

**New Year's**

**TRADITIONS**

**Activity Booklet**



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# Escape Room Game

To escape 2024 you must collect word scramble clues.  
Unscramble the words and use them to write a New  
Year's message to bring back to the Museum  
in **January** for a special 2025 prize!

# AULD LANG SYNE

The poem and song Auld Lang Syne comes from Scotland and was written by a famous poet named Robert Burns. It was composed into a song by Joseph Haydn and made more popular when published in 1792. The title, "Auld Lang Syne," means "old long since" in Scottish, which is a way of saying "days gone by" or "long ago." The song is about remembering old friends, special times from the past, and celebrating the importance of friendship. Today, people often sing it at New Year's Eve to say goodbye to the old year and welcome the new one.



Auld Lang Syne  
compiled by Robert Burns

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld lang syne!

For auld lang syne, my dear,  
For auld lang syne.

We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.

And surely ye'll be your pint stowp!  
And surely I'll be mine!

And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.

We twa hae run about the braes,  
And pou'd the gowans fine;  
But we've wander'd mony a weary fit,  
Sin' auld lang syne.

We twa hae paidl'd in the burn,  
Frae morning sun till dine;  
But seas between us braid hae roar'd  
Sin' auld lang syne.

And there's a hand, my trusty fere!  
And gie's a hand o' thine!

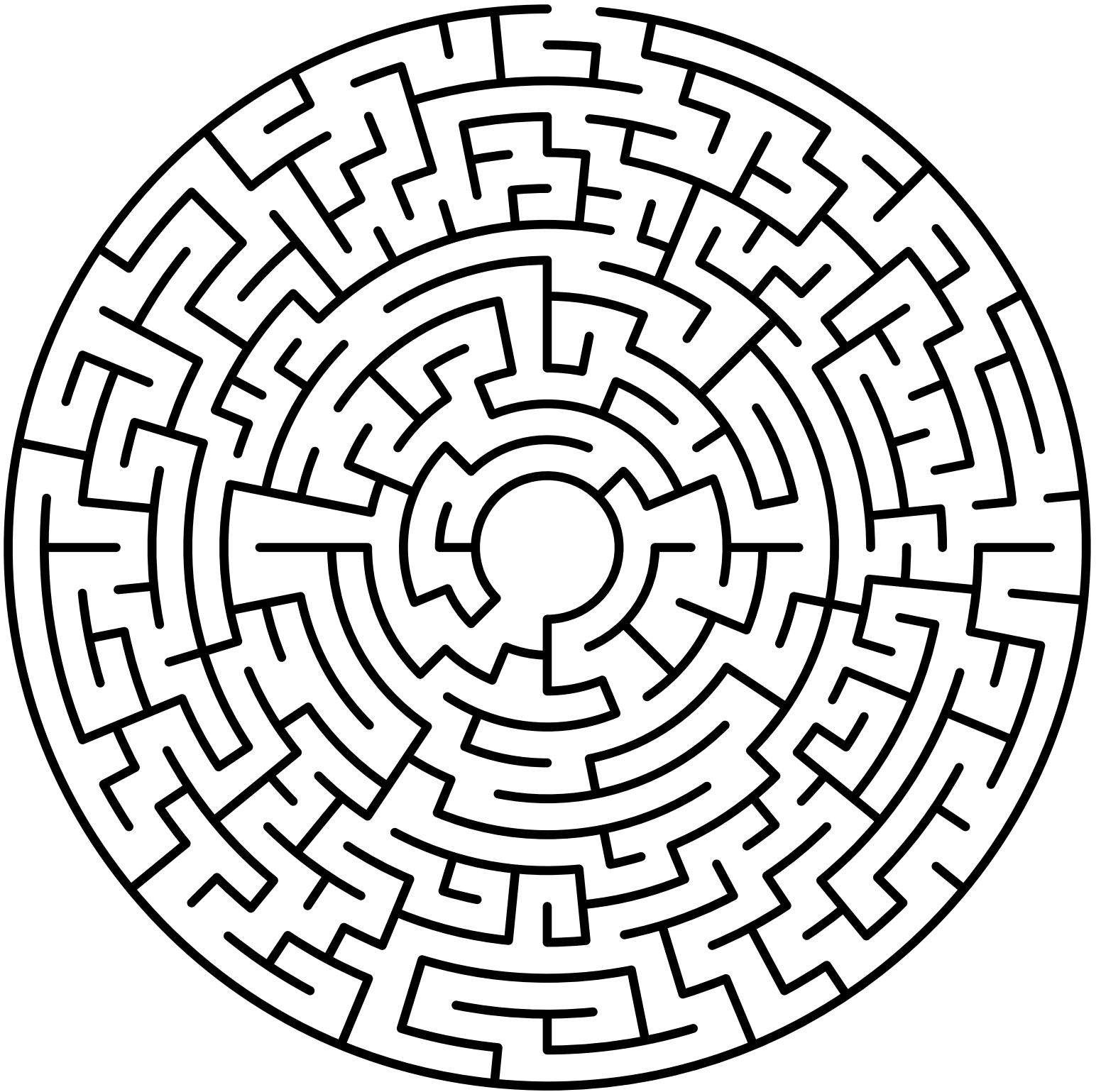
And we'll tak a right gude-willie waught,  
For auld lang syne.





# MAZE

Find your way through the maze.  
Make it to the center and unscramble your clue!



 smumue fo eht peac rfae

# MATCH

Draw a line from the words to the meaning. Check your answers to unscramble your clue.

1-Syne

OLD

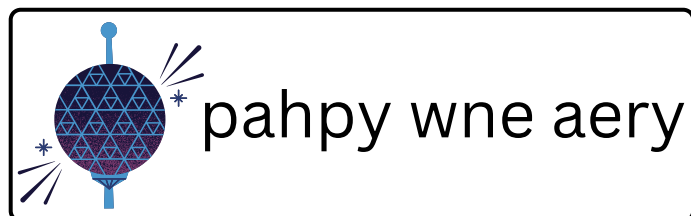
2-Lang

SINCE

3-Auld

LONG

1.Syne-Since  
2.Lang-Long  
3.Auld-Old





# MEMORY

Choose the correct answer to the following multiple-choice questions.  
Check your answers to unscramble your clue.

1. What country is the song *Auld Lang Syne* originally from?
  - a. England
  - b. Austria
  - c. United States
  - d. Scotland
2. *Auld Lang Syne* was written by Robert \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Frost
  - b. Marley
  - c. Burns
  - d. Downey, Jr.
3. What year was *Auld Lang Syne* arranged for publishing?
  - a. 1590
  - b. 1792
  - c. 1854
  - d. 2000

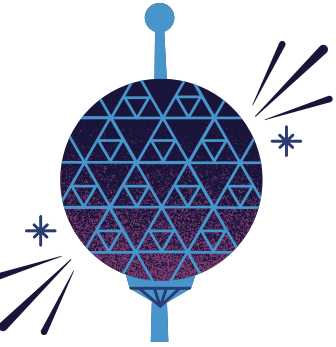
1.d2.c3.b



mfor het

# MESSAGE

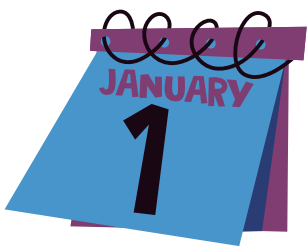
Unscramble the letters from the clues from each page. Match your unscrambled words to the clue pictures to build a message to ESCAPE!



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_



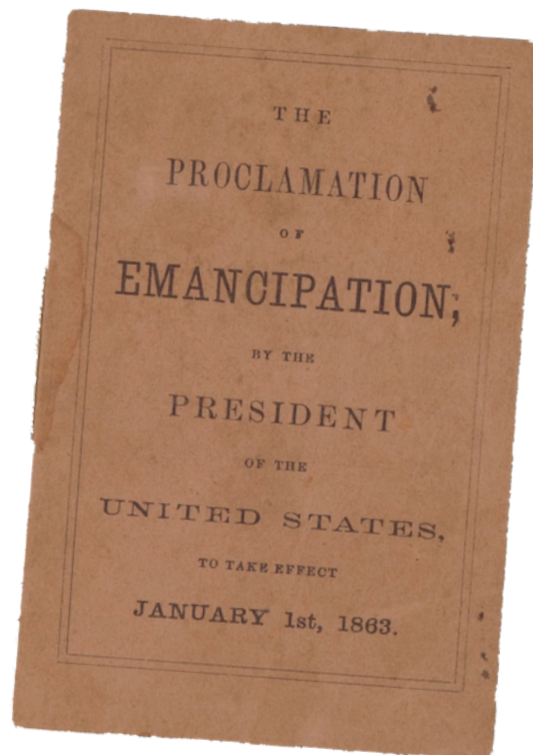
\_\_\_\_\_



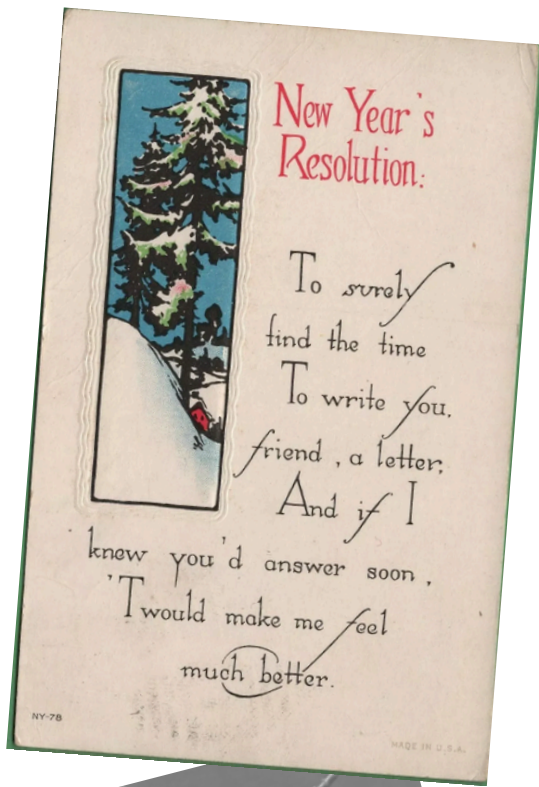


Illust.Of Black Church Ceremony;New Year [Getty Images] (Original Caption) Virginia-  
'De Lord will take care ob de colored folk.' -Seeing the old year out and the new year in-  
Scene in the colored church at Grafton, near Yorktown, during the watch meeting

Black-eyed peas have a special history in Black American culture, especially on New Year's Day. During American slavery enslaved Black people gathered on "Watch Night" on December 31, 1862, to pray and wait for freedom. The next day, January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation was signed, freeing enslaved people in many states. Since then, Watch Night services have been held to welcome the New Year with hope and gratitude. Black-eyed peas are a symbol of good luck and prosperity tracing back to Black American's African roots. Eating them on New Year's Day is a way to honor the past and look forward to the future.



# New Year's Resolutions



The tradition of making New Year's resolutions has been around for a very long time—over 4,000 years! It started with the ancient Babylonians, who made promises to their gods to do good things, like paying back debts or returning things they had borrowed. Later, the Romans continued the tradition, making promises to their god Janus, for whom January is named. Today, people make resolutions as a way to set goals for the new year, like being kinder, working hard, or learning something new. It's a way to start the year with hope and a plan to be your best self!



# New Year's Day Recipe



## Black Eyed Peas Soup

Recipe from Culinary Historian Michael Twitty

### Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 small shallot, chopped
- Kosher salt, ground coriander, kitchen pepper, \*\* several pinches of each
- 1½ pounds collard greens, trimmed from the stalk and sliced into thin, very small strips
- 2 cups chopped fresh heirloom tomatoes, or 14-oz. can chopped plum tomatoes
- 2 teaspoons dried marjoram or oregano, or 2 sprigs of fresh marjoram and oregano
- 2 cans black-eyed peas
- 4 cups vegetable stock

#### \*\*KITCHEN PEPPER

- 2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon ground white pepper
- 1 teaspoon red-pepper flakes
- 1 teaspoon ground mace
- 1 teaspoon ground Saigon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger

### Instructions

In a large Dutch oven, gently heat the olive oil and add the onion, garlic, and shallot. Cook until translucent and fragrant. Add a pinch of kosher salt, a pinch of ground coriander, and a pinch of kitchen pepper. Add the collards and cook for 4–5 minutes. Add the tomatoes and season again with a generous pinch of kosher salt and gentle pinches of coriander and kitchen pepper. Cook slowly until the tomatoes break down into a sauce, about 15 minutes. If using dried herbs, add them at this stage.

Add the peas and vegetable stock to the pot and simmer for 45 minutes. If using fresh herbs, add during this stage, but remember to remove sprigs when it's time to serve. Add final pinches of kosher salt, coriander, and kitchen pepper.

# 2025

# RESOLUTIONS

Think of a goal you want to reach this year, write it down, and list small, easy steps you can take to make it happen!

## Resolution #1

I am making this resolution because:

### Actions Steps

- 1.
- 2.

## Resolution #2

I am making this resolution because:

### Actions Steps

- 1.
- 2.

## Resolution #3

I am making this resolution because:

### Actions Steps

- 1.
- 2.



# New Year's Eve Party Craft

In 1904, The New York Times newspaper celebrated the new year with a huge party with fireworks at their new headquarters building. The city stopped them from doing fireworks the next years, so the newspaper's owner Adolph Ochs commissioned another display which would become the New Year's Eve Ball Drop. In 1907 they lowered a big, glowing ball from a tall flagpole at midnight. The first ball was built by a man named Jacob Starr. The ball he built was made of iron and wood, weighed 700 pounds, and was covered with 100 light bulbs to make it shine in the night sky. People loved watching the ball drop from the flagpole, and it became a tradition. The ball has changed over the years, changing to adapt to newer technology and needs. In the 1980s it was shaped like an apple for New York City's nickname "The Big Apple." Today, the ball is made of sparkling crystals and colorful LED lights!

## DIY New York Ball Drop

Use materials provided to make your own

### Materials

★NOT INCLUDED

- Ball Template
- Markers
- Glitter
- Glue Stick
- Craft Pipe Cleaner
- Stapler\*
- Scissors\*

### Directions

1. Color the different designs and cut out template.
2. Use the glue stick to add glitter to the cut out.
3. Use the glue stick to attach the front and back designs so you end up with 3 total shapes.
4. Fold each in half and then stack them together.
5. Staple the shapes in the middle to attach.
6. Unfold each design to make a 3-D shape and tape to pipe cleaner like New York's New Year's eve ball!

