

## All About Mother's Day

May 5, 2010



Mother's Day is celebrated to honor all moms and express gratitude for the hard work they do in raising children everywhere. Celebrating motherhood is a historical tradition most likely dating back to some of the earliest mothers! We have records of a number of ancient cultures that paid tribute to mothers as goddesses, including the ancient Greeks, who celebrated Rhea, the mother of all gods. Ancient Romans honored their mother goddess, Cybele, in a raucous springtime celebration, and the Celtic Pagans marked the coming of spring with a fertility celebration linking their goddess Brigid with the first milk of the ewes (mother sheep).

Let's see how you and your kids can make this Mother's Day precious and memorable.

### When To Do It

Saturday or Mother's Day

### What To Do

Let your kids learn more about you (or a grandmother) as a fun and entertaining way to honor all the mothers in their young lives.

#### 1. A Mother's Biography:

Help your kids get ready to interview you or one of their grandmothers. Here are some suggested questions you can print out for them to use when doing the interview – of course, they should feel free to ask any others that come to mind):

- Please tell me when and where you were born. Can you show me on a map?
- Who was your favorite teacher in elementary school and why?
- What did you like to study in school?
- Did you save money when you were young? Did you get an allowance? Did you have to do chores? What kind?
- What was your first job? How much did you make?
- What is your favorite place to give your money? Why?
- What is the most money you have given to a charity at one time?
- How did you meet my dad (or grandfather)?
- How did you and Dad (grandfather) decide to get married?
- Did he save up to buy the wedding ring or was it a family ring passed down from other relatives?
- Did you save up for your wedding dress or did someone else give you the dress?
- Did you go on a honeymoon? Where did you go? Did it cost a lot of money? Did you have to save for a long time?
- How long did you stay in the hospital when I was born?

Once the interview is complete, have the kids take the information they gathered and make a special card or poem including the mini-biography for their mom or grandmother.

#### 2. Do You Really Know Me?

Get together with a few other families and divide into mom-and-kid teams. One person needs to stay out of the teams to ask the questions and record the answers. This can be an older child, a dad, or a friend.

1. Ask the moms to leave the room while the kids sit in chairs.
2. Ask each kid the same four or five questions about their moms.
3. Bring the moms back into the room and ask them the same questions; compare with their kids' answers to see how closely they match.
4. Switch places and see how well moms know their kids.
5. Award a red carnation to the mom-and-kid team with the most correct answers. (The red carnation is the Mother's Day flower of choice.)

Sample question ideas to get you started:

Favorite color, movie, purse, shoes, place to go on vacation, candy bar, color of toothbrush, friend, food, animal, cartoon, pizza topping, ice cream topping, or restaurant.

### What You Will Need

Writing and construction paper  
Pencil, pen

Glue, tape, scissors  
Red carnations

### Talk About It

Did your kids learn something new about you or one of their grandmothers? What was the most fun new thing to learn about your past or their grandmothers'? Did they find it hard or easy to name things you like or dislike? Were they surprised by any of your answers?

