters\*** excited. One other Republican candidate is still in the race to win the

**nomination\***: former governor of Massachusetts Bill Weld. As of the day *Easy English NEWS* went to press, Weld had one **delegate\*** for the Republican National **Convention\***. Donald Trump has 1,104. He is sure to get the 1,276 delegates that he needs.

to introduce themselves to the American voters. There are TV **debates\***, town hall meetings, making speeches, shaking hands with voters, and traveling from city to city in state to state.

The Democrats started out with 29 candidates. As of March 14, twenty-six candidates have **dropped out\***.

## Who's left?

On February 22, Senator Bernie Sanders won the most delegates in the Democratic **caucus\*** in Nevada. Former vice president Joe Biden came in second. He had not done well in the earlier primaries. It looked like Joe Biden had no chance to win the Democratic nomination.



Bernie Sanders



Joe Biden

However, on February 29, Joe Biden won a huge **victory\*** in the South Carolina primary. Bernie Sanders came in a **distant\*** second.

## The Democrats

But for Democrats, trying to be the **nominee\*** of their party is taking a long time. It's **exhausting\***. It costs millions of dollars. Candidates need

## "Super Tuesday"

March 3 was "Super Tuesday." Fourteen states and one **territory\*** had their **primary elections\*** and caucuses.



Pete Buttigieg

Two days before "Super Tuesday," two Democratic candidates dropped out of the race: Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar. They **endorsed\*** Joe Biden. Their extra **support\*** helped Joe Biden win the most delegates on super Tuesday: 629.



Amy Klobuchar

Bernie Sanders won 539 Michael Bloomberg won only 61.



Michael Bloomberg

The following day, Michael Bloomberg dropped out of the race. He endorsed Joe Biden.

Elizabeth Warren won only 63 delegates on Super Tuesday. She dropped out of the race. She has not endorsed anyone yet.



Elizabeth Warren

## The next primaries

In the Democratic primary races on March 10, Bernie won 126 and Biden won 195 delegates so far. The delegates from these races were still being counted.

There will be more Democratic primaries or caucuses: March 14, 17, 24 and 29. In April there will be primaries on April 4, 7, 28. In May: May 2, 5, 12 and 19. In June: 2 and 6.

### As of March 13, 2020 Needed: 1991

Candidate	Delegates
Joe Biden	878
Bernie Sanders	725
Elizabeth Warren*	71
Pete Buttigieg*	26
Amy Klobuchar*	7
Michael Bloomberg*	61
Tulsi Gabbard	2

\* dropped out

Note: *Easy English NEWS* went to press on March 13. Watch the news on TV to find out who won delegates in the next primaries. There is a chart at our website to help you to keep track. It's free: [ElizabethClaire.com/free-stuff](http://ElizabethClaire.com/free-stuff). Download and print out the "2020 Election Chart."

All Democratic candidate photos from wikipedia.org

# Arbor\* Day

National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April. This year it is April 24. People across the U.S. plant trees to celebrate it. Each state chooses the day that is good for planting trees in their own state. Thirty-eight states celebrate Arbor Day in March or April. Twelve states have Arbor Day in other months.



Young people plant a tree to celebrate Arbor Day in Yuma, Arizona on April 18, 2019. Photo:(Randy Hoeft/The Yuma Sun via AP)

## How to plant a tree

When you plant a tree, you have to think into the future. How big will the tree be in 30 years? It will need a lot of space then. Don't plant it too close to other trees, a sidewalk, a house, a fence, or a wall. Don't plant the tree under telephone lines or electric **power lines\***.

Choose a good **location\*** for the tree. Choose a place where the tree will get enough light and water.

If you want to plant a tree on your own land, there is no problem. But if you want to plant a tree on public land, you will need **permission\***. You may be able to join a citizens' tree-planting group.

## What you need

You will need a small, healthy young tree or a tree **seedling\***, a shovel, a bucket for water, **stakes\***, a piece of **nylon stocking\***, a hammer,

**compost\***, and **mulch\***. You can get a tree at a **tree nursery\***. Or you can grow a tree from a seed yourself. Wait until the tree is one or two feet tall before you plant it outdoors.

## What kind of tree should you plant?

Choose a type of tree that grows well in your area. (Ask at your local garden store or tree nursery.)

Some trees have large **roots\*** that grow on top of the ground when they are older. These roots can lift up sidewalks. They make it hard to cut the grass. Trees with roots that grow straight down are best on city streets.

Some trees **produce\*** flowers, seeds, and fruits. The land around them will need cleaning up each year.

## Prepare the planting area

Dig a wide hole, three to five times the size of the ball of roots. Make the hole deep

enough to cover the ball of roots.

Put the tree in the hole. Mix the dirt with compost, and fill in the area around the tree. Add two to four inches of mulch on top of the dirt. (Do not pile mulch directly next to the trunk of the tree.)

Water your tree well each day for a month. After that, water it once a week unless there has been a lot of rain.

## Protect\* your tree

Hammer the stakes into the ground near the tree. Tie the tree to the stakes with the nylon stocking. The stakes will help to keep your tree standing. Dogs, other animals, children, and the wind can hurt a tree. You can also put a little wire fence around your tree.

For more details about planting trees, see [treesaregood.com/treecare/resources/new\\_treeplanting.pdf](http://treesaregood.com/treecare/resources/new_treeplanting.pdf).

# How will the U.S. fight the coronavirus?

(continued from page 1)

people and people with other health problems. A few healthy people have also become very ill.

## How can we stop COVID-19?

Every day there is new information from the **Centers for Disease Control\*** (CDC) and the government. Dr Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health said that “things are going to get worse before they get better.”



Dr. Anthony Fauci talks to reporters at the White House, March 12, 2020. He is the director of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health. AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta

The most important thing is to keep people away from others who may have the virus. And wash our hands. The U.S. has **banned\*** flights from China, Iran, and 26 European countries. Governors of some states banned gatherings of more than 100 people. Businesses **canceled\*** large meetings. Many movie theaters and Broadway theaters are closed. Church services and other religious events are canceled in many places. Some basketball teams canceled their whole season. DisneyWorld closed.

The St. Patrick’s Day parades in New York and many other cities were canceled. Tourists canceled vacation trips. Hotels, restaurants, and many other businesses are losing money. Planes, trains, buses, and taxis have no one to **transport\***. Many businesses had to lay off their workers.



Many university and college students are taking classes **online\***. Many schools and day-care centers closed for weeks or even months. When younger children don’t go to school, parents must stay home from work to care for them. Employers lose workers. Workers lose pay.

People changed their wedding plans. National TESOL canceled its conference for ESL teachers. The 2020 Summer Olympics in Japan may be canceled.



People want to stay away from other people. But how can people in jail or **nursing homes\*** get away from people who have the virus? What will homeless people do when they are sick?

## What about people who get COVID-19?

The illness lasts about two weeks for most people. Eighty percent or more **recover\*** without needing medical help. Some may need to be in a hospital. Hospitals may run out of beds and breathing **equipment\*** for seriously ill patients. While the hospital is full of COVID-19 patients, doctors are not able to treat people who need other kinds of medical treatment.

Tests are important to be sure a patient has COVID-19. But there were not enough tests as of mid-March.

## What about the government?

Some members of Congress have been near people who had COVID-19. They are quarantining themselves for 14 days. President Trump was still shaking hands with people on March 9. A person with COVID-19 was next to him at a meeting. Trump had not been tested so far.

COVID-19 may **affect\*** the U.S. election. Candidates have canceled big **rallies\***. People may be afraid to come out to vote in primary elections. Voters will look at the **economy\*** when they choose a president in November.

(continued on page 11)

# Don't catch COVID-19

## Wash your hands!

The virus spreads through tiny **droplets\*** in the air from a sneeze or cough. The droplets fall on anything: tables, desks, railings, handles, **doorknobs\***, and shopping carts. The virus can stay there for more than a week.



Use soap and clean running water to wash your hands. Don't forget the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your fingernails. Wash after touching things outdoors, after using the bathroom, and after blowing your nose. (Sing Happy Birthday two times while you are washing.) Use **hand sanitizer\*** if you cannot wash. Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth before washing your hands.



## Don't touch!

Push doors open with your elbow. Don't shake hands or hug or kiss people when you greet them. Greet people with a smile and a **nod\*** of your head instead.



## Avoid crowds\*

Shop at night when there are fewer people in the supermarket. Have enough food and **supplies\*** in your home in case you

become ill or need to be **quarantined\***: medicines, juices, canned tuna and vegetables, face masks, rice, food for your pets, toilet paper, tea and coffee.

Do you need to wear a **mask\***? No, not unless you already have the virus. **Ordinary\*** masks will not stop the virus from getting into your nose and eyes. But if you are sick, a mask can **limit\*** the distance that virus in your coughs and sneezes go. Health workers need a stronger mask, N95, but leave these for them.



If you have been near a person who has the virus, quarantine yourself. Stay at home and away from others for 14 days. Sleep in a separate bedroom if possible.



If you become sick, **protect\*** others. Don't use the same drinking cups, straws, forks, towels, or bedding. Drink lots of fluids. Blow your nose into a tissue and throw it away in the trash. (Wash those hands!) Cough or sneeze into your elbow.



Clean the surfaces and the objects you touch.

All photos from Bigstockphoto.com

# Heroes and History

## Gaylord Nelson and Earth Day

Scientists say that the Earth is 4.6 billion years old. It has been a wonderful “Mother Earth” to us humans and many other living things. But “Mother’s” children have not always taken good care of her.

### The U.S. 50 years ago

Fifty years ago, there weren’t many laws against air and water **pollution\***. Gasoline for cars contained **lead\***. Cars got only 13 miles to the gallon of gas. Cities **dumped\*** garbage in the ocean and **sewage\*** in the rivers. Factories dumped **toxic waste\*** into rivers. The water in lakes and rivers was not safe to drink, and the fish were not safe to eat.

There were big mountains of garbage out side of many large cities. **Incinerators\*** burned trash; dirty smoke filled city air. **Smog\*** in some cities made people’s eyes burn and gave children **asthma\***. There were no **strict\*** rules about drilling for oil in the ocean near the shore.

Most people knew that pollution was bad for people’s health. Many small groups had tried to get the government to pass laws. The small groups did not have much power to do anything.

### Governor Gaylord Nelson

Gaylord Nelson was governor of Wisconsin from 1959 to 1963. He helped create many state laws to **protect\*** the **environment\***. Later, he became a U.S. senator. Senator Nelson tried to get laws to protect the whole country’s water and air. But other congressmen were not interested.

### The 1969 oil spill\*

In 1969, an **oil rig\*** was drilling in the ocean near Santa Barbara, California. The rig **exploded\***. Three million gallons of thick ugly oil covered beautiful beaches. It killed thousands of birds and sea mammals. It was the largest oil spill that had ever happened in the United States.

### The first Earth Day

When Senator Nelson saw the oil spill, he got angry. He knew things had to change. He noticed how college students at that time had organized **teach-ins\***, marches, and **protests\*** against the war in Vietnam. These young people had tremendous energy. He invited college students to help

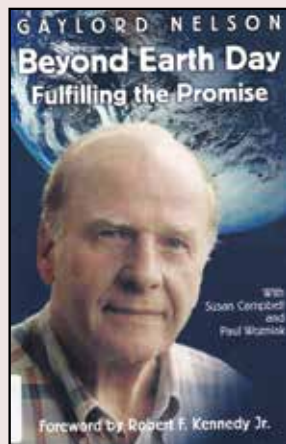


More than 20,000 people came together at Philadelphia's Fairmount Park to celebrate Earth Day on April 23, 1970. AP Photo

wake up the whole country. He **inspired\*** hundreds of universities and cities to plan the first Earth Day in 1970. It was not a government program. It was a people’s program.

That year, 20 million Americans attended teach-ins and demonstrations. Ten thousand schools, two thousand colleges, and one thousand communities took part in that first Earth Day.

People learned that the Earth was in trouble. That first Earth Day taught the government that we needed laws to protect the environment. By the end of the year, **Congress\*** passed the **Environmental Protection Act\***. It also passed the Clean Air, Clean Water, and **Endangered Species\*** Acts. A lot has been **accomplished\*** since then. But there is still a lot more to do.



Gaylord Nelson on the cover of his book

“For the first time **masses\*** of people showed their deep **concern\*** about the polluted air, rivers, lakes and oceans; the **hazardous wastes\***; **pesticides\*** and the poisoning of people, plants, birds and animals; the **destruction\*** of wildlife **habitats\***.”

The **politicians\*** hadn’t known or understood or cared. But the people cared. That first Earth Day sent a **big message\*** to the politicians--a message to tell them to wake up and do something.”

Gaylord Nelson



People cleaning the Earth Bigstockphoto.com

### Our “Goldilocks\*” planet

There are millions of different forms of life on Earth. The earth is the perfect planet for living things.

It is not too close to the sun, so it is not too hot. It’s not too far from the sun, so it’s not too cold. Water on the planet is not frozen and it is not a gas.

The earth has an **atmosphere\***. The atmosphere **protects\*** the earth from too much **radiation\*** from the sun.

The atmosphere also holds heat on the planet, so it doesn’t freeze at night.

The atmosphere contains oxygen. All of these conditions make the earth “just right” for life.

The Earth gives us life. All of us can give back to the earth to take care of it.

### Life on Earth



Humans share the earth with many other living things. The Earth belongs to all of us. There are over 2,141,700 **species\*** of animals and 391,000 **species\*** of plants on Earth. Many species are in danger of **extinction\*** because of human activities. Bigstockphoto.com

# Idiom Corner

Illustrations by Dave Nicholson

Have you heard people use these idioms?



## 1. walking on air

happy and excited because something good has happened

Kim has been *walking on air* ever since Bernard asked her to the school dance.

The judges chose my painting for first place in an art contest! I'm *walking on air!*

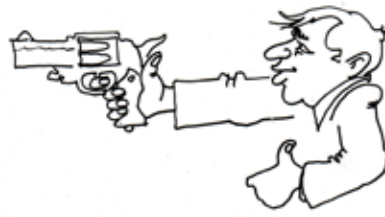


## 2. up in the air

unsure, uncertain

I don't have any plans for the weekend yet. It's *up in the air*.

The future of Harvey's company is *up in the air*. It hasn't made any money in three years.

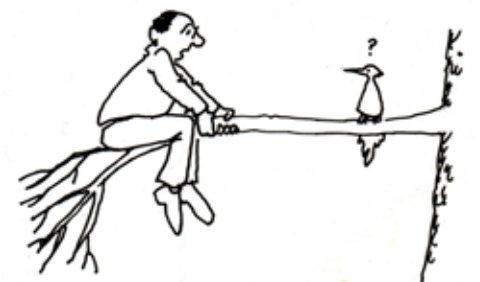


## 3. quick on the trigger

acting quickly, without thinking

I hate working with Laurie. She's *quick on the trigger* and always ready to get mad.

My boss is *quick on the trigger*. He often makes bad decisions for the company.



## 4. to go out on a limb

to take a risk

Simon was not very good at football, but he *went out on a limb* and **tried out\*** for the team anyway.

Brittany wanted to be an actress, so she *went out on a limb* and moved to Hollywood. She doesn't know anyone there or have a job yet.

## Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9					10	11	
12				13	14		15
16			17			18	
		19					
20					21	22	
				23			24
25			26		27		28
		29			30		31
32					33		34

### Across

- Many \_\_\_\_\_ live in forests.
- Trees take carbon dioxide out of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A dime equals ten \_\_\_\_\_.
- Another word for *automobile*
- The number before eleven
- To copy another person
- Contraction for *I would*
- Pedestal* is another word for the \_\_\_\_\_ of a statue.
- A container is a jar, a bag, or a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Move. Let's \_\_\_\_\_ to the show.
- Thoughts
- Tender, loving care (abbreviation). Treat newcomers with \_\_\_\_\_.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Grande River
- Smallest state (abbreviation)
- People from Ireland
- A low cloud or mist that makes it hard to see
- The state with the Great Salt Lake (abbreviation)
- Soft paper. Use this when you blow your nose.
- Short name for *sister*
- Frozen water
- Paid (abbreviation)

### Down

- Things to do. There are many \_\_\_\_\_ at Earth Day events.
- If you dig a hole, you \_\_\_\_\_ a shovel.

## Funny Stuff

Patrick: "Who is that in the picture?"

Vincent: "Brothers and sisters, I have none. But that man's father is my father's son."

Who is in the picture?

(Answer on page 11)

- A small country hotel that also has a restaurant
- Mountain or Mount (abbreviation). The highest mountain in the world is \_\_\_\_\_ Everest in Nepal.
- Continent with China, India, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, etc.
- Logical; according to science. He used the \_\_\_\_\_ method to study trees.
- The language of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, and other Middle Eastern countries.
- Looked at carefully again
- Preposition: Let's meet \_\_\_\_\_ five p.m.
- Title for a woman: Miss, Mrs. or \_\_\_\_\_
- Preposition: I'm going \_\_\_\_\_ an Earth Day celebration next week.
- Snake: \_\_\_\_\_ constrictor
- A very, very smart person. Albert Einstein was a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Large, with extra room. These pants are too \_\_\_\_\_ for me.
- Abbreviation for *street*
- Ginny Song's initials
- Musical note: *do re mi fa sol la \_\_\_\_\_ do*.
- Preposition or adverb, the opposite of *down*

**Answers are on page 11.**





# Poetry Month

April is Poetry Month. It is a time to read poetry, learn about poetry, **memorize\*** poetry, and love poetry. We can enjoy poems all year, not just in April.

## Poetic devices\*

A person who writes poems is called a poet [POH et]. A poet wants to express an idea, tell a story, or show a feeling with words. The poet chooses the words carefully. Sometimes a poet will repeat a word or line for **emphasis\***.

Often poets will use the same sounds at the end of words. This is called a *rhyme* [RIME]. Many poems contain rhymes, but some do not.

In the poem *The Crocodile* by Lewis Carroll, you'll hear a **pattern\*** of rhymes. The last words in lines 1 and 3 rhyme (*crocodile* and *Nile*). The last words in line 2 and 4 also rhyme (*tail* and *scale*). This pattern is called ABAB.

Lewis Carroll uses *personification* (talking about something as if it were a person) to make the crocodile more human.

One example of personification in *The Crocodile* is using the pronoun *he* for the crocodile instead of it. Can you find other examples of personification in this poem?

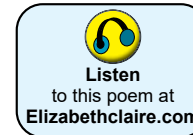
A poem has *meter*. This means the number of **stressed\*** syllables in each line.

Read the poem and notice which syllables and words you need to stress. If you can't hear them, ask a native English speaker to read the poem to you. Listen to hear which words are stressed.

A poet might use **symbols\*** to communicate a larger meaning. That's one reason it is difficult to translate poetry into another language.

## The Crocodile

By Lewis Carroll



How doth<sup>1</sup> the little crocodile

Improve<sup>2</sup> his shining tail,

And pour the waters of the Nile<sup>3</sup>

On every golden scale<sup>4</sup>!

How cheerfully he seems to grin<sup>5</sup>,

How neatly spreads his claws,

And welcomes little fishes in,

With gently<sup>6</sup> smiling jaws<sup>7</sup>!

1 does

2 make something better

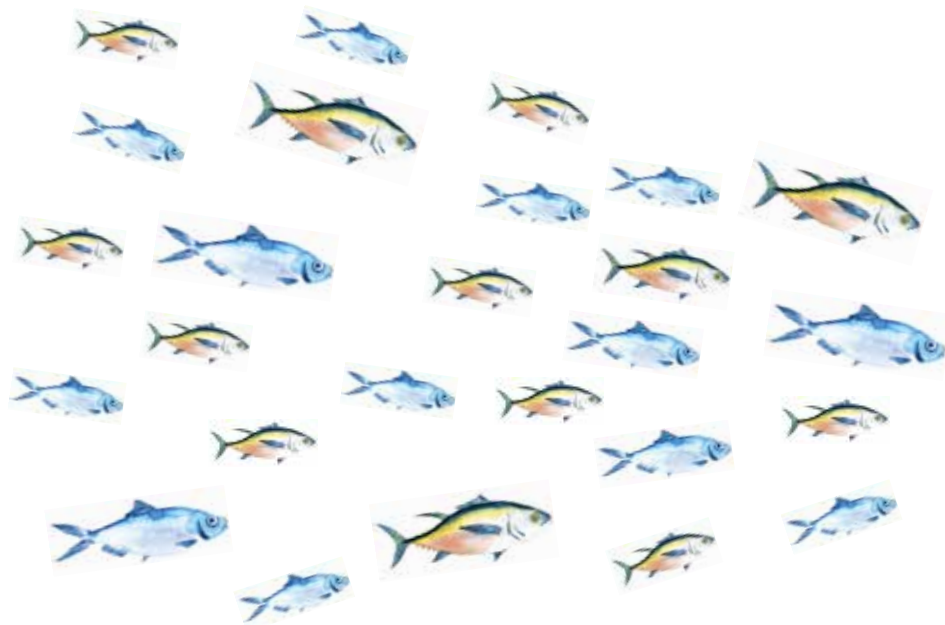
3 a very long river in Africa

4 rough skin on a crocodile

5 smile

6 nicely, kindly

7 a crocodile's mouth



Crocodile and fish Bigstockphoto.com



Lewis Carroll  
Wikipedia.org

### Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)

Lewis Carroll's most famous stories are *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*<sup>1</sup>. People love *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* all over the world. It has been printed in over 90 languages. This poem,

<sup>1</sup> mirror

*The Crocodile*, was written for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

Carroll's name is written on a stone in the Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey in London. The stone helps people to remember him. It shows how important he was to England and the world.

Carroll's real name was Charles Lutwidge Dodgson. He used the name Lewis Carroll for his writing. He was born in England on January 27, 1832. He was a teacher, photographer, and writer.

He wrote 11 books about math and 12 fiction books.

# Laws about work

(continued from page 1)

The national minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour. Some states have higher minimum wages.

- Employers do not have to pay the minimum wage to **service workers\*** who receive **tips\*** or salespeople who receive **commissions\***.
- At some jobs, workers must receive **time-and-a-half\*** pay for any hours they work after the first 40 hours in a week.



*This employee must wear protective clothing while working with welding\* equipment\*.*  
Bigstockphoto.com

## Fair\* labor laws

- Employers may not **discriminate\*** against workers because of their **gender\***, race, **national origin\***, age, religion, **disability\***, or pregnancy, as long as the worker can do the job.
- Employers and co-workers may not **harass\*** other workers. All people in the workplace must **respect\*** others' gender, religion, national origin, age, and physical appearance.

## Taxes and keeping records\*

- Employers must keep records about employees.
- Employers must pay a **share\*** of **Social Security\*** and **Medicare\*** taxes for their employees.
- They must **withhold\*** the employees' share of Social Security and Medicare. They also withhold the employees' state and federal taxes.
- In January, employers must give employees a **W-2 form\***. This shows the worker's **income\*** and withholdings for taxes from the past year.

- Men and women must get equal pay if they do equal work.
- An employer may not **require\*** an employee to speak English if English is not necessary to do the job.

## Job safety

- Workers have the right to a safe workplace. The **Occupational\*** Safety and Health Act (OSHA) has rules to **prevent\*** accidents at work. These rules help keep workers safe.
- Employers must have fire alarms, fire drills, and safety programs. They must **train\*** employees who use dangerous **equipment\*** or machinery.
- Workers must wear hard hats, **goggles\***, gloves, or other safety equipment to do certain jobs.
- Employers must pay for **Workers' Compensation Insurance\***. This insurance pays medical expenses for workers who are hurt at work. In some cases, Workers' Compensation Insurance pays workers who have been hurt while on the job and cannot work.

## Licenses, certificates, and permits\*

- Many **professional\*** workers need state licenses or certificates to do their work. Some examples are doctors, dentists, physical therapists, teachers, lawyers, accountants, plumbers, electricians, taxi drivers, bartenders, barbers, manicurists, and many others.
- Salespeople who go door-to-door may need a permit from the local government.

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# How will the U.S. fight the coronavirus?

(continued from page 6)

The U.S. **stock market\*** dropped to its lowest point since 2008. Many



people lost a large part of their **investments\***. The U.S. pumped in a trillion dollars to try to keep the stock market from crashing. But it did crash.

This has slowed the spread of COVID-19 in China.

China **produces\*** many things to sell to people in other parts of the world. **Manufacturers\*** in the U.S. and Europe cannot make their **products\*** because China closed its factories. Stores that sell things made in China don't have much to sell.

doctors find medicines to treat patients. It will pay for tests. It will pay for **researchers\*** to develop a **vaccine\***.

It may take a year to make a vaccine that is safe. Then drug companies have to make enough vaccine for millions of people. While we wait, it is important to protect ourselves and our families.

## The ripple effect\*

When the virus began in Wuhan, China, the government quarantined\* the city. No one could leave. Factories closed to **avoid\* spreading\*** the disease.

## When will the pandemic end?

The U.S. will spend \$8.3 billion dollars to help fight COVID-19. The money will help the CDC and each state to fight the virus. It will help

**Notice for schools that are closed or learning online:**

**This issue can be downloaded FREE at our website Elizabethclaire.com.**

## Answers to Crossword Puzzle

D	d		E	C	I		S	I	S
E	U	S	S	I	T		T	U	E
N		G	O	F		H	S	I	R
I	R		O	I	R			N	T
M		C	T	T		S	V	E	D
V		I		N			O	G	A
X	O	B		E	S	V	B		D
E	T	V	T	I	M	I		N	E
E		R	A	C		S	T	N	C
R	I	A		S	L	A	M	I	N

## Answer to Funny Stuff:

The person in the painting is Vincent's son.

- How can you greet people without shaking hands?
- Who should wear a mask?
- If you become ill with COVID-19, how can you protect your family and others?
- Tell the meaning of these words: *doorknob, sanitizer, supplies, elbow.*

## Gaylord Nelson and Earth Day (page 7)

- How old is the Earth? How old is Earth Day? What is the purpose of Earth Day?
- Tell six environmental problems in the U.S. before 1970.
- Has there been improvement? Which of these problems are still here today?
- What event caused Gaylord Nelson to take action and create Earth Day? Who helped create it?
- How did people participate in the first Earth Day?
- What laws did Congress pass in 1970?
- Why is the Earth called a "Goldilocks Planet?"
- Tell the meaning of these words: *pollution, lead, incinerator, environment, endangered species, atmosphere, radiation.*

## Poetry Month (page 9)

- What is the purpose of Poetry Month?
- What is the purpose of a poem?
- What are some poetic devices?
- In the poem, *The Crocodile*, which words rhyme? Which words show personification?
- What is a poem you like in your native language? Tell it to the class. Does it have rhymes?
- Tell the meaning of these words: *memorize, rhyme, meter, symbol, grin, scale, claw, jaws.*

# Let's talk about it

## How will the U.S. fight the coronavirus? (pages 1 and 6)

- What are the symptoms of COVID-19?
- Who might have the most serious cases of COVID-19?
- In what ways has COVID-19 slowed down world trade?
- In what ways has it slowed down education? Entertainment?
- How does COVID-19 affect hospitals?
- In what ways does COVID-19 affect the country's economy?
- What plans does your school have to protect students from COVID-19? What are you doing to protect yourself?
- Tell the meaning of these words: *mild, pneumonia, CDC, quarantine, spread, cancel, crowd, investment.*

## Laws about work (pages 1 and 10)

- What are the laws about work for children aged 14 and 15? Aged 16 and 17?
- What is the purpose of Form I-9?
- Tell eight workers who need a state license or certificate. Why is it important for these workers to get those documents?
- How does harassment hurt people in the work place?
- What safety rules does the OSHA require?
- Tell three types of safety equipment for dangerous jobs.
- What is the purpose of Workers' Compensation Insurance? Who pays for it?
- Tell the meaning of these words: *regulation, chore, hazardous, mine, minimum wage, tip, share, withhold,*

*income, permit, professional, fair, national origin, train, disability, harass, equipment.*

## Events in April (pages 2 and 3)

- What happens on April Fool's Day?
- What is special about the cherry trees in Washington, D.C.? When is the National Cherry Blossom Festival?
- What deadline is on April 15?
- Who celebrates Passover? What is the purpose of the Passover Seder?
- Where did Moses say he got the Ten Commandments?
- What events lead up to Easter Sunday? What do Christians do on these events?
- What will your town do for Earth Day? What will you do?
- What are Muslims supposed to do during the month of Ramadan? What is the purpose?
- What is the purpose of Administrative Professionals' Day?
- Who are the office workers at your school? What do they do?
- Tell the meaning of these words: *fool, harmless, imagination, blossom, fast, synagogue, miracle, tomb, commandment, resurrection, self-discipline, mosque.*

## This is your page (page 4)

- What unlucky surprise did Rita Li get one sunny day?
- Have you been to a dentist in America? Tell about it.
- What fears do you have? Do they stop you from doing some things?
- Have you ever been locked out of your house? Tell

- about it.
- Have you had problems when you bought things online? What happened?
- Tell the meaning of these words: *unlucky, crow, panic, calm, tracking number.*

## Who will be the presidential candidates? (page 5)

- Who will be the Republican candidate for president? Why?
- When was Super Tuesday? Which Democratic candidate won the most delegates on this day?
- Why did some Democratic candidates drop out of the race?
- Which candidates won delegates on March 10?
- Are you registered to vote in the United States? Have you voted in an election here? Have you voted in an election in your home country? Tell about it.
- Tell the meaning of these words: *delegate, candidate, drop out, convention, primary election, caucus.*

## Arbor Day (Page 5)

- What is the purpose of Arbor Day?
- Tell six steps to plant a tree.
- Where would be a good place to plant a tree? Tell why.
- Tell the meaning of these words: *seedling, mulch, compost, roots, produce.*

## Don't catch COVID-19 (page 6)

- How does COVID-19 spread?
- When should you wash your hands?
- Why shouldn't you touch your face with unwashed hands?

# WORD HELP

Some of the words below have many meanings. We give only the meanings you need for this month's newspaper.

**accomplish** *verb*. To do something that has a good result.  
**administrative professional** *noun phrase*. A worker in an organization who answers the phones, takes orders, pays the bills, keeps records, etc.  
**advantage** *noun*. A condition that makes it easier to succeed.  
**adventure** *noun*. An exciting, possibly dangerous, experience.  
**affect** *verb*. To cause a change or a result.  
**angel** *noun*. A messenger of God  
**Angel of Death** *noun*. The angel who has power to kill.  
**annual** *adjective*. Every year.  
**arbor** *noun*. A group of trees.  
**Ash Wednesday** *noun*. The day when Catholics receive the sign of the cross on their forehead.  
**asthma** [AZ muh] *noun*. An illness that causes trouble breathing.  
**atmosphere** [AT muhs FEER] *noun*. Air.  
**avoid** *verb*. To stay away from.  
**ban** *verb*. To prohibit; to stop some action.  
**Bible** *noun*. The holy book with the stories of Jews and Christians.  
**bitter herbs** *noun phrase, plural*. Plants with a strong sharp taste.  
**blossom** *noun*. Flower.  
**brave** *adjective*. Without fear.  
**bunny** *noun*. Baby rabbit.  
**calm** *adjective*. Showing no fear or upset; peaceful.  
**cancel** *verb*. To stop an event from happening.  
**candidate** *noun*. A person who wants to be elected.  
**caucus** *noun*. A meeting of members of a political party.  
**Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** *noun phrase*. The U.S. agency that tries to protect Americans from health dangers.  
**charoses** [khuh RO sihs] *noun*. Nuts and apples with honey.  
**chore** *noun*. A usual daily or weekly job in one's home.  
**commandment** *noun*. A very strong law, made by God.  
**commission** *noun*. Money that a salesperson earns, based on sales.  
**compost** *noun*. Fertilizer made from decayed plants.  
**concern** *noun*. Great worry.  
**concert** *noun*. A musical performance.  
**Congress** *noun*. Representatives and senators who make laws.  
**convention** *noun*. A large meeting of an organization.  
**COVID-19** *noun*. Short form for corona virus disease of 2019.  
**cross** *noun*. The T-shaped post on which Jesus was killed.  
**crowd** *noun*. A very large number of people.  
**customer service** *noun phrase*. A person who helps customers with orders or problems.  
**deadline** *noun*. The time by which something must be done.  
**debate** *noun*. A formal event for candidates to answer questions.  
**Declaration of Independence** *noun phrase*. A document that declared that the 13 states did not belong to England anymore.  
**delegate** *noun*. A person who represents a group at a convention.  
**destruction** *noun*. Killing, ruining.  
**develop** *verb*. To grow or cause to be made or grow.  
**disability** *noun*. A physical or mental handicap; lameness, blindness, missing limb, etc.

**discriminate** *verb*. To treat a person or group of people better or worse than others.  
**distant** *adjective*. Far away.  
**doorknob** *noun*. The handle on a door to open or close it.  
**droplet** *noun*. A very small drop of liquid in the air.  
**drop out** *verb phrase, idiom*. To stop trying to win in a race.  
**dump** *verb*. To drop or throw away something in a careless way.  
**economy** *noun*. The wealth of a country, including employment, banking, debt, stock market, etc.  
**emphasis** [EHM fuh sis] *noun*. Extra importance or stress.  
**Employment Eligibility Verification** *noun phrase*. Proof that a worker can legally work. (Birth certificate, green card, U.S. passport, etc.)  
**endangered species** *noun, plural*. Kinds of animals that may go extinct because there are not many of them left alive.  
**endorse** *verb*. To publicly support a candidate.  
**environment** *noun*. The water, air, and land around us.  
**Environmental Protection Act** *noun phrase*. A law to stop people from polluting the air, water, or land.  
**equipment** *noun*. Things that are needed to get a job done.  
**escape** *verb*. To get away.  
**exhausting** *adjective*. Very tiring.  
**explode** *verb*. To suddenly burst apart in a violent way.  
**extinct** *adjective*. Dead, with no other of its kind left alive.  
**extinction** *noun*. The condition in which there are no more living members of a species.  
**fair** *adjective*. Equal treatment for all people.  
**fast** *verb*. To stop eating for a time for religious or health reasons.  
**fever** *noun*. A body temperature over 98.6 F.  
**file** *verb*. To send a tax report.  
**First Lady** *noun phrase*. The wife of the president.  
**fool** *noun*. A silly person who has no ability to reason.  
**foolish** *adjective*. Silly, unlikely.  
**gender** *noun*. A person's sex.  
**goggles** *noun, plural*. Glasses that protect the eyes.  
**Goldilocks** *noun*. A character in the story of *The Three Bears* who wants everything to be just right.  
**guard** *verb*. To keep safe.  
**habitat** *noun*. A place where a living thing lives.  
**hand sanitizer** *noun phrase*. A liquid that kills germs.  
**harass** *verb*. To repeatedly annoy, tease, or offend sexually.  
**harmless** *adjective*. Not causing to hurt others.  
**hazardous** *adjective*. Not safe; dangerous to a person's health.  
**hazardous waste** *noun phrase*. Poisonous garbage; chemicals, radioactive material, pesticides.  
**Heaven** *noun*. In Christianity, the home of God, angels, and people who have died.  
**hire** *verb*. To give a person a job.  
**holy** *adjective*. Sacred; very important to a religion.  
**huge** *adjective*. Very large.  
**image** [IHM ihj] *noun*. A picture.  
**imagination** *noun*. Creative thinking.  
**immunity** *noun*. The body's ability to fight off a disease.

**incinerator** *noun*. A device for burning large objects.  
**income** *noun*. Money that one earns from work, rent, interest, pension, business, etc.  
**income-tax return** *noun phrase*. An official document to report a person's earnings.  
**incumbent** *adjective*. The one who is president now.  
**inspire** *verb*. To give others ideas and encouragement.  
**investment** *noun*. Money that a person has in a bank, the stockmarket or a business.  
**keep records** *verb phrase*. To write down information about a person's attendance, pay, etc.  
**Koran** *noun*. The Muslim holy book.  
**lawn** *noun*. An area of short grass around a house.  
**lead** [LEHD] *noun*. A heavy metal (Pb) that can slowly poison a person's blood and brain.  
**Lent** *noun*. The 40 days of sacrifice before Easter.  
**limit** *verb*. To shorten the distance that something can go.  
**location** *noun*. Place.  
**manufacturer** *noun*. A business that makes things in a factory.  
**mask** *noun*. A cloth to wear around one's mouth and nose.  
**mass** *noun*. A large group of people.  
**matzoh** *noun*. A dry, flat cracker, made without leavening.  
**Medicare** *noun*. A U.S. health insurance system for disabled people and people over age 65.  
**memorize** *verb*. To learn by heart; to learn something completely.  
**message** *noun*. Information sent to someone.  
**meter** *noun*. The pattern of stressed syllables in a poem.  
**microbiologist** *noun*. A scientist who studies bacteria and viruses.  
**mild** *adjective*. Not strong; not very serious.  
**mine** *noun*. A place to dig for coal, iron, or other metals.  
**minimum wage** *noun phrase*. The lowest hourly rate of pay.  
**miracle** *noun*. An event so unusual that it could only have been caused by God.  
**mosque** [MAHSK] *noun*. The house of worship for Muslims.  
**mulch** *noun*. Material around plants to help retain water.  
**Muslim** *noun*. A follower of the Prophet Mohammed.  
**national origin** *noun phrase*. The country a person is from.  
**nod** *noun*. A short up-and-down movement of one's head.  
**nomination** *noun*. The naming of a candidate.  
**nominee** *noun*. A person who is chosen to be a political party's candidate for president.  
**nursing home** *noun*. A place where sick people can get long-term care.  
**nylon stocking** *noun phrase*. A lady's stocking.  
**occupational** *adjective*. Having to do with jobs and work.  
**oil rig** *noun phrase*. A structure with equipment for drilling.  
**online** *adverb*. On the internet.  
**ordinary** *adjective*. Usual.  
**palm** *noun*. A type of tree with with very long, large leaves.  
**pandemic** *noun*. A disease that is spreading around the world.  
**panic** *noun*. Great fear.  
**pattern** *noun*. A repeated form.  
**penalty** *noun*. A punishment; money paid for being late.

**permission** *noun*. Agreement that one may do something.  
**permit** *noun*. [PER miht] A paper from the government that says it is OK to do something.  
**pesticide** *noun*. Poison to kill insects.  
**planet** *noun*. One of the eight bodies that revolve around the sun.  
**pneumonia** [noo MOH nyuh] *noun*. An infection in the lungs that makes breathing difficult.  
**poetic devices** *noun, plural*. Special words or tools a poet uses; rhyme, meter, etc.  
**politician** *noun*. A person who wants to be, or has been, elected to a government position.  
**pollution** *noun*. Dirt or poison in the environment.  
**poop** *noun*. Feces.  
**power lines** *noun phrase, plural*. The wires that carry electricity from a power plant.  
**prevent** *verb*. To stop something from happening.  
**primary election** *noun phrase*. The elections in a state's political party to choose delegates to a national convention.  
**produce** *verb*. To make.  
**products** *noun, plural*. Things that a business makes to sell.  
**professional** *noun*. A person in an occupation that requires a long training period.  
**protect** *verb*. To keep something from getting hurt.  
**protest** *noun*. A public demonstration of disagreement.  
**quarantine** [KWAR uhn TEEN] *verb*. To cause a person to stay away from others until they recover from an illness.  
**radiation** *noun*. A stream of electromagnetic waves that are emitted by the sun.  
**rally** *noun*. A group of people who come to hear a candidate.  
**receptionist** *noun*. A person who greets people, answers the phone, takes messages, etc.  
**recover** *verb*. To get better after an illness.  
**regulation** *noun*. A rule made by a government agency.  
**require** *verb*. To need.  
**researcher** *noun*. Someone who studies a subject carefully, to learn new information.  
**respect** *verb*. To consider the feelings and rights of others.  
**resurrection** *noun*. Coming back to life after death.  
**rhyme** *noun*. Words that have the same ending sounds.  
**rhythm** *noun*. A regular, repeated beat of stressed sounds in poetry or music.  
**ripple effect** *noun phrase, idiom*. One thing affects another which affects something else that affects even more things.  
**root** *noun*. Part of a plant that takes in water and minerals from the ground.  
**sacrifice** *verb*. To give up something of value.  
**Seder** [SAY der] *noun*. A special dinner at which Jews tell the story of the first Passover.  
**seedling** *noun*. A baby tree.  
**self-discipline** *noun*. The ability to manage one's own actions.  
**service workers** *noun phrase, plural*. Waiters, taxi drivers, delivery people, barbers, etc.  
**sewage** *noun*. Waste from toilets, sinks, showers, and bath tubs.  
**share** *noun*. Part of a whole.  
**slave** *noun*. A person who is owned by another person.

**smog** *noun*. Polluted air; it burns the eyes and lungs.  
**Social Security** *noun phrase*. An insurance system for retired or disabled people.  
**species** *noun, singular or plural*. Kinds of living things.  
**spill** *noun*. Liquid that overflows its container.  
**spread** *verb*. To move from one place to another, getting larger.  
**stake** *noun*. A stick in the ground to hold a plant up.  
**stock market** *noun phrase*. The place where investors buy and sell shares of large businesses.  
**stress** *verb*. To say a word or syllable with more energy.  
**strict** *adjective*. Tough.  
**supplies** *noun, plural*. Things you need for an activity.  
**support** *verb*. To help, to pay for, to encourage.  
**support team** *noun phrase*. People who help others to do their job.  
**supporter** *noun*. A person who helps or encourages another.  
**symbol** *noun*. Something that represents something else.  
**sympathy** *noun*. Compassion for a person who is hurting.  
**symptom** *noun*. A sign of an illness.  
**synagogue** *noun*. A Jewish temple or house of prayer.  
**tablet** *noun*. A large stone on which words are written.  
**teach-in** *noun*. A class to teach people about an important topic.  
**territory** *noun*. A land that is part of the U.S. but not a state.  
**time-and-a-half** (pay) *Adjective phrase*. 1.5 times the usual wage.  
**tip** *noun*. Extra money a customer gives to a service worker.  
**tomb** [TOOM] *noun*. A place where a dead body is buried.  
**toxic waste** *noun phrase*. Poisonous material from factories or farms in water or the ground.  
**tracking number** *noun phrase*. A number that lets a person check where a package is online.  
**trade** *noun*. Buying and selling between countries.  
**train** *verb*. To teach a skill.  
**transport** *verb*. To carry to other places.  
**treatment** *noun*. Ways to help a sick person get better.  
**tree nursery** *noun phrase*. A farm or store that sells live trees.  
**trick** *noun*. An action done to fool a person. A practical joke.  
**try out** *verb phrase*. To show one's skills in order to join a sports team.  
**Uncle Sam** *noun*. A character that represents the U.S. government.  
**vaccine** [VAK SEEN] *noun*. A medicine to prevent a disease.  
**victory** *noun*. A win in a contest or battle.  
**W-2 form** *noun phrase*. A document with an employee's income and tax information.  
**welding** *noun*. The job of joining metal to metal using heat, flames, electricity, lasers, etc.  
**wetlands** *noun*. Marsh; swamp; land that is usually wet.  
**White House** *noun*. The home of the U.S. President.  
**withhold** *verb*. To hold back money from a person's pay, to send tax to the government.  
**Workers' Compensation Insurance** *noun phrase*. An insurance to cover medical expenses and/or wages of a worker hurt on the job.