

**MANUAL FOR
SPECIAL DAY
EXERCISES, 1904**

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Manual for Special Day Exercises, 1904 by Various

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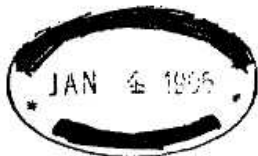
^{IOWA,}
Issued by the Department of Public Instruction
for use in the Schools of Iowa for the years
1904 and 1905.



JOHN F. RIGGS

^{IOWA} — SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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1904.



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LANDING OF THE PILGRIMS.

From "Fights to Literature," Book VII.

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A Proclamation

This State is peculiarly interested in the planting and growth of trees, and we must depend upon the energy and enterprise of our people to supply the shade and beauty with which other parts of our country are naturally endowed. We can render no better service to those who come after us than to plant and nurture for their use, trees along our highways and streets, and in our parks, school-yards, and lawns.

Therefore, I, Albert B. Cummins, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby set apart Friday, the 29th day of April, 1904, as

Arbor Day

And I earnestly recommend that the people of the State observe the day so that the spirit which leads to its segregation from other days may be made effectual; and I especially ask the schools of the State to devote some part of the day to such exercises as will stimulate a love of nature, and I urge upon both teachers and pupils the appropriateness of planting trees in such places as may be practicable.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Iowa.

Done this 10th day of March, 1904.

ALBERT B. CUMMINS.

By The Governor.

W. B. MARTIN,
Secretary of State.

TO TEACHERS.

This Manual is placed in your hands in the hope that it will prove helpful to you in preparing suitable special day exercises.

The quantity of material in the following pages is so considerable that it is not thought necessary to issue an elaborate Special Day Manual next year. It is suggested, therefore, that this Manual and the Flag Day Manual furnished you in February, be preserved for use next year.

Your particular attention is called to pages 39-45, the same containing suggestive outlines for practical nature study. These outlines were prepared by Miss Etta M. Bardwell of the Ottumwa High School, who also contributes the following Arbor Day suggestions:

1. Write to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for a copy of Farmers' Bulletin No. 134.
2. Write to Department of Agriculture for a copy of Primer of Forestry, by Pinchot of Bureau of Forestry.
3. Obtain a list of Farmers' Bulletins available for free distribution and see that your school is supplied and that extra copies find their way into each home in your district.
4. Add to your school library a copy of Hodge's Nature Study and Life. This will prove invaluable in your studies of Nature.
5. Begin your preparations for Arbor and Bird Day long before the day appointed. Use every means in your power to awaken a genuine and abiding interest in tree and bird life. Divide your school into committees whose work it shall be to find out and report upon any of the following upon Arbor Day:

Kinds of trees in our district?
 What kind of trees grow best in wet places and what in dry?
 How our trees are protected.
 How the woodpeckers take care of the trees.
 What has Iowa done for the protection of her birds?
 The birds I have seen this year.
 The birds that spend the winter with us.
 How the oak trees were planted.
 The trees on our farm.
 How our trees prepared for winter.
 Some insects injurious to trees.
 Birds feeding their young.
 The birds that nested in our trees last year.

AN OFFER TO IOWA SCHOOLS.

The Youth's Companion of Boston, makes the following offer: To the 500 schools in the State of Iowa showing the greatest interest in the setting out of trees, shrubbery and vines, and in other ways improving their grounds during 1904, the Youth's Companion will present a set of six historical pictures, namely: Washington, Lafayette, Signing the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, Surrender of Burgoyne and the Landing of the Pilgrims.

When the work of setting out trees and shrubbery round your schoolhouse has been completed, the teacher or one of the pupils is asked to write to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction a brief, concise account of the work done, together with any facts of interest concerning the improvements made. These letters should be mailed not later than July 15, 1904. The letters will be carefully examined by a committee appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the 500 schools whose letters indicate the best work will each be sent a set of six historical pictures, and the ten schools doing the best work will be presented with a large American Flag.

PROGRAM FOR ARBOR AND BIRD DAY.

Song.....	" An Anthem for Arbor Day "
Recitation.....	" What the Trees Teach Us "
Quotations.....	Selections from " Uses of the Forest "
Recitation.....	" The First Blue Birds "
Reading.....	" The Age of Trees "
Special Reports on Trees.....	By pupils assigned topics for observational study
Song.....	" Celebrate the Arbor Day "
Reading.....	" Iowa Statutes for Bird Protection "
Quotations.....	Selections about Birds
Recitation.....	" Talking in Their Sleep "
Reading.....	" Bird Day "
Special Reports on Birds.....	Observational work of different pupils
Recitation.....	" Bright Birds "
Planting of Tree.....	
Song.....	" The Patriot Planters "
Song.....	" America "

NOTE.—The programs submitted are intended to be merely suggestive. The teacher will vary them according to the needs of her locality. Let the central thought in the work be the creation of a real interest in tree and bird life that shall grow as time goes on into a genuine love for all nature. Such an interest is not created, much less maintained, by the committing to memory of appropriate selections about things. The careful study of a single tree, of the habits of one of our native birds will do more to stimulate interest than all the books you can furnish the child. Begin with the study of trees and birds long before the day appointed for exercises. Some suggestions on methods of study will be found in the Nature study outlines in this Manual.

A NATURE AFTERNOON.

MISS MAUDE UTECHT, OTTUMWA, IOWA.

In planning a Nature afternoon program for the little ones, one must begin early in order to arouse the interest which will later lead to a most delightful afternoon as the culmination of the work.

Last year at the beginning of the spring term, each child in the room was given some seeds to take home, plant and care for. It was an inspiration to see the interest awakened as the reports on the progress of the little plants were given day by day. Excursions were taken to study birds and the development of plant life.

Shortly before the day set apart for the program, the following invitations were sent to parents and patrons:

BIRDS, BUDS AND BABIES,

AT HOME,

Friday, May 22d, 1:30 P. M.

The invitations were written on paper cut in the shape of leaves. The schoolroom was decorated for the occasion with flowers gathered by the children and drawings of the Nature work in water colors by the little ones. On a long table at one side of the room were placed the plants brought from home by each child, some now in bloom. About the room were cages of song birds. These little birds added their music to that of the children.

In various places around the room were butterflies, cocoons and other animals that the children had observed and brought in for study.

The following program was carried out:

1. Song "Welcome and Greetings"
2. Voluntary stories told by the children of their experiences with birds, buds, cocoons, tadpoles, etc.
3. Imitation of bird calls and notes.
(This was very interesting as the children were most eager to give what they had heard.)
4. Dramatization..... "How Robin Got Its Red Breast"
5. Songs with Rhythm..... "The Happy Birds,"
"The Sparrow,"
"The Robin and Pussy Willow,"
"The Caterpillar."