

# The Acorn



Just for Kids...  
(of all ages)

## Time to Reflect...

Did you ever look in the mirror - seriously? I know that most of us look in the mirror at least (hopefully) once or twice a day, while we are doing things like brushing our hair or teeth, washing our face, or maybe putting things on - jewelry, makeup, complicated clothing (as the weather gets colder, layers of clothing do get a little trickier at times!). Many times when we look into a mirror, it is for one of those kinds of reasons - so we do what we set out to do, & then just move on to the other parts of our day. But stop...wait a moment...

....Have you ever thought about how *magicka*/a mirror truly is? There's a REASON that Snow White's wicked step-mother asks her mirror questions - & gets the answers! Things that show you an image (picture or reflection) of yourself or others have been known to have magickal powers for centuries. Think about a gypsy fortuneteller peering into her crystal ball, or the Wicked Witch of the West watching Dorothy & her friends in the poppy fields far away. Long ago (before glass mirrors were even

invented) people believed that it was bad luck to have someone see another person's reflection in a pool of water - & when cameras came along, in some areas of the world people feared that

### Samhain 2001

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since the "little box" could create images of your face, it might also be able to steal your soul...so picture-taking was something to be afraid of!

Some people use a mirror to scry (look deeply to see other places/times/events) or divine (seek answers), the way you might use a crystal ball. Since mirrors are a little easier to find & own than crystal balls might be, you may want to make yourself a scrying mirror. I say "make" because, even though you are not actually creating the mirror, I think it's important to set it aside for this use if you want good results...making it "special", for a purpose.

Pick out a mirror YOU like...one that's beautiful, magickal, or special in some way that just seems *right* to you. You can purify it - "clean it out" from anything else it has reflected - in your own ritual by putting it through air, over fire, into water, & on or into earth. I set mine in a windowsill when the moon is full to keep it "charged" with the power I want it to hold. Spend time with it to learn how to use its power...& don't give up if it doesn't seem to work for you (WITH you) right away - magick takes time!

When you are looking for ideas, answers, or just a clearer way to see yourself or the world around you - go into a quiet space, focus yourself on seeing what is offered, & look deeply into your mirror for that which you seek. Take time to reflect, & discover what the power of Magickal Reflection can bring your way...



*Mystical Reflections*

*Step Into Another Time*

1014 Kenmore Blvd.  
Akron, Ohio 44314  
(330) 745-9313  
Mary Smith & Ruth Sharp (Green)

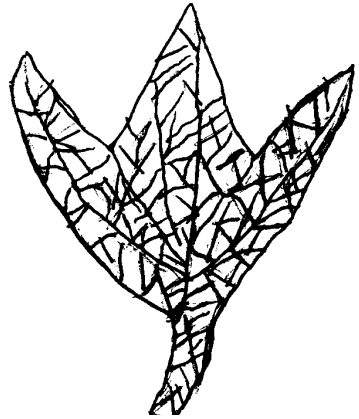




**\*\*\*Kidspirations!\*\*\***

Inside This  
(Harry Potter Books)  
by Dragon

Magic magic all around me  
Wizards flying in the air  
Speeding faster and faster  
The Forbidden Forest is near  
So many assignments  
so little time  
Time to go in but school is over  
or is it just beginning  
Dumbledore wants to see me  
He asks if I want to stay  
All summer to learn how to play  
Quiddich I asked?  
My heart stood still  
Oh what a joy Oh what a thrill



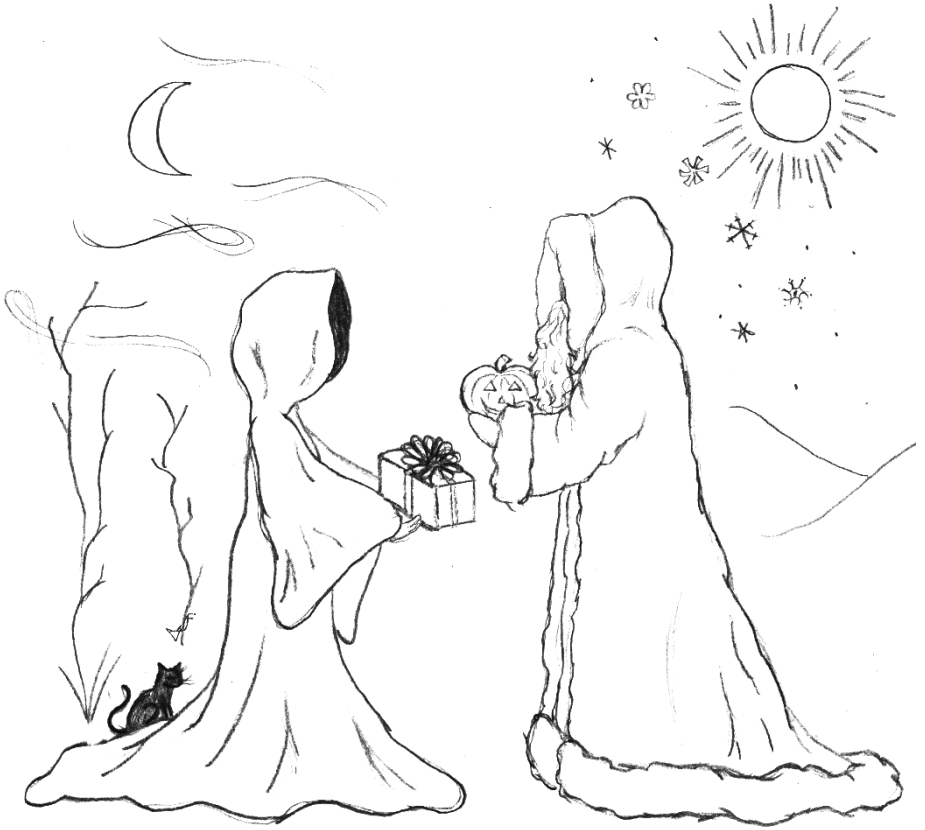
Dena  
Age 11

*This issue's featured talents are Dragon, age 10, and Dena, age 11, both of Akron, Ohio.*

**Kids!!**

Send us YOUR writing, drawings, thoughts, or ideas  
for the next Acorn...we would love to see  
your creative work in here!

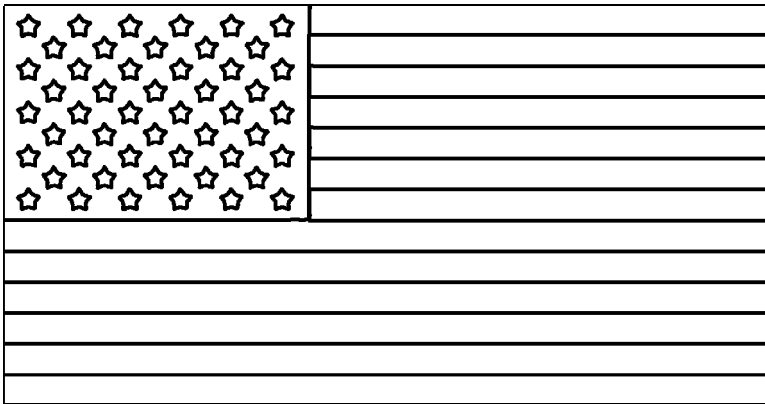




**Holiday  
Blessings  
to All!**

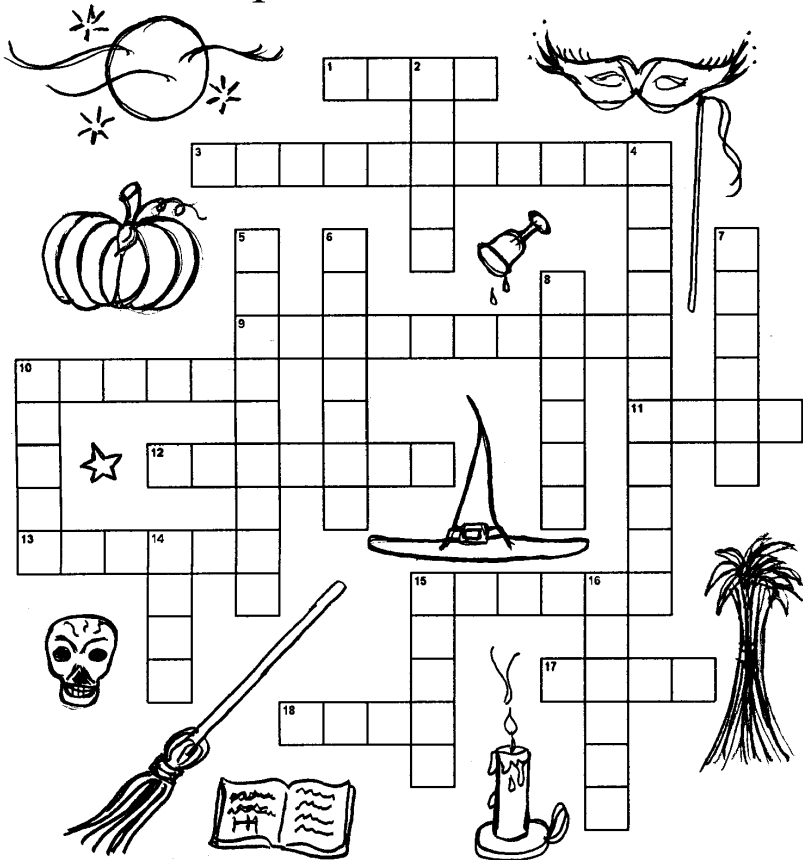


GODS BLESS  
AMERICA





# Pumpkin Parade Puzzle



**Across**

- 1. Promise
- 3. Opposite of 8 down.
- 9. Summoning tool
- 10. Drive away
- 11. Harvest season
- 12. Spell casting
- 13. Assistant to the Priestess
- 15. Male ritual leader
- 17. Build magical protection
- 18. Winter solstice

**Down**

- 2. Divination deck
- 4. Sacred ritual meal
- 5. Pagan assembly
- 6. Pagan new year
- 7. Sacred space
- 8. Sunwise
- 10. Broom stick
- 14. Musical heartbeat
- 15. Energy force
- 16. Dark aspect



## The Fox's Den



As Winter's chill moves closer to our little corner of the world, Vixen's advice for the cozy indoor evenings ahead: **Get Swept!!**

A new series of books is just waiting for you to discover its magick...& if you are inclined toward intriguing adventure spiced with witchcraft as many of us know it (not the glittery, special-effects kind, but what feels much more like "the real thing"), chances are you'll be thrilled to discover Cate Tiernan's **Sweep** books. They introduce a very realistic teenage coven exploring the ways of the Craft, dealing with adults who lead them into paths of both protection & danger, & learning about themselves & each other as their magicks develop - great characters, a compelling story line, & some VERY unexpected twists. As an "old young-adult" reader, I LOVE these books - as do Flame & my best reading buddy, my cousin Christy. I just got **Spell-bound** (Book 6), & I need to read it fast because they are impatiently waiting for their turns!

Several other series are currently in the stores that follow a similar theme - each with its own special something, of course! Silver RavenWolf (well-known author of Craft-related books) writes **Witches' Chillers**, a set (three, so far, with more on the way I hope!) of mysteries based on the teenagers featured on the cover of her book **Teen Witch: Wicca for a New Generation**. While the **Chillers** may be similar to the **Sweeps**, each of the former seems to stand more "on its own" than those in the other series...while I really like the connectedness of Tiernan's books, others may prefer RavenWolf's "separate episode" feel - Flame read these ones out of order, & he said it still worked for him! I did find myself a little disturbed by the male cat being named Hecate, though. (If you're not sure why that bothers me, look up Hecate online, or in a book on Mythology, & I think you'll understand!)

Two other teen series along these lines are Lynne Ewing's



**Daughters of the Moon & Circle of Three** by Isobel Bird. The **Daughters** books I have yet to read - but I've heard very good things about these. Christy is reading the first of the **Circle** books - so as soon as she gives me the report, I'll make sure I send out an update!

Another set with a different (& very appealing) flavor is one without a "series name" written by Amelia Atwater-Rhodes. The first two books are ***In the Forests of the Night*** & ***Demon in My View*** - I read these & I thought they were fabulous!! The author, who offers a thought-provoking look at shapeshifting, witchcraft, & vampirism, has just published her third book, ***Shattered Mirror*** - & she's only seventeen! She wrote the first of this series at thirteen...& at this rate, I hope she keeps on writing until she's in her nineties, at least! (Yes, I am definitely hooked, here!)

On a slightly different note - any **Harry Potter** fans out there who are frustrated with waiting for the next episode to arrive? I have it on very good authority (both child AND adult at my school!) that you might also want to check out the Lemony Snicket books. No, that is not the name of a character - that really is the author's name! He has now written eight books in the **Series of Unfortunate Events**... all filled with dark humor, terrible exaggeration, NO easy answers - & according to those who have read them, the power to cause you to read them over & over & over again for the sheer pleasure of it! Another item that may appeal to **HP** readers: ***The Book of Wizard Craft***, in which (according to the cover) *the Apprentice finds Spells, Potions, Fantastic Tales, & 50 Enchanting Things to Make* - full of ideas, projects, & just plain neat stuff, this is a **WONDERFUL** book, & I think Dragon (who found it first) will back me up on that!

Have any reading suggestions? Send them this way - for all of us who enjoy curling up with a good book on a cold winter's night! 