



Somerville Oak

SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

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Popular Pages: 'The Witches'

British author Roald Dahl invented many whimsical tales for children, including this 1983 classic about a little boy whose grandmother teaches him all about evil witches and how to spot them. While on vacation at a fancy hotel, the boy stumbles upon a meeting of witches and learns of their plan to hide a magic potion in chocolate that will turn children into mice! It's up to the boy and his grandma to turn the tables on the witches and save the world's innocent boys and girls from falling into their trap.



Smile!

Put on a happy face on World Smile Day, the first Friday in October. Research shows that the simple act of smiling can help strengthen the immune system and reduce blood pressure, pain and stress.

'Story' Is One

How many words can you come up with using the letters in "mystery novel"?

October 2024

Get Wise About Owls

Mysterious and a little spooky, owls have captured our imaginations since ancient times. These birds have features that may make your head spin!

- An owl can turn its head almost all the way around without moving its body. Unique bones in the bird's neck allow it to twist to the left or the right 270 degrees.
- Owls need this ability because they can't move their large eyes, their most notable trait. Working like binoculars, an owl's eyes are tube-shaped and fixed in place.
- They're known for their hooting calls, but some owls hiss, whistle, growl or bark.
- Owls have such sensitive hearing, they can detect a mouse under snow.
- Thanks to their broad wings and thick feathers that muffle noise, the birds barely make a sound when flying.
- Most owls are active at night, giving us the expression "night owl."
- Owls are zygodactyl, meaning their feet have two toes that face forward and two that face backward. That trait, along with their sharp talons, gives them a powerful grip.
- Why are owls considered wise and used to symbolize knowledge? In Greek mythology, Athena, the goddess of wisdom, was often depicted with owls.
- At about 5 inches, the elf owl is the tiniest owl species. Compare that to the great gray owl, which can be over 30 inches tall.
- In Japan, there are owl cafes, where you can hang out with the birds while drinking tea.

