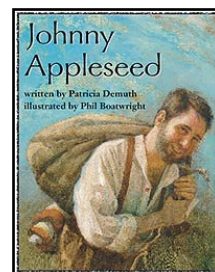


Johnny Appleseed

First Grade, Theme 8, Selection 3



Narrator: Have you heard of Johnny Appleseed? Do you know why he is famous? We'd like to tell you about how he helped America.

Reader 1: Johnny Appleseed was a real person. His real name was John Chapman.

Reader 2: He planted a lot of apple trees. That is why people called him "Johnny Appleseed".

Reader 3: Johnny lived a long time ago. Families were moving out West. They traveled in covered wagons.

Reader 4: There was a lot of empty space because there were no towns, no schools, and not many homes. Also, there were no apple trees in the West.

Reader 1: Johnny Appleseed decided to move West. He wanted to plant apple trees.

Reader 2: He got a big bag and filled it with apple seeds. Next, he started his journey but he did not travel in a covered wagon.

Reader 3: Johnny walked for days and weeks. He didn't have any shoes and soon his clothes became torn and dirty.

Reader 4: Johnny Appleseed wore a cooking pot on his head so that he didn't have to carry it.

Narrator: When winter snow came, it didn't stop Johnny Appleseed. He made snowshoes and kept walking.

Reader 1: The snow finally melted. Spring came. Johnny had traveled all the way to the West.

Reader 2: He stopped by a river and dug a hole. He placed an apple seed inside the hole. Then he covered the hole with dirt.

Reader 3: Johnny Appleseed knew that one day an apple tree would stand there. Johnny started to walk again. He had lots more apple seeds to plant.

Narrator: Johnny walked everywhere. There were no cars or streets in those days. There was lots of open space.

Reader 4: Animals lived freely in the open space. Many people were afraid of animals, but not Johnny Appleseed. He felt animals were his friends.

Reader 1: One day, Johnny Appleseed walked very close to a big, black bear. The bear saw Johnny but the bear did not harm him. Maybe the bear knew that Johnny Appleseed was a friend to animals.

Reader 2: Johnny Appleseed made friends with Indians, too. He learned from them. They taught him how to find good food.

Reader 3: Johnny Appleseed did not build a home. He liked to sleep with nature. He could hear the wind, see the moon, and sleep with the animals in the wild.

Narrator: Many years passed. Johnny Appleseed was able to plant apple seeds in many, many places.

Reader 4: One day Johnny Appleseed traveled back to the place where he planted the first apple seed. The seed had grown into a big tree.

Reader 1: A little girl was swinging in it. He stayed for dinner with the girl's family. The family asked him to stay in the area and build a home.

Reader 2: Johnny Appleseed explained that the whole world was his home and he still had many apple seeds to plant.

Narrator: From then on, people picked the apples and made apple pies, apple butter, and apple cider - all thanks to the seeds Johnny planted.