



# Features

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## As the Saying Goes

by Emily Stonestreet

Have you ever wondered where the little sayings we hear everyday came from? A long time ago people were very superstitious. For example, during the time of witch trials, everything from accidents to illnesses were blamed on defenseless old women accused of being witches.

Many of the sayings that are still around today could quite possibly have originated on the days

when superstition was held in higher regard than common sense. In any case, the sayings have been handed down from generation to generation.

Here are some of the sayings that have withstood the test of time. How many have you heard before?

- \* If the sun sets red, the next day will be beautiful - a sailor's delight!
- \* If your ears burn, someone is talking about you.
- \* If you drop a dishcloth, someone is hungry.
- \* If your right eye itches, you must say "My right eye itches - rabbit's foot" or you will have bad luck.
- \* If you spill salt, you must toss it over your right shoulder or you will have bad luck.
- \* If cows are lying down in the pasture, rain is one the way.
- \* If your nose itches, someone is going to visit you.
- \* If the arch of your foot itches, you are going to travel in new territory.
- \* If you break a mirror, you will have seven years of bad luck.



Oh no...Trent's ears are on fire!

## Clean-up Time

by Emily Stonestreet

Imagine yourself hiking in the mountains. The sky is a vibrant shade of blue and a crisp, cool breeze is ruffling the leaves of the trees overhead. The sun's warmth is penetrating through your shirt, seeming to awaken your very soul. As you follow the path before you, you come upon a babbling brook.

The water looks clear and refreshing so you decide to dip your hands in and take a sip. As you reach your hands into the enticing sparkling water, you notice a rusty old can embedded in the floor of the brook. Suddenly, with the sight of the foreign object, your surroundings seem to lose the beautiful pristine quality you had enjoyed only a moment before...

Every day the earth is becoming a bigger "junk yard" and in about ten years the mess is

going to be a problem for our generation to battle. There is no time like the present to start cleaning up. Who knows, if much more time passes, the mess may be so overwhelming that it will be out of our control.

Many earth-conscious people are taking part in efforts to purify our environment. Projects such as Adopt a Highway are underway across the nation, and anyone and everyone is encouraged to get involved. With the new recycling collection in Albemarle and the numerous other opportunities to pitch in, no excuse is permissible for not doing your fair share.

Think twice the next time you start to throw trash on the ground. You can make a difference - Mother Nature is depending on you!

### Get Us Out of School (Jingle Bells)

Shuffling through the halls  
 On the very last day  
 O're the lot we go  
 Squealing tires all the way  
 Horns on cars honk  
 Lights on cars blink  
 Oh what fun it is to know that we have got two weeks.  
 Oh, get us out of school  
 Get us out of school  
 Take me to my home.  
 Get me out of this prison  
 So I am free to roam  
 Oh, get us out of school  
 Get us out of school  
 Take me to my home.  
 The minute the last bell rings  
 I will be long gone!

### We Don't Have to Study for a Test (Winter Wonderland)

School kids scream are you listening  
 We're locked in till Christmas  
 A horrible sight we'll be happy tonight  
 'Cause we don't have to study for a test.  
 We're finally out a couple weeks  
 We won't miss the school that reeks  
 Catching up on our sleep 'cause our alarm clock won't beep  
 'Cause we don't have to study for a test.  
 In the schoolyard we can build a snowman  
 And pretend that he is Tommy T.  
 He'll say kids why don't you go to class now  
 And we can kick him in his snowcap knees.  
 He'll try to chase us down  
 His snowcap knees drag the ground.  
 He'll never catch up cause he's in a rut  
 And we can do the job when we're in town!

### Hark the Last School Bell Rings (Hark the Herald Angels Sing)

Hark! The last school bell rings  
 To the door the students spring.  
 Vacation's here and school work's mild,  
 Our two weeks will be fun, wet, and wild.  
 Joyful as we gather 'round  
 We'll leave this school without a frown.  
 Finally this day has come  
 Any regrets? We'll have none!  
 Hark! The last school bell rings.

## Holiday Horoscopes

By Laura Smith and Carmen Land

- Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)**  
 One unexpected surprise will strike you this month. Friends will be looking to you for all kinds of activity plans, but best of all, you will run into a long-lost pal.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)**  
 Your parents are fed up with your attitude lately. Ease up and give them a break. Christmas will be wonderful and you will get exactly what you ask for.
- Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb.19)**  
 Your love life is a mess as well as the rest of your life. Get organized and set your priorities. You will have to make a huge decision on your own. Those who love you will support whatever you do.

- Pisces (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)**  
 You really need this Christmas break. Your work load has been overwhelming. After the holidays everything will fall right into place.
- Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)**  
 You have recently gotten great news dealing with your future. A great load has been lifted off your shoulders now. Don't worry about your love life. It will work out for the best.
- Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)**  
 Your life has been going smoothly. Watch out for a little bump up soon. Take it in stride and move on. Things aren't ever as bad as they seem.

- Gemini (May 22-June 21)**  
 Keep those grades up. Your future depends on them. Your parents are constantly on your case. Deal with it the best you can and remember that you have friends that will help you out.
- Cancer (June 22-July 23)**  
 You would kill for some heavy duty outdoor activities (camping, stadium concerts?) Your phone will be ringing nonstop as anxious friends look for you.
- Leo (July 24-Aug. 23)**  
 It's the little things in life that make you smile this month. You will surprise yourself when you rescue a friend in need. You will definitely be rewarded for your hard work.

- Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)**  
 An old flame (who has yet to get over you) is back in the picture. A certain friendship is also on shaky grounds. Get set mentally and definitely be careful.
- Libra (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)**  
 Being aggressive isn't your thing - if he/she is interested, they'll come to you. You aren't a flirt, because frankly, you could live without a boyfriend/girlfriend. Stay stable.
- Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)**  
 A confrontation you've been dreading ends up being easier than expected. You may be disappointed. Things will end up going your way, so stay positive.