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Monday, December 26



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## Dino Dance

By Phyllis Naegeli

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So long ago  
And late at night  
The Dinos came  
All dressed in white

And blue and green  
And sequins too  
Their way was lit  
By the bright moon

They came in pairs  
They came in lines  
They walked in groups  
They swang on vines

They went on to  
The secret place  
And there they danced  
To quite a pace

They twirled and jumped  
So high and light  
They danced, they played  
Oh what a sight

T-Rex did a pretty jig  
Stegosaurus flipped his wig



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Pteradon loved disco tunes  
As he danced under the moon

Smiling laughing Allosaurus  
boogied down with quite a ruckus

Oviraptor was a sight  
in his tutu pink and bright

When the dawn came  
They all did roam  
Dancing along  
The slow trek home

And as they went  
They hummed the songs  
They danced and danced  
To all night long

Dino Dance

## **Questions**

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- \_\_\_ 1. When did the dinosaurs dance?
- A. at lunchtime
  - B. in the morning
  - C. at night
  - D. in the afternoon

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\_\_\_\_ 2. Where did they dance?

- A. at the mall
- B. in the dance hall
- C. at home
- D. at the secret place

\_\_\_\_ 3. What dance did T-Rex do?

- A. the waltz
- B. He didn't dance.
- C. the jig
- D. ballet

4. Which two words rhyme in the third stanza?

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5. What was Oviraptor wearing?

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\_\_\_\_ 6. What did they do on the way home?

- A. cried
- B. hummed the songs
- C. nothing
- D. laughed

\_\_\_\_ 7. What color was Oviraptor's tutu?

- A. pink
- B. green
- C. white
- D. blue

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Which dinosaur loved disco tunes?
- A. Stegosaurus
  - B. T-Rex
  - C. Pteradon
  - D. Allosaurus

## War Beneath the Waves - Wolfpacks, Hunters, and Hedgehogs

By Toni Lee Robinson

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Human beings have long wanted to travel through the sea as well as on top of it. Many people toyed with the idea of a sub (under) marine (sea) ship. Such a ship would be a big plus in case of war at sea. But how would you make it work? Human lungs must have air. How do you breathe underwater? Besides that, how would you get the craft to sink and then to come back up? How would it move through the water?



The first designs for such a craft appeared in the 1500s. Inventors tried to solve the problems of air supply and movement. A type of sub called Turtle was built in 1776. It was used in the Revolutionary War. It didn't quite work the way it was supposed to. Still, it may have caused the British to loosen their blockade of the U.S. coast. In the Civil War, a Union ship was sunk by the Rebel sub Hunley. By World War I, fleets of diesel powered subs were in use.

In World War II, subs played a big cat-and-mouse game under the sea. Each side had worked hard to design a more deadly submarine. German subs were called *U-boats*. These sly predators cruised the ocean, hunting for Allied ships. U-boats spent most of their time on the surface of the water. Topside, they could run on their diesel engines. They could also recharge the batteries that powered the boat underwater.

When a target was spotted, the U-boat submerged. A *periscope* allowed the pilot to see above the water. Hidden under the waves, the boat would slip silently up to its target. Then came the attack. A *torpedo* (underwater missile) was fired into the ship. The missile blasted through the hull, tearing the ship open. Fires broke out in many places. Sailors were dumped into the icy water.

Many men were lost in the U-boat attacks. Many shiploads of much needed supplies were sent to the bottom of the ocean. In 1942, Allied



shipping lost 1,150 vessels to sub attacks. Something had to be done. Supply ships began to band together with naval vessels. Hundreds of ships traveled in these convoys. *Destroyers* (warships) guarded the flock of ships.

When U-boats attacked, the warships fought back. They fired depth charges into the water. These devices were little more than cans of explosives. They were set to go off at a certain depth. It was hard to make a direct hit with the charges. A nearby blast could shake a sub apart. Usually, though, subs passed through the blasts with little damage. Ships also used hedgehog bombs against U-boats. This weapon was actually a series of bombs. They stuck up from their launcher like spiky quills. The hedgehogs proved more deadly than depth charges.

To protect themselves, ships needed to know when the U-boats were prowling about. *Sonar* and *radar* were new at the time. They were quickly developed and installed in ships and subs. Sonar used sound waves to find underwater objects. It usually wasn't clear what the sound waves had found. It could be an enemy sub or a whale. But operators knew when something was "out there." Radar was a lot like sonar. Radar used bouncing radio waves to detect objects. It could spot subs running on the surface.

These tools made it much harder for U-boats to sneak up on ships. Fewer ships were lost to U-boat attacks. Instead, many U-boats were sunk. Germany didn't give up its submarine war, though. Hitler stepped up the attacks. He sent the subs out in groups called *Wolfpacks*. One pack of forty U-boats attacked a group of 100 ships. Within hours, twenty-one ships were sunk.

The Allies worked hard to stop the *Wolfpacks*. In secret back rooms, people worked night and day to break German codes. Decoded messages told the Allies where U-boats lurked. The Allies also formed their own packs. They were called *Hunter-Killer Task Groups*. Hunting down U-boats was their full time job. The groups were made up of warships. Most of them were heavily armed destroyer escorts. These were light, fast ships. They were perfect for hunting subs. Aircraft carriers provided



planes. The fighters ranged far and wide, searching vast stretches of ocean. Pilot spotters and radar were used to locate U-boats. The escorts then fired on the subs. Many were hit and sunk.

The submarine game began to look a little different. Now, the dreaded U-boats had become the prey. The Task Groups made a big difference in the war beneath the waves. Convoys of Allied ships now came and went with little problem. In 1944, one of the Hunter groups captured a U-boat. Its crew became prisoners of war. The U.S. military studied the boat known as U-505. The sub was a treasure trove of military secrets.

After the war, U-505 was moved to Chicago. It is now on exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry. It is kept in memory of 55,000 American sailors who died in World Wars I and II.

## War Beneath the Waves - Wolfpacks, Hunters, and Hedgehogs

### Questions

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1. What brought about the development of submarines?  
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\_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_ 2. When was the first recorded use of a submarine in war?
  - A. In the American Revolution
  - B. In the Spanish-American War.
  - C. In the Civil War
  - D. In the French Revolution
  
- \_\_\_ 3. U-boats spent most of their time underwater because the engines needed water to run.
  - A. False
  - B. True

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\_\_\_\_\_ 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ allowed the sub crew to see above the water while submerged.

- A. Periscope
- B. Sonar
- C. Diesel engines
- D. Radar

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. The main weapon fired by U-boats to sink ships was:

- A. Nuclear bombs
- B. Hedgehog bombs
- C. Torpedoes
- D. Depth charges

6. Name and describe the ways ships used to defend themselves against U-boats.

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7. How did sonar and radar help in the war against the U-boats?

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8. Explain what happened to U-505. Where is it now? Why?

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## A Gingerbread House

By Mary L. Bushong

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Dan was a gingerbread boy. Nan was a gingerbread girl. They had a gingerbread dog named Sugar. They had a gingerbread cat named Spice.

Dan and Nan had no home. They wanted to make one. They wanted a gingerbread house.

Dan and Nan made gingerbread. They made lots of gingerbread. They made gingerbread for the walls. They made gingerbread for the door. They even made a gingerbread roof!



One day, they made the house. It was hard work. Nan and Dan looked at it. It was a nice house. Sugar the dog liked it. Spice the cat liked it.

The fence was made of candy canes. They were very pretty. The flowers were gum drops. They were red, pink and blue.

Nan was glad. She liked the house. She liked the flowers.

Dan was glad. He liked the house. He liked the candy cane fence.

They were all happy. They had a house to live in.

"It is time to eat," said Dan. "What can we eat?"

"Not the house!" cried Nan.

"But it looks so good," said Dan.

Nan got mad. "You cannot eat the house!" she said.

"I know," said Dan with a grin. "Our home is too nice to eat."

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Nan was not mad now. She gave Dan a hug. "Let us go to the shop. We can get some food there. Our house will stay nice."

## A Gingerbread House

### Questions

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1. What were Dan and Nan made of?

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\_\_\_ 2. What was the dog's name?

- A. Fido
- B. Sugar
- C. Spice
- D. Candy

\_\_\_ 3. What was the cat's name?

- A. Boots
- B. Spice
- C. Mittens
- D. Sugar

4. What was the house made of?

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\_\_\_\_ 5. What did they use to make the fence?

- A. Peppermint sticks
- B. Gum Drops
- C. Bubble gum
- D. Candy canes

6. What did Nan like best?

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7. Why would it be bad to eat the house?

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8. Where did they get food to eat?

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## Nosebleeds

By Jennifer Kenny

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Ellen was in school. She had a bad cold. She let out a big sneeze. Her nose started to bleed. Her teacher helped her to pinch her nose. A buddy brought her to the nurse.



"What's up?" the nurse said.

"Ellen has a nosebleed," her buddy said.

"How did it start?" the nurse asked.

"I sneezed," Ellen said.

"You sound like you have a cold," the nurse said.

"I do," Ellen said.

"That's what caused it," the nurse said. "Let's stop it."

"How?" Ellen asked.

The nurse had Ellen sit up. She gave her a damp cloth to catch the blood. She had Ellen tip her head forward. She had Ellen pinch the soft part of her nose for ten minutes. The nosebleed stopped.

"All better," Ellen said. "Why did you ask how it started?"

The nurse said, "If you had been hurt, I would get you to the doctor right away."

"What if it didn't stop bleeding?" Ellen asked.

"Then I would have called the doctor. I always pinch the nose for ten minutes and check. Then I would try again for ten minutes. If it did not stop

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by then, I always check with the doctor," the nurse said. "I also check with the doctor if the person is dizzy or faints. I would check if the person lost a lot of blood. I would check if you started new medicine. I would check if you had funny bruises, too. You didn't so you will be just fine."

"Why did my nose bleed?" Ellen asked.

"It happens when the little blood vessels in your nose bleed. Some kids pick their noses. Some little kids put things in their noses. Colds with sneezes and coughs and lots of blowing your nose can make them bleed. If the air inside your home is dry and heated it can dry your nose and make it bleed," the nurse said.

"Will it happen again?" Ellen asked.

"It might," the nurse said. "For some it happens once in a while. For others it happens a lot. It often looks worse than it is. It does feel messy and scary, though."

"Can I stop it from coming back?" Ellen asked.

"I'm sure you will be better when your cold goes away. If you find your nose is dry or itchy a lot, you can ask your parents about a nose spray, or a special jelly, or a special thing that will mist your room. Those things help a lot," the nurse said.

"OK," Ellen said.

"Now let's get you cleaned up," the nurse said.

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## Nosebleeds

### Questions

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- \_\_\_ 1. Where was Ellen when her nose started to bleed?
- A. in the nurse's office
  - B. in the mall
  - C. in the bank
  - D. in her class
- \_\_\_ 2. What did the nurse have Ellen do?
- A. Blow her nose.
  - B. Tip her head back.
  - C. Lie down.
  - D. Sit up.
- \_\_\_ 3. How long did Ellen pinch her nose to stop the nosebleed?
- A. 15 minutes
  - B. 20 minutes
  - C. 5 minutes
  - D. 10 minutes
- \_\_\_ 4. What would the nurse do if Ellen's nose was still bleeding after 20 minutes?
- A. Lie down.
  - B. Call the doctor.
  - C. Keep trying
- \_\_\_ 5. What caused Ellen's nosebleed?
- A. picking her nose
  - B. a cold
  - C. putting something in her nose
  - D. dry air

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- \_\_\_ 6. Which does not keep nosebleeds away?
- A. misting your room
  - B. special jelly to keep your nose less dry
  - C. picking your nose
  - D. nose spray