

## St. Patrick's Day – A week of activities

### Suggested Books:

- Jack and the Leprechaun by Ivan Robertson
- St. Patarick's Day in the Morning by Eve Bunting
- St. Patrick's Day by Gail Gibbons
- St. Patrick's Day Alphabet by Beverly Vidrine
- Patrick: Patron Saint of Ireland by Tomie dePaola
- St. Patrick's Day by Anne Rockwell
- The Little Leprechaun Who Loved Yellow! By Sally Huss
- Leprechauns Never Lie by Lorna Balian

### Vocabulary Words:

Green, Leprechaun, clover, shamrock, three, arc, rainbow, responsibilities, St. Patrick, jig, emerald

### Songs and Fingerplays:

#### Song for St. Patrick's Day

*tune: The Bear Went Over the Mountain*

We're wearing green for the Irish We're wearing green for the Irish We're wearing green for the Irish On this St. Patrick's Day

We'll dance a jig for the Irish We'll dance a jig for the Irish We'll dance a jig for the Irish On this St. Patrick's Day

Me Mither and Fither were Irish Me Mither and Fither were Irish Me Mither and Fither were Irish And I am Irish too

We kept a pig in the parlor We kept a pig in the parlor We kept a pig in the parlor And he is Irish too.

#### FIVE LITTLE SHAMROCKS

1 green shamrock, in the morning dew,  
Another one sprouted, and then there were two.  
2 green shamrocks, growing beneath a tree;  
Another one sprouted and then there were three.  
3 green shamrocks, by the cottage door;  
Another one sprouted,

And then there were four.

4 green shamrocks, near a beehive

Another one sprouted,

And then there were five.

5 little shamrocks, bright and emerald green,

Think of all the luck these shamrocks will bring.

#### On St. Patrick's Day

*Tune: The Mulberry Bush*

Let's wear green and dance a jig,

Dance a jig, dance a jig.

Let's wear green and dance a jig

On St. Patrick's Day

Let's raise our hats and shout "hooray!"

Shout hooray, shout hooray,

Let's raise our hats and shout "hooray!"

On St. Patrick's Day.

#### OH RAINBOW, OH RAINBOW

*Sung to: Oh, Christmas Tree*

Oh, rainbow, Oh rainbow

How lovely are your colors.

Oh, rainbow Oh, rainbow

How lovely are your colors,

Purple, red & orange too,

Yellow, green, & blue so true.

Oh, rainbow, Oh rainbow

How lovely are your colors

#### Toorah, Loorah, Loorah

Toorah loorah loorah,

Toorah loorah lye

Toorah loorah loorah,

Hush, now don't you cry...

Toorah Loorah Lorrh,

Toorah Loorah lye,

Toorah, Loorah, loorah,

It's an Irish, Lullabye.

**Stocking Creative Play Centers:****Dramatic Play:**

Put a green tablecloth in toy table, dress dolls in green. Green scarves or hats. Put a real or plastic pot of shamrock on the toy table. If you have it, add a stuffed leprechaun doll, a black cauldron (from Halloween) and some plastic play money.

**Blocks:**

Add green cars or trucks to block play area. Spread a green rug or mat for “grass” for building on. If

**Projects:**

Green Mush: Fill a large plastic bin with dry instant mashed potato flakes. Put green plastic toys in the bin for playing, like a green shovel, green bucket, green car, etc. A few days later, add hot tap water and green food coloring. Let child mix together (test water, that it isn’t too hot). Notice how it looks, smells, and tastes – if you think it isn’t too dirty after playing in it. Enjoy the sensations of the warm, gooey green mashed potatoes. When child is done playing, throw it out and wash the bin.

Green is Delicious: Have your child help you prepare some green foods for a snack. Slice a green apple. Cut some broccoli into bite-size pieces. Add green food coloring to sour-cream vegetable dip. Make a milk shake with pistachio or mint ice cream. Color butter or frosting green to spread on crackers. Read “Green Eggs and Ham” to your child. Taste all the foods. Talk about the color, taste, texture and smell of the snack.

Shamrock Shapes: Cut three of each shape from green construction paper: three hearts, three triangles, three circles. Mix together. Have child sort the shapes. How many shapes? (3). How many of each shape? Have child glue three hearts together to make a shamrock – the pointy-ends together, the rounded edges facing out. Add a green stem. Glue the three triangles together to

possible, add three green cars, three green shovels, three green trucks, etc.

**Music: and Listening Area**

The Faerie Isles – Celtic Harp Music  
The Best of Riverdance  
A Very Unlucky Leprechaun

**Outdoor Play**

Add green shovels and pails to sandbox, decorate trike with green crepe paper – especially if your town has a children’s parade.

make a shamrock, and glue the circles together to make a shamrock. How many shamrocks did he make? Hang his shamrocks in his bedroom.

Explore Nature: If you live far enough south, it might be possible to find three- and four-leafed clover in your yard. In the north, you’ll have to plan enough in advance to plant a pot of clover or buy a shamrock plant. Let the child pick some clover or shamrocks and examine them closely using a child-safe magnifying glass. Press some clover leaves (with a book, or with a warm iron and wax paper). Days later, when the leaves are pressed, laminate to a card to make an attractive bookmark. Talk about the superstition that four-leaf clover brings good luck. Explain that we make our own luck, good or bad, by how we relate to our world.

Rainbow and the Pot of Gold: This would be a great activity to paint on a glass patio door or large picture window. Begin with squirting a small amount of red paint on a paper plate. Child dips his hands in the paint, getting it all over the palm and fingers, then presses his hand prints on the window repeatedly, making a gentle arc near the top of the glass. Child washes all the paint off his hands, then returns and dips his hands in a small squirt of orange paint on a paper plate, and repeats the process. He makes hand-print stripes of red,

orange, yellow, green, light blue, dark blue, and violet to great a huge rainbow. Can be done all at once, or over several days. Cut out a large pot from black construction paper. Child can glue a handful of Sugar Pops cereal near the top of the pot for the gold. Tape the pot to the bottom of the rainbow. If painting on a window or patio door, the dried paint comes off easily with soap and water, or you can scrape it off with a razor edge. Be careful, though, the colored water will stain carpets. (Teach the shape, "arc")

Green Finger Paint: mix 3 TBSP sugar and ½ cup cornstarch in medium saucepan. Put over low heat, adding 2 cups water and stirring constantly until mixture clears and thickens. Remove from heat. Add green food coloring and clear or green liquid dish soap – just a squirt or two. Let cool until child can safely touch it. Child can finerpaint on freezer paper, fingerpaint paper, a glass window, or the door of the shower. Food coloring may stain clothing and carpeting, so protect the area and have child wear a smock.

Leprechaun Mischief: Read Jack and the Leprechaun to your child before napttime. While child sleeps, make a small mess in the play area or living room. Tip over a chair, put a picture or book on the floor, etc. Sprinkle a little gold glitter around, like a leprechaun was there causing mischief. Hide a small pot with gold foil wrapped candies in it. When child awakes, guide him to

laugh at the mischief the leprechaun caused, and help him to clean up the little mess. When he finds the pot of candy prize, serve it with a glass of milk.

Clothing Color Match: Talk to your child about the color green. Show him something green – a green washcloth perhaps. Help him look through his closet to find other green items – a green tee shirt, or green socks, green sweater, hat, jeans – whatever he might own that is green. Help him to wear green on St. Patrick's Day. Explain that St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, and Ireland is called "the emerald isle". Emerald is a bright green color. That is why we wear green on St. Patrick's Day. If your child doesn't own anything green, let him wear one of your green shirts, or let him color a green badge to tape to his shirt for the day.

Rainbow Paintings: repeat the marble painting activity, using all the colors of the rainbow. Place a sheet of white paper in the bottom of a 9x13 cake pan. Squirt small amounts of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple on the paper in a random pattern. Add one or two marbles. Let child gently tilt the pan to drag the marbles through the paint until he achieves a desired result. Marble pictures are often very pretty, instead of the muddy mush children often make when painting with brushes. Allow picture to dry, then display in your home. With very young children, use a large marble or small rubber ball. Watch, so they do not try to put the marble or ball in their mouth.

**St. Patrick's Day: Monday**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Concepts: Pp, arc, rainbow, three.

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words & concepts. Teach 1 song, review others.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Play lotto. Could make a St. Patrick's Day lotto board with stickers.
8:15	Free Play: Set out props in dramatic play, blocks, music, & books areas.
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside time
11:15	Project: Green Mush
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash hands
3:15	Snack: Green is Delicious!
3:30	Outside time
4:30	Table Time: practice cutting, or worksheet 1.
4:45	Project: Shamrock Shapes
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journals
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed

**St. Patrick's Day: Tuesday**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Concepts: Pp, arc, rainbow, three.

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words & concepts. Teach 1 song, review others.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Puzzles
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside time
11:15	Project: Shamrock Shapes
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time
4:30	Table Time: Sort by color, or worksheet 2.
4:45	Project: Rainbow and the Pot of Gold window art
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journals
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

**St. Patrick's Day: Wednesday**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Concepts: Pp, arc, rainbow, three.

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words & concepts. Teach 1 song, review others.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Playdough
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside
11:15	Project: Green Fingerpaint
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle- Read Jack and the Leprechaun today!
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time
4:30	Table Time: vocabulary flashcards, or worksheet 3
4:45	Project: Leprechaun Mischief
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journals
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

**St. Patrick's Day: Thursday**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Concepts: Pp, arc, rainbow, three.

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words & concepts. Teach 1 song, review others.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Lacing Cards
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside
11:15	Project: Clothing Color Match activity
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time
4:30	Table Time: string beads, or worksheet 4.
4:45	Project: Finish the Green Mush activity, adding the water.
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journal
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

**St. Patrick's Day: Friday**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Concepts: Pp, arc, rainbow, three.

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words & concepts. Teach 1 song, review others.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities (scissors practice/colorforms/tiddlywinks/discovery/sensory play)
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Child picks up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside
11:15	Project: Rainbow Paintings
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside
4:30	Table Time: playdough, or worksheet 5.
4:45	Project: Explore Nature, cont. Make bookmarks from pressed shamrock or clover leaves.
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher, Journal
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.



Worksheet 1

How Many?



Three three



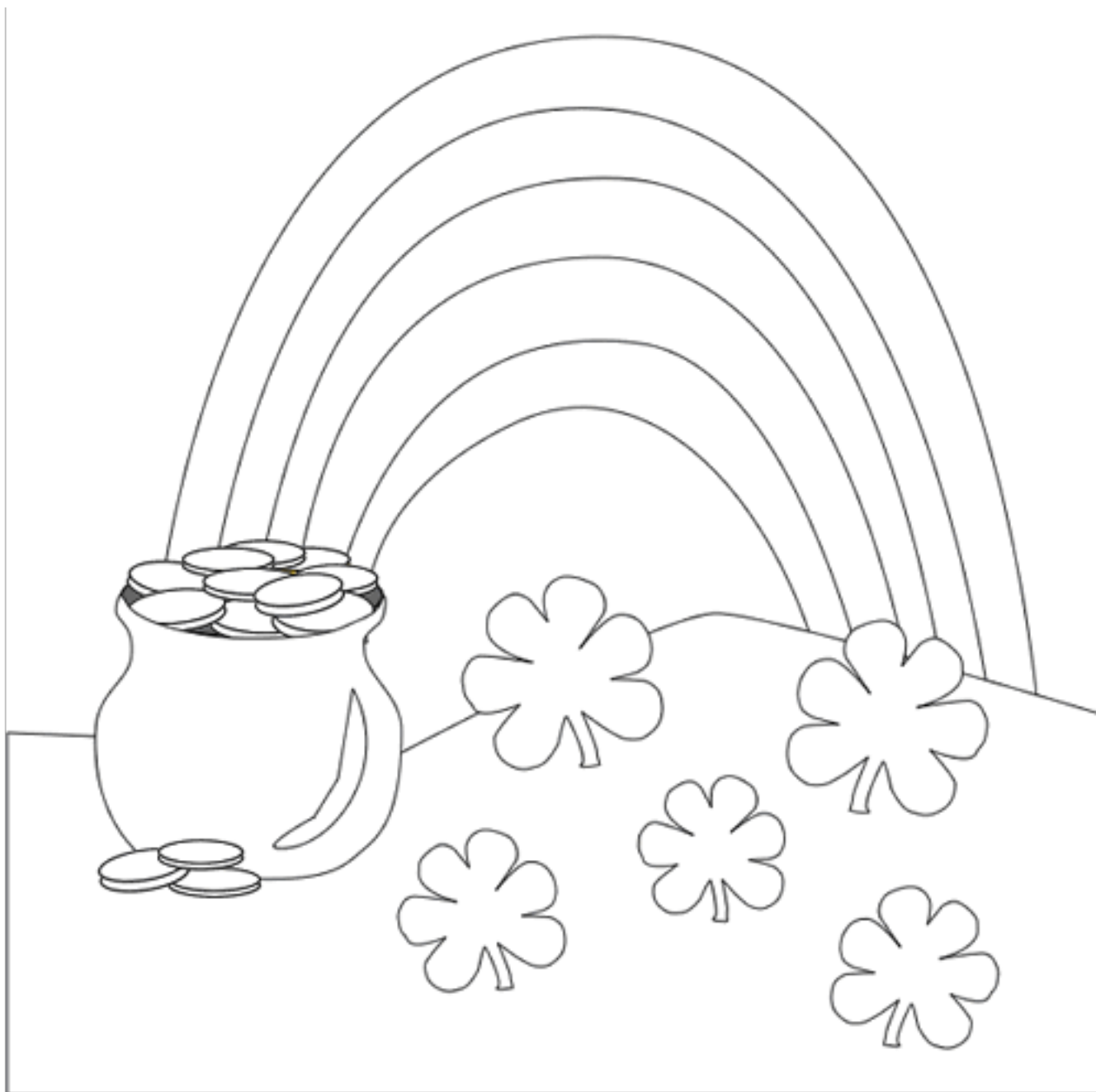
Three three



P is for Saint

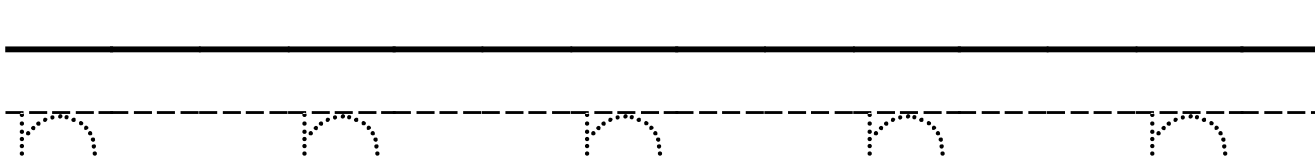
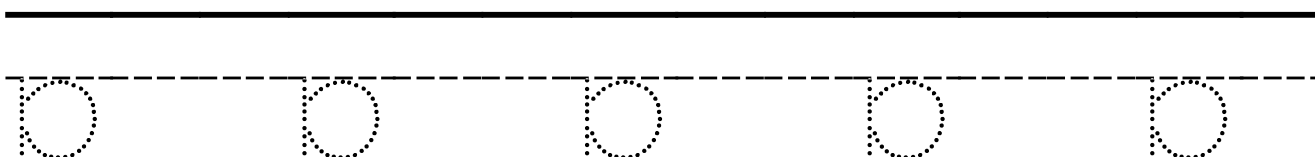
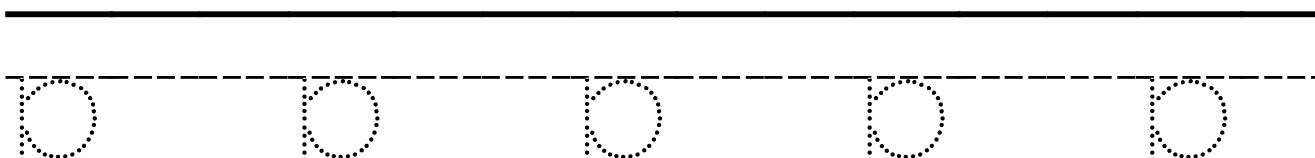
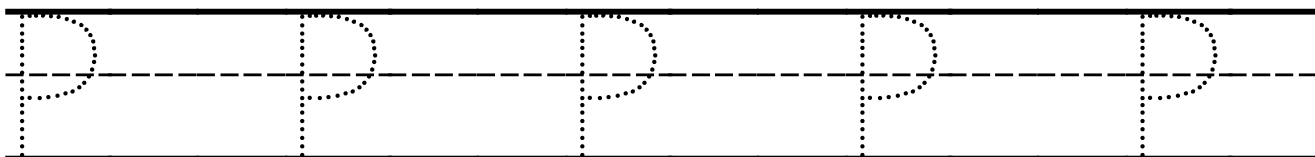
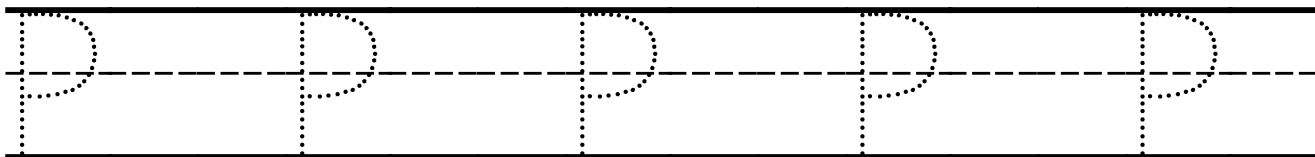
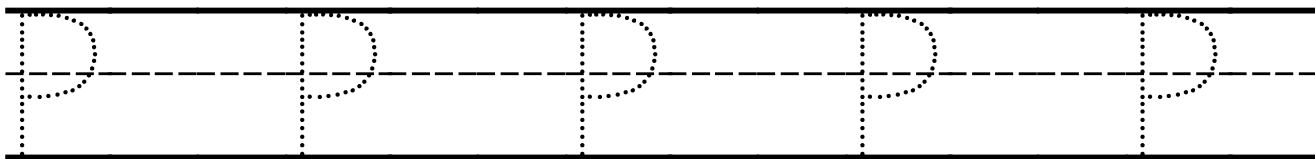
Patrick.

Free coloring page from mommygaga.com



rainbow

Printing practice:



Cutting practice: Cut the arcs.

