



## MOTHER'S DAY

The celebration of Mother's Day can be traced to the times of ancient Greece when tribute was paid to "Rhea" the Mother of the Gods. The next recorded tribute to Mother's was during the seventeenth century when England celebrated "Mothering Sunday" on the fourth Sunday of Lent.

In America, Julia Ward Howe, the author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", suggested the idea of Mother's Day in 1872.

However, it is Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia who is credited with creating Mother's Day in 1905. She wanted to pay tribute to her Mother who had tried to establish Mother's Friendship Day to help heal the scars of the Civil War in America. In 1910, West Virginia became the first state to adopt a formal holiday to recognize Mothers. A year later nearly every state officially marked the day of celebration. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Mother's Day as a national holiday to be held on the second Sunday of May.

Today Mother's Day is celebrated in many countries throughout the world. Although they do not fall at the same time in every country, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday in May in Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, and Belgium.

Their families honor mothers by dining out, giving flowers, sending cards, giving gifts, and visits. Additionally, it is reported to be one of the busiest days of the year for telephone calls.

The celebration of Mother's Day should be every day. They are the ones who nurture us, teach us, protect us, and make us feel that we matter. Mothers are people in our lives who are most responsible for the way we grow and mature. If you are a mother and are reading this, please accept a special thank you for the part you play in each of our lives.

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Mother's Day is celebrated in America on the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in March      B. third Sunday in June  
C. first of July              D. second Sunday in May



2. Who is responsible for making Mother's Day a national holiday in America? \_\_\_\_\_
- A. President Lincoln                      B. Anna Jarvis  
C. Julia Ward Howe                      D. President Wilson
3. Which of the following is NOT true? \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Mother's Day is celebrated at the same time all over the world.  
B. Mothers play a special part in our lives.  
C. The celebration of Mother's Day should be every day.  
D. England celebrated Mothering Sunday in the seventeenth century.
4. What is the author's purpose of this writing? \_\_\_\_\_
- A. entertain                                  B. persuade  
C. inform                                      D. none of these
5. Anna Jarvis lived in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. England                                  B. Philadelphia  
C. Michigan                                  D. Florida
6. Mothers are honored by their families on Mother's Day by \_\_\_\_.
- A. dining out                                  B. cards  
C. flowers                                      D. all of these
6. Who was the Mother of the gods in ancient Greece?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- A. Anna    B. Julia Ward Howe  
C. Virginia                                      D. Rhea
7. What state became the first state to adopt a formal holiday to recognize mothers? \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Georgia                                      B. West Virginia  
C. Pennsylvania                                  D. California

