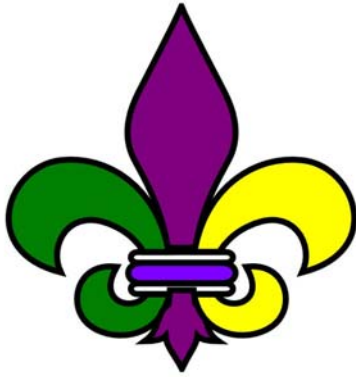


Name \_\_\_\_\_



## The Mardi Gras Doubloon Tradition

In the vibrant city of New Orleans, Mardi Gras was the most anticipated time of the year. Colorful parades, lively music, and delicious food filled the streets, but for one young child named Emma, Mardi Gras held a special meaning beyond the festivities.

One sunny Mardi Gras morning, as Emma watched the parade go by, a kind stranger handed her a shiny doubloon with a cheerful smile. Emma's heart swelled with gratitude, and she couldn't help but wonder if she could spread kindness like this too.

Inspired by the gesture, Emma decided to start a tradition of her own. She painted a handful of doubloons in bright, cheerful colors and carried them with her throughout the day. Instead of collecting beads, she would exchange her colorful doubloons for acts of kindness from strangers.

Emma's first exchange happened at a bustling café. She gave her doubloon to the person behind her in line, and in return, the person paid for Emma's beignets. Emma's smile was as sweet as the powdered sugar on her treat.

Word of Emma's tradition quickly spread, and people all over the city started following her lead. The doubloons became symbols of goodwill, and acts of kindness multiplied like ripples in a pond. Strangers helped each other cross busy streets, shared umbrellas in the rain, and offered encouraging words to those in need.

As Mardi Gras festivities continued, Emma's idea grew into a movement. People painted their own doubloons and joined the tradition, passing on kindness to others. The spirit of generosity filled the city, making Mardi Gras an even more heartwarming celebration.

On the final day of Mardi Gras, Emma looked around at the joyous faces and knew that her small act of kindness had created something beautiful. The tradition of exchanging doubloons for acts of kindness had transformed the spirit of Mardi Gras, reminding everyone that the greatest treasure of all was the kindness in their hearts.

