

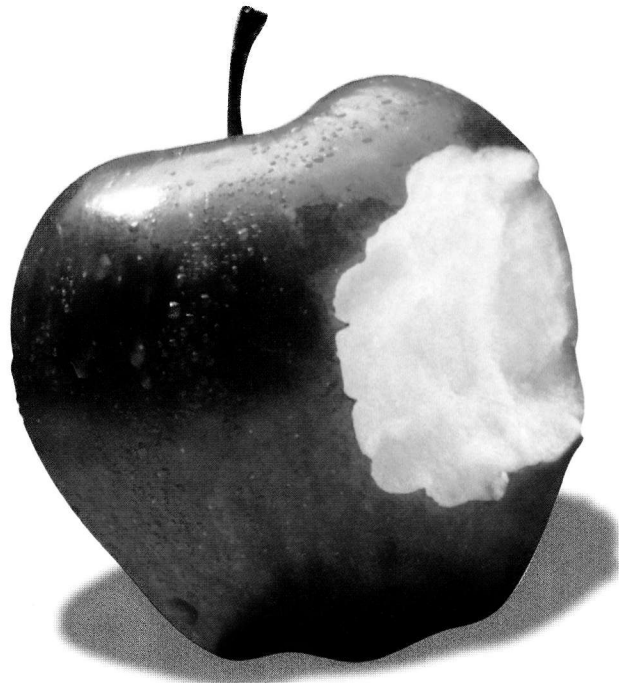
# •The Apple Man•

by Andy Gorr



JOHNNY APPLESEED.

- <sup>1</sup> *A legend is a story of an important person or hero. A legend is told over and over again. Sometimes parts of legends may be true. Some parts become larger than life.*
- <sup>2</sup> Some folks are just plain folks. Some are legends. One such person is John Chapman. John Chapman was born near Boston in 1774. Not much is known about John as a child.
- <sup>3</sup> Many stories are told about John as an adult. He headed west when he was twenty-five years old. Legend says that John walked everywhere. He had bare feet. He wore a pot on his head. Maybe he did. Maybe he didn't. No one is sure what he wore. He probably did have a pot for cooking, but why would he wear it on his head? That would not feel good.
- <sup>4</sup> The stories also say that John scattered apple seeds everywhere he went. However, he really planted the seeds in his own orchards. Then he gave or sold trees to settlers that came to the area later. Every fall he collected seeds so he could plant some more.
- <sup>5</sup> In another story, John got caught in a snowstorm. He found a hollow tree and crawled in. Inside were a bear and her cubs. They were sleeping there. John spent the night in the tree too. The bears never bothered him.
- <sup>6</sup> We may never know just what is true and what isn't true about John Chapman. We do know he was a kind man and many people liked him. We also know him better as Johnny Appleseed.



## COMPREHENSION

**A** Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a* or *b*.

- 1 This story is mostly about
  - a John Chapman.
  - b legends.
- 2 We don't know much about John Chapman as a child because
  - a he didn't know anyone at that time.
  - b not much was written about him at that time.
- 3 If John had *not* collected seeds in the fall, he would
  - a not have more seeds to plant in the spring.
  - b have to plant pear trees.

- 4 John went into the hollow tree to
  - a show he wasn't afraid of bears.
  - b get out of the snowstorm.
- 5 We may never know what is true or *not* true about John Chapman because
  - a no one who knew him is still alive.
  - b he lives far away.

## LEARN ABOUT WORDS

**B** Often you can find out the meaning of a word by seeing how it is used in a story. The other words in the story give you clues.

Find the word in the story that best fits each meaning. (A paragraph number tells you where to look.) Write the word.

- 1 people (2)
- 2 story about a hero or important person (3)
- 3 thrown without care (4)
- 4 areas of land where fruit trees are grown (4)
- 5 having an empty space inside (5)

**C** Read the words you wrote. Which one best fits in each sentence below? Write the word.

- 6 The \_\_\_\_\_ log was home to many creatures.
- 7 Your teacher may tell you the \_\_\_\_\_ of John Henry.
- 8 There are many apple \_\_\_\_\_ all over the United States.
- 9 John Chapman talked to all kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ during his travels.
- 10 The barking dog scared the crows, and they \_\_\_\_\_.

## THINK ABOUT IT

**D** A fact is something that is true. An opinion is what someone thinks.

**Fact:** Mrs. Lopez is a teacher.

**Opinion:** I think she is good.

Read each sentence. Is it a fact or an opinion? Write *Fact* if it is a fact. Write *Opinion* if it is an opinion.

- 1 John Chapman planted many apple seeds.
- 2 Johnny Appleseed was a good person.
- 3 Apples are a healthful snack.
- 4 Apples taste delicious.
- 5 Johnny Appleseed lived many years ago.

**E** earth + quake = earthquake

The word *earthquake* means "a shaking of the ground." *Earthquake* is a compound word. A compound word is made by putting two or more words together.

Look at the two words in **bold type**. Put the two words together to complete the second sentence. Write the compound word.

- 6 The apple trees will grow well in the **light** of the **sun**. \_\_\_\_\_ is necessary for all plants.
- 7 John found a place to camp before the **sun** would **set**. He enjoyed seeing a brilliant \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 At his **camp** he would build a **fire** on which to cook. His \_\_\_\_\_ also helped keep him warm.
- 9 A lot of **snow** fell during the **storm**. John slept in a hollow tree to get out of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10 Maybe John liked to make **sauce** out of an **apple**. After dinner he would eat \_\_\_\_\_.