

NATIONAL SIBLINGS DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/04/national_siblings_day.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

National Siblings Day (NSD) is celebrated on April 10 each year in the USA. It is the brainchild of Claudia A. Evert, who created it after the deaths of her brother and sister. She wanted a day for all Americans to think about the importance of the relationships they have with their brothers and sisters. She created a Siblings Day Foundation to establish this special day and has managed to get 40 state governors to declare Siblings Day in their states. More and more people are accepting NSD and it now has a "Special Mark" from the US Patent and Trademark Office. If it keeps growing in popularity, it could be up there on the holiday calendar with Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Do you ever stop and think just how important your brothers and sisters are to you? Do you ever wonder what life would be like without a brother or sister, to be an only child? Our siblings are quite often the people with whom we have the longest relations. More often than not, we are together in infancy, play together, grow up together and grow old together. We share a million experiences, joys and disappointments. We often rely on them when we are in deepest need and celebrate with them our greatest achievements. Our brothers and sisters are perhaps the people who understand and trust us best. It is great that there is a day when we get to celebrate this wonderful bond and to say "thank you for being my brother or sister".

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. It is the brainchild | a. brother and sister |
| 2. the deaths of her | b. with Mother's Day |
| 3. about the importance of | c. in popularity |
| 4. the US Patent and | d. the relationships |
| 5. it keeps growing | e. of Claudia A. Evert |
| 6. on the holiday calendar | f. Trademark Office |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. be an only | a. million experiences |
| 2. the people with whom we | b. trust us best |
| 3. We share a | c. this wonderful bond |
| 4. We often rely on them when | d. child |
| 5. the people who understand and | e. we are in deepest need |
| 6. a day when we get to celebrate | f. have the longest relations |

LISTENING GAP FILL

National Siblings Day (NSD) is celebrated on April 10 each year in the USA. It _____ Claudia A. Evert, who created it after the deaths of her brother and sister. She _____ all Americans to think about the importance of the relationships _____ brothers and sisters. She created a Siblings Day Foundation to establish _____ has managed to get 40 state governors to declare Siblings Day in their states. More _____ accepting NSD and it now has a "Special Mark" from the US Patent and Trademark Office. If it keeps growing in popularity, _____ on the holiday calendar with Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Do you _____ just how important your brothers and sisters are to you? Do you ever wonder what _____ without a brother or sister, to be an only child? Our siblings are quite _____ whom we have the longest relations. More often than not, we are together in infancy, play together, grow up together and grow old together. _____ experiences, joys and disappointments. We often rely on them when we are in deepest need and celebrate _____ greatest achievements. Our brothers and sisters are perhaps the people who understand and trust us best. It is great that there is a day when we get to celebrate _____ and to say "thank you for being my brother or sister".

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

National Siblings Day (NSD) is celebrated on April 10 each year in the USA. It is the _____ of Claudia A. Evart, who created it after the _____ of her brother and sister. She wanted a day for all Americans to think about the _____ of the relationships they have with their brothers and sisters. She _____ a Siblings Day Foundation to _____ this special day and has managed to get 40 state governors to declare Siblings Day in their states. More and more people are _____ NSD and it now has a "Special Mark" from the US Patent and Trademark Office. If it keeps _____ in popularity, it could be up there on the holiday _____ with Mother's Day and Father's Day.

accepting
importance
establish
calendar
brainchild
growing
deaths
created

Do you ever stop and think just _____ important your brothers and sisters are to you? Do you ever _____ what life would be like without a brother or sister, to be an _____ child? Our siblings are quite often the people with whom we have the longest relations. More often than _____, we are together in infancy, play together, grow up together and grow _____ together. We share a million experiences, joys and disappointments. We often _____ on them when we are in deepest need and celebrate with them our greatest achievements. Our brothers and sisters are perhaps the people who understand and trust us _____. It is great that there is a day when we get to celebrate this wonderful bond and to say "thank you for _____ my brother or sister".

best
only
old
being
how
not
rely
wonder

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

National Siblings Day (NSD) is *celebration / celebrated* on April 10 each year in the USA. It is the *brainchild / brainy* of Claudia A. Evart, who created it after the *dies / deaths* of her brother and sister. She wanted a day for all Americans to think about the *important / importance* of the relationships they have with their brothers and sisters. She created a Siblings Day Foundation to establish this special day and has managed to *take / get* 40 state governors to declare Siblings Day in their states. More and *much / more* people are accepting NSD and it now has a "Special Mark" from the US Patent and Trademark Office. If it keeps growing *on / in* popularity, it could be up *there / their* on the holiday calendar with Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Do you ever stop and think just *why / how* important your brothers and sisters are to you? Do you ever *wander / wonder* what life would be like without a brother or sister, to be an only *children / child*? Our siblings are quite often the people with whom we have the longest relations. More often than not, we are together in *infancy / infant*, play together, grow up together and grow old together. We share a million experiences, *joyous / joys* and disappointments. We often *rely / relish* on them when we are in deepest need and *celebration / celebrate* with them our greatest achievements. Our brothers and sisters are perhaps the people who understand and trust us best. It is great that there is a day when we get to celebrate this wonderful *band / bond* and to say "thank you for being my brother or sister".

MULTIPLE CHOICE

National Siblings Day (NSD) is celebrated on April 10 each year in the USA. It is the (1) _____ of Claudia A. Evart, who created it after the deaths of her brother and sister. She wanted a day for (2) _____ Americans to think about the importance of the relationships they have with (3) _____ brothers and sisters. She created a Siblings Day Foundation to establish this special day and has (4) _____ to get 40 state governors to declare Siblings Day in their states. More and more people are (5) _____ NSD and it now has a "Special Mark" from the US Patent and Trademark Office. If it keeps growing in popularity, it could be up (6) _____ on the holiday calendar with Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Do you ever stop and think just how important your brothers and sisters are to you? Do you ever (7) _____ what life would be like without a brother or sister, to be an only child? Our siblings are (8) _____ often the people with whom we have the longest relations. More often than not, we are together in (9) _____, play together, grow up together and grow old together. We share a million experiences, joys and disappointments. We often (10) _____ on them when we are in deepest need and celebrate with them our greatest achievements. Our brothers and sisters are perhaps the people who understand and (11) _____ us best. It is great that there is a day when we (12) _____ to celebrate this wonderful bond and to say "thank you for being my brother or sister".

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) brainchild | (b) brainy | (c) brain | (d) brainless |
| 2. | (a) each | (b) every | (c) all | (d) per |
| 3. | (a) they | (b) there | (c) their | (d) they're |
| 4. | (a) managed | (b) manager | (c) manages | (d) managing |
| 5. | (a) acceptance | (b) accepted | (c) accept | (d) accepting |
| 6. | (a) their | (b) there | (c) them | (d) these |
| 7. | (a) wonder | (b) wonders | (c) wander | (d) wanders |
| 8. | (a) quiet | (b) quit | (c) quite | (d) quits |
| 9. | (a) infants | (b) infant | (c) infantile | (d) infancy |
| 10. | (a) relay | (b) rely | (c) relies | (d) relish |
| 11. | (a) trustworthy | (b) trust | (c) trusting | (d) trusts |
| 12. | (a) take | (b) have | (c) make | (d) get |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. abtleecrd on April 10 each year
2. think about the mtpnraoic of the relationships
3. establish this eiscapl day
4. More and more pleepo
5. it keeps ogrinwg in popularity
6. the holiday nacdlrae

Paragraph 2

7. ndewor what life would be like
8. the people with whom we have the osltgen relations
9. we are erhtgoe in infancy
10. when we are in detpese need
11. people who understand and sturt us
12. aeetelrc this wonderful bond

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () we have the longest relations. More often than not, we are together in infancy, play together, grow up together and
- () sisters are perhaps the people who understand and trust us
- (**1**) National Siblings Day (NSD) is celebrated on April 10 each year in the USA. It is the brainchild of Claudia A. Evart, who
- () bond and to say "thank you for being my brother or sister".
- () in popularity, it could be up there on the holiday calendar with Mother's Day and Father's Day.
- () what life would be like without a brother or sister, to be an only child? Our siblings are quite often the people with whom
- () grow old together. We share a million experiences, joys and disappointments. We often rely on them
- () best. It is great that there is a day when we get to celebrate this wonderful
- () created it after the deaths of her brother and sister. She wanted a day for all Americans to think about the importance
- () this special day and has managed to get 40 state governors to declare Siblings Day in their states. More and
- () when we are in deepest need and celebrate with them our greatest achievements. Our brothers and
- () of the relationships they have with their brothers and sisters. She created a Siblings Day Foundation to establish
- () Do you ever stop and think just how important your brothers and sisters are to you? Do you ever wonder
- () more people are accepting NSD and it now has a "Special Mark" from the US Patent and Trademark Office. If it keeps growing

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. celebrated is NSD year each 10 April on

2. her and the of brother sister deaths

3. relationships about importance the think the of

4. people More are and accepting more NSD

5. popularity If it keeps growing in

6. would ever life like you what be Do wonder ?

7. relations people with whom we have the longest

8. people the best us trust and understand who

9. wonderful to bond celebrate we this get

10. for you thank sister or brother my being

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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THE NATIONAL SIBLINGS DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about National Siblings Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about National Siblings Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about National Siblings Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. POSTER: Make your own poster about National Siblings Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.