

Name _____

Tall Tales

Johnny Appleseed

Once upon a time, in a land filled with rolling hills and sparkling streams, there lived a man named Johnny Appleseed. Johnny wasn't his real name-it was actually John Chapman-but everyone called him Johnny Appleseed because of what he loved most in the world: planting apple trees.

Johnny was no ordinary man. He wore a tin pot on his head instead of a hat, and he walked everywhere barefoot, no matter how hot the summer sun or how cold the winter snow. People whispered that Johnny had magic in his step, for wherever he went, apple trees seemed to spring up overnight.

One day, Johnny arrived in a little village where the soil was dry, and the people were struggling to grow food. The villagers greeted Johnny with curious stares. "Who are you, and why do you carry that bag of seeds?" a young boy asked.

"I'm Johnny Appleseed," he replied with a twinkle in his eye. "And these seeds? They're my treasure. They grow into apple trees that give shade, food, and joy."

Johnny stayed in the village for several days, planting seeds and teaching the villagers how to care for the trees. He told them stories about the future-how the apple trees would bloom with pink flowers in spring and grow sweet, juicy apples in the fall.

Years later, the once-dry village had become a lush orchard filled with rows and rows of apple trees. The villagers never forgot the man with the tin pot hat who showed them the magic of planting seeds. And from that day on, they always shared apples with anyone who passed by, just as Johnny Appleseed had shared his kindness with them.

