

TRIXIE
BELDEN



MYSTERY

FAN CLUB

SIX NEW BOB-WHITE ADVENTURES AVAILABLE NOW!

If you haven't already added the six latest Trixie Belden mysteries to your collection, what are you waiting for? Trixie and the gang face six of the most baffling cases they've ever encountered. Don't miss 'em!

**#29
THE MYSTERY OF THE VELVET GOWN**

Di has the lead in the annual freshman play, and all the Bob-Whites pitch in to help out. But someone seems intent on sabotaging the play. Who could it be—and why? Trixie *must* find out, before it's too late. . . .

**#30
THE MYSTERY OF THE MIDNIGHT MARAUDER**

Spray-painted messages are the trademark left at scenes of crimes committed by the mysterious Midnight Marauder. Worse, the finger of suspicion points right at Trixie's brother Mart, who has been acting very strangely. . . . Can Trixie clear her brother's name and expose the real culprit behind the crime wave in Sleepyside?

**#31
MYSTERY AT MAYPENNY'S**

Conflict is rife in the usually peaceful Sleepyside over a furniture company's plans to expand. The issue of environmental land preservation versus big business and much-needed jobs threatens to tear the community apart, pitting neighbor against neighbor, friend against friend, father against son. Besides all this, Trixie finds herself involved in a puzzling mystery. . . .

**#32
THE MYSTERY OF THE WHISPERING WITCH**

Is Lisgard House haunted by the ghost of Sarah Sligo, a woman who was burned as a witch in eighteenth-century Sleepyside? Trixie is skeptical, but to her horror, she discovers that a classmate, Fay Franklin, believes herself to be possessed by Sarah Sligo's spirit—and Fay is terrified that she will be compelled to carry out the witch's awful revenge!



**#33
THE MYSTERY OF THE VANISHING VICTIM**

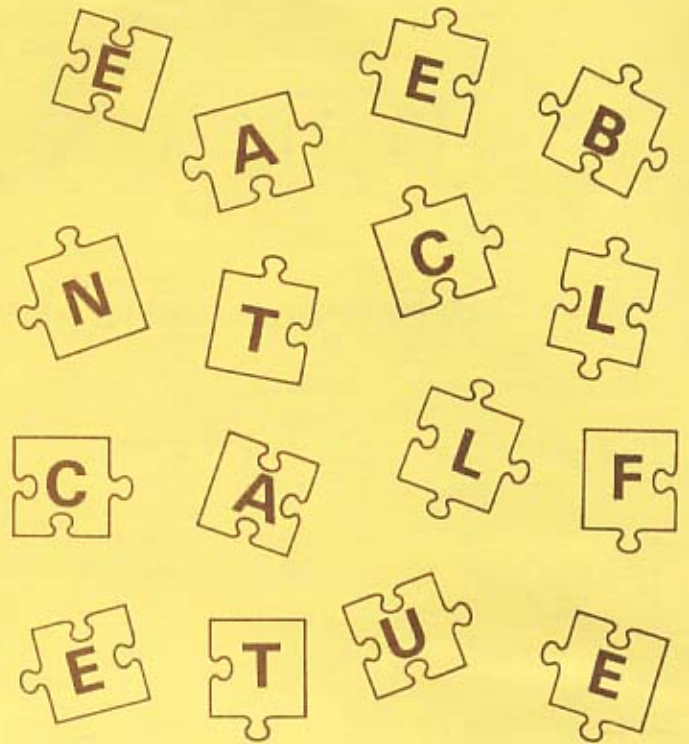
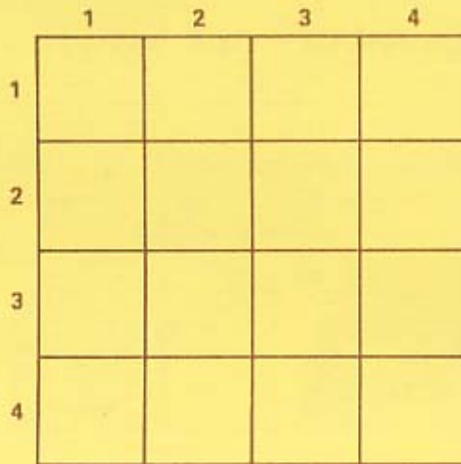
The Bob-Whites witness a hit-and-run accident in which a mysterious stranger is run down in the street—but Trixie thinks it was no accident. When the victim disappears from his hospital bed, Trixie and Honey follow the trail of a mystery involving antique cars, a secret invention—and a fiendish extortion plot!

**#34
THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING MILLIONAIRE**

Trixie and Honey become involved in the mysterious disappearance of Laura Ramsey's millionaire father when they find the missing man's wallet. Is Mr. Ramsey lying injured somewhere, unable to contact his daughter? Or is the explanation even more sinister? Laura suspects her father's greedy partner, and the Bob-Whites begin to think she's right when they discover they're being followed wherever they go. . . .

DO-IT-IN-YOUR-HEAD CROSSWORD PUZZLE

This crossword puzzle is in the form of a cut-up jigsaw puzzle. Solve it (without cutting out the pieces) by writing the letter for each piece at the right in the correct square below. When you finish, you will see that the first word is what Trixie gets when she follows up on the third word, and that the second and fourth words describe Trixie well. (Hint: Start with the corner squares.) See page 4 for the answers.)



TRIXIE'S PUMPKIN SEEDS

Trixie isn't the world's greatest cook, but she has become an expert at roasting pumpkin seeds. They're one of her favorite snacks—and the rest of the Belden family share her enthusiasm (especially Mart!). What could be tastier on a chilly autumn evening than warm, crispy pumpkin seeds with a glass of cold, tangy apple cider? So go ahead and try Trixie's recipe! (You might want to ask a more experienced cook for help with the baking.)

1. Scoop out the insides of a pumpkin and separate the seeds from the pulp. (Bake or boil the pumpkin and use it in pie, bread, or cookies.)
2. Wash the seeds and soak them overnight in a salt water mixture. (How much water and salt you use depends on how many seeds you want to roast, but figure roughly 2 heaping teaspoons of salt to 1 quart of water, added to a quart jar half-filled with seeds.)
3. Drain and rinse the seeds, then pat them dry.
4. Spread the seeds in a *single layer* on cookie sheets.
5. Dribble melted butter or margarine over them.
6. Bake at 350° for about 25 minutes. (Baking times will vary: Seeds are done when they're crisp and have turned a deep golden brown in color.)
7. Turn the seeds several times during baking.
8. Sprinkle lightly while still hot with garlic, onion, seasoned, or plain salt.

Now, enjoy!

CAN YOU CRACK THE CODES?

The words in List A deal with mysteries and detection, while those in List B name the types of criminal activities that the Bob-Whites have encountered in some of their adventures. But watch out! The code for List A is different from the code for List B. To help you get started, one word in each list has been decoded for you.

List A

1. W ^aX ^cW ^cH ^cP ^cO ^cJ
2. B P J P O J R K P
 c l u e
3. O F X P
4. Q X R ^fF J Z
5. K R ^cO J R T
6. ^cO I R T R G N ^fF
7. R G G U ^cO P G J
8. P K R B P G ^cO P

List B

1. M P E W H Z E N
2. Q T P W W H V G W
 a r s o n
3. Z E Q S G
4. E S M M X E N
5. U V L G Z F F V G W
6. D J X K D
7. C Z G L Z H V Q T
8. K E Z P L

ANSWERS ON PAGE 4

"WE GATHER TOGETHER"

Each year on the fourth Thursday in November, families across the United States gather together to celebrate the day with a traditional feast of roast turkey and dressing, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, and a variety of other dishes and delicacies. Schools present plays, churches hold special services, entire towns sponsor festivals and pageants, and the nation's largest city is the site of a spectacular parade. In addition to the feasting and festivities, numerous sporting events mark the day.

The holiday described is, of course, Thanksgiving Day. No other national holiday is considered quite so distinctly American as our annual feast day—and rightly so, since the first Thanksgiving was celebrated by the Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony. Or was it?

When the Pilgrims sat down at their food-laden tables on that late-autumn day in 1621, they were celebrating the success of their first year's harvest. In doing so, they were also carrying on a tradition that was centuries old: the Harvest Festival. Down through the ages, farming cultures (in which survival has depended on the success of the crops) have made a ritual celebration of the reaping of the harvest.

Peoples of ancient times believed that the power of the growing soil was a female force, an "earth mother." When the ancient Egyptians, Syrians, Greeks, and Romans celebrated their harvests, they were paying homage to their own versions of the earth goddess.

There are a number of references to harvest festivals in the Old Testament. One of these is the ancient Hebrew Feast of the Tabernacles, a celebration that went on for seven days!

In medieval times, central Europeans observed the Feast of St. Martin of Tours, or Martinmas, as it has come to be known. The English Harvest Home celebration was less religious in nature.

The Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony would have been horrified at the suggestion that in their thanksgiving celebration of 1621, they were carrying on a tradition that was ages old. Their strict religious beliefs forbade the observance of set holidays. They even considered the celebration of Christmas a corrupt practice. They felt that celebrations should be held when there was a spiritual need or desire for them and should not be dictated by the calendar.

Thus it was that there was no officially proclaimed Thanksgiving Day in this country until 1789, after the Revolutionary War had established the thirteen colonies as a separate nation. One hundred and sixty-seven years after the Pilgrims celebrated their first successful harvest, President George Washington issued the First National Thanksgiving Proclamation, setting Thursday, November 26, 1789, as the day.

There had been regional thanksgiving celebrations between 1621 and 1789, of course, but the specific

dates had been appointed separately by each colony. In some cases, townships changed the date set by the colony to suit their own convenience.

Even after the Washington Proclamation of 1789, Thanksgiving did not become an established national holiday. Later presidents either ignored the holiday or openly disapproved of it, seeing it as a European custom that had no place in a democracy. The governor of New York tried to establish a statewide Thanksgiving Day in 1795, but opposing factions could not agree on a date.

Although Thanksgiving continued to be celebrated on different dates in different regions, the custom of observing it was becoming a strong American tradition. When pioneers began to move west, they took the tradition with them. As the population of the United States spread over an ever-larger area, sentiment toward proclaiming a national Thanksgiving Day began to grow.

Finally, in 1863, 242 years after the Pilgrims celebrated their first harvest, President Abraham Lincoln appointed the last Thursday in November to be a day of thanksgiving across the nation. That he did so was due almost entirely to the efforts of one person, Mrs. Sarah Josepha Hale.

As early as 1827, Mrs. Hale was promoting the idea of a national Thanksgiving holiday. In 1846, when she had been editor of the popular *Godey's Lady's Book* for nine years, Mrs. Hale began an all-out campaign. For the next seventeen years, she wrote countless letters to influential people all over the country and published numerous editorials in autumn issues of *Godey's*—accompanied by special Thanksgiving recipes. During the Civil War, Mrs. Hale continued her efforts, and she may have pled her cause with President Lincoln himself.

Officially, the date for Thanksgiving is still set by proclamation. Each year, for the past one hundred and eighteen years, the president has issued a national Thanksgiving proclamation, and with one exception, the date has always been set on the fourth Thursday in November.

That one exception occurred in 1939, when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt set Thanksgiving on the *third* Thursday in November. He made the change to accommodate merchants who wanted more time for the holiday buying rush between Thanksgiving and Christmas. But the different date was met with such consternation (especially among sports enthusiasts, since Thanksgiving Day football games had already been scheduled for the traditional date) and created such confusion (some families celebrated the holiday on the date set by the president while some stuck with the traditional date) that by 1941, Thanksgiving went back to the fourth Thursday in November and has remained there ever since.

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DO-IT-IN-YOUR-HEAD CROSSWORD ANSWERS

1. fact
2. able
3. clue
4. teen

A QUICKIE QUIZ

While Trixie was preparing her report on Thanksgiving, Mart tried to stump her with this question: "What is the food product, still popular today as a healthful snack, that was unknown to the first Pilgrim settlers in America until it was introduced to them by the Indians?" Trixie gave the right answer immediately. Do you know what it is?

(The food is popcorn. Imagine the delight of the children when they first saw those hard kernels explode into white fluff!)

CAN YOU CRACK THE CODES? ANSWERS

1. suspect
2. detective
3. clue
4. guilty
5. victim
6. criminal
7. innocent
8. evidence

List B

List A

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