

## Valentine's Day Potpourri

By Beth Beutler

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Many people think of Valentine's Day as a time to show love to others. It is a great day to express love to the one "special someone" in your life. However, it is also a time to show kindness to other people. This includes teachers, coworkers, family members, and even classmates.

Perhaps you'll sit on a "love seat" on Valentine's Day. A love seat looks either like a short couch or wide chair. At first, the love seat made room for women and their large, fluffy dresses. Now, it works more as a cozy place for two people to sit or cuddle. In the past, some love seats were made to connect but face each other. That made it easier to talk.

You probably know about the practice of giving valentine cards. However, you may not know about other traditions. For example, in the Middle Ages, men and women would draw names to find out who their valentine would be! Then, they would wear the name on their sleeve. That is where the idea of "wearing your heart on your sleeve" came from.

Have you heard the saying about if you see a robin fly on Valentine's Day, you'll marry a sailor? Another one says that you could twist a stem off an apple while saying names of friends. The name you are saying when the stem comes off is the person you will marry!

Some of these sayings are rather silly, but they can be fun. What will you do on Valentine's Day?



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### Questions

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\_\_\_\_\_ 1. What do many people consider Valentine's Day to be?

- A. A fake, commercial holiday
- B. A time to show love
- C. A day off from work
- D. Only for married people

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. A love seat used to be for \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Three people to sit in
- B. A bride and groom to sit in during their wedding
- C. Seating a woman with a large, fluffy dress
- D. only for show

3. What is one way people can show love for someone on Valentine's Day?

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