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## Maudie's Naughties

### Mowing the Grass

The preacher goes out to mow his lawn, but has trouble getting the mower started. A young boy on a bicycle stops by and watches for a couple of minutes. He asks, "What's wrong?"

The pastor answers, "I can't get this mower started. Do you know how?"

The boy replies, "Yep."

"Well, how do you do it? Tell me!", the preacher asks.

The kid replies, "You have to cuss it."

The preacher rises up indignantly. "Now you listen here. I am a preacher and if I ever did cuss, not saying I have, I've forgotten how to do it after all these years."

With a wise look on his face well beyond his years, the kid says, "Preacher, you keep on pulling that rope and it'll all come back to ya."

### Art School

Junior always thought he had some artistic talent so he enrolls in a community education art class. At the first class meeting, the instructor assigns the students to draw a picture of one of their family members for their first grade.

The next week, Junior submits a portrait of Pa, but when he gets the picture back, the instructor has given him a C minus. Junior thinks that he deserves better than that so he approaches the art teacher to ask why his grade is so low.

"The proportions are all incorrect," replies the teacher. "The head is all wrong, the feet are too big, and it's not possible for anyone to be that ugly."

The next week Junior brings Pa in to talk to the instructor about the grade. The instructor takes one look at Pa and says, "Okay, an A minus!"

### One Dollar Per Point

A professor is giving a big test to his students. He hands out all of the tests and goes back to his desk to wait. Once the test is over, the students all hand the tests back in.

As he is sorting them, the professor notices that one of the students has attached a \$100 bill to his test with a note saying "One dollar per point."

The next class the professor hands the tests back out. One student got back his test and \$64 change.

### Interesting

During the final exam, the professor notices that one student keeps looking at his hand before writing down an answer on his test. This goes on throughout the entire exam, leaving the professor no other choice than to interrogate the student's test-taking habit.

"Young man," the professor begins. "Is there something interesting written on your palm?"

"Not at all," the student replies. "It's all pretty boring."

### The Three Bears

Mama Bear, Papa Bear and Baby Bear are sitting down at Goldie's Restaurant finishing up their meal when the waiter presents them with their check. Papa Bear tells the waiter he has no money to pay for the meal. The waiter goes to the kitchen and returns to tell them, "Goldie says everybody has to pay. If you can't pay for your meal, then you must clean dishes."

A little later Mama, Papa and Baby Bear are in the kitchen cleaning dishes. "How is it, Papa?" asks Mama Bear.

"Not bad," says Papa Bear. "If I had known we could clean dishes, we wouldn't have tried to mooch a meal."

### Charity Starts At Church

After a church service, a little boy told the Pastor, "When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money."

"Well, thank you," the pastor replies. "That would be very nice of you." He smiles, "But why?"

"My daddy says you're the poorest preacher we've ever had."

### Is the Bible True?

There once is a very religious lady that has to do a lot of traveling for her business, so she does a lot of flying. Flying makes her very--very nervous, so she always takes her Bible along with her to read as it helps relax her on the long flights.

One time, she is sitting next to a man. When he sees her pull out her Bible, he gives a little chuckle and smirk and goes back to what he is doing.

After awhile, he turns to her and asks, "You don't really believe all that stuff in there do you?"

The lady replies, "Of course I do. It is the Bible."

He says, "Well, what about the whale story?"

Shereplies, "Oh, Jonah. Yes, I believe that, it is in the Bible."

He asks, "Well, how did he survive inside the whale?"

The lady says, "Well, I don't really know. I guess when I get to heaven, I will ask him."

"What if he isn't in heaven?" the man asks sarcastically. "Then you can ask him," replies the lady.

## ECMS Youth Services Holds Poster Contest For Nat'l Book Month

National Book Month activities aren't just for schools. When families read together, children get the positive message that a love of books can mean a lifetime of adventure and learning. Naturally, reading at home shouldn't be limited just to one month; the following activities can be introduced in November and then continued year-round.

- Make regular family visits to the local library to check out books, with parents and children each explaining why they picked particular books.

- Is your family known for its dramatic flair? Channel those theatrics in a positive direction and film a scene or two from one of your favorite books. Another idea along these lines is to organize a school or neighborhood talent night during which these scenes are performed for others.

- Play family games with a literary twist. Turn "20 Questions" into a book quiz or make up a story, with each family member adding a segment in turn.

- For parents, read to your

children every night. "The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children," the National Commission on Reading noted in its report becoming a Nation of Readers.

Despite noting gains in reading proficiency among American youngsters, the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress also highlighted a troubling trend. Among fourth-graders, 53% of girls and 39% of boys indicated that they read for fun almost every day. But those percentages declined steeply by eighth-grade, with 25% of girls and only 13% of boys indicating that they read for fun almost daily.

Incorporating structured but fun reading activities at school – and encouraging similar efforts at home – may provide a buffer against that falling level of engagement as children become teens.

As the National Book Foundation notes, November is a great time to "Fall into a good book."



In recognition of National Read A Book Month, the Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center sponsored a poster contest at ECMS. All students were encouraged to participate in the contest. The winner of the contest, Lexi Muncie, is pictured above with her poster. (Courtesy of Mike Flynn)

## In Memory of Wayne Harris November 16th



### A Wish Come True

*If I could have a wish come true,  
A dream that'd come to pass,  
I'd ask to spend a day with you,  
And pray that it would last.*

*I'd run to you and hold you close,  
We'd laugh and smile again.  
I'd listen so intently,  
As you told me how you've been.*

*When time was up I'd hold you close  
Not wanting to let go  
You'd smile and tell me, 'See you soon'  
And somehow I would know*

*That while it's very hard to wait,  
One day the time will come,  
I'll join you there forevermore,  
When I too am called Home*

*My wish may go ungranted  
But it always will be true ...  
I'd trade many of my tomorrows  
For one yesterday with you.*

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