

MOTHER'S DAY



Origin of Mother's Day goes back to the era of ancient Greek and Romans. Today the festival of Mothers day is celebrated across 46 countries- on different dates- and is hugely popular.

The earliest history of Mothers Day dates back to the ancient annual spring festival the Greeks dedicated to maternal goddesses. The Greeks used the occasion to honor Rhea, wife of Cronus and the mother of many deities of Greek mythology.

Ancient Romans celebrated a spring festival, too and called Hilaria dedicated to Cybele, a mother goddess.

Early Christians celebrated a Mother's Day of sorts during the festival on the fourth Sunday of Lent in honor of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of Christ. In England the holiday was expanded to include all mothers. It was called Mothering Sunday.



Mothering Sunday

The more recent history of Mothers Day dates back to 1600s in England. Here a Mothering Sunday is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent (the 40 day period leading up to Easter) to honor mothers. After a prayer service in church to honor Virgin Mary, children brought gifts and flowers to pay tribute to their own mothers.

Traditionally children brought with them gifts and a special fruit cake or fruit-filled pastry called a simnel.

Custom of celebrating Mothering Sunday died out almost completely by the 19th century. However, the day came to be celebrated again after World War II, when American servicemen brought the custom and commercial enterprises used it as an occasion for sales.

Julia Ward Howe

The idea of official celebration of Mothers day in US was first suggested by JULIA WARD HOWE in 1872. An activist, writer and poet Julia shot to fame with her famous Civil War song, "Battle Hymn of the Republic". Julia Ward Howe suggested that June 2 be annually celebrated as Mothers Day and should be dedicated to peace.



Anna Jarvis is the Founder of Mothers Day in US. She never married and never had kids, she is also known as the Mother of Mothers Day.

Anna never forgot her mothers word and when her mother died in 1905, she resolved to fulfill her mothers desire of having a mothers day.

To begin with Anna, send carnations the church service in Grafton, West Virginia to honor her mother. Carnations were her mothers favourite flower and Anna felt that they symbolised a mothers pure love. By 1911, Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state in the Union and on May 8, 1914 President Woodrow Wilson signed a Joint Resolution designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Present Day Celebrations

Today Mothers Day is celebrated in several countries. People take the day as an opportunity to pay tribute to their mothers and thank them for all their love and support. The day has become hugely popular. There is also a tradition of gifting flowers, cards and others gift to mothers on the Mothers Day.



1. Answer the questions.

Is Mother's Day celebrated everywhere on the same day? _____

When is Mothering Sunday? _____



Who was Rhea? _____

What is a fruit-filled pastry called? _____

What do children give their mothers? _____

Why? _____

When is Lent? _____

Whose names are connected to Mother's Day? _____

2. True or false?

The Greeks and Romans were celebrated Mother's Day. T/F

Mother's Day is celebrated on different days all over the world. T/F

Mothering Sunday is celebrated in the US. T/F

Mothering Sunday died out just later came back to be celebrated. T/F

Anna 's mother 's favourite flower is not carnation. T/F

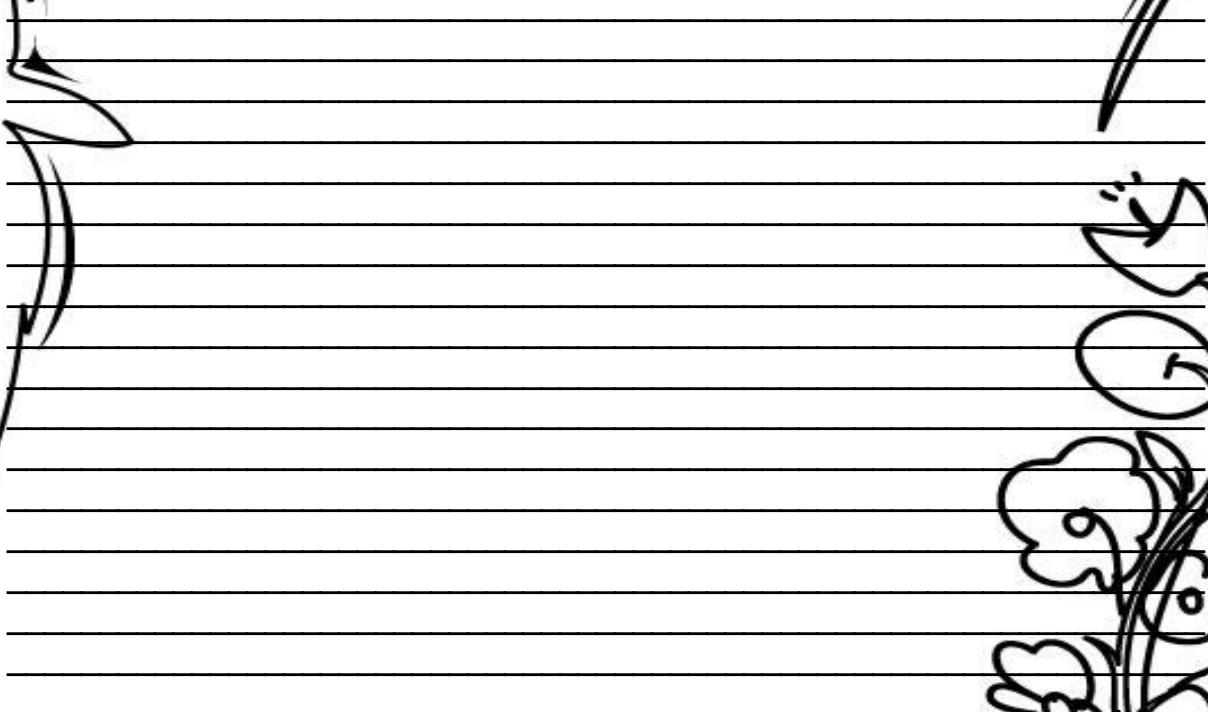
People say thanks to their parents on that day. T/F

3. How do you celebrate Mother's Day in your country?

4. Write a letter to your MOM.

World's Greatest Mom :

Dear _____,



A large, rectangular writing area with horizontal ruling lines. The area is enclosed within a decorative border that features a central scroll design and floral motifs on the right side.

