



LEARN

For over 600 years, history has recorded special days that have been set aside for playing tricks or jokes on one another. In our present day, most people celebrate the first day of April for this kind of silliness. April Fools are the name given to the jokes and the victims of the pranks on April 1.

In Greek Mythology, a daughter of Zeus named Ate (Ah-tee) tricked the thoughts and actions of the mythic gods and creatures to do foolish things.

Ate is the elder daughter of Zeus, the accursed who deludes all; her feet are delicate and they step not on the firm earth, but she walks the air above men's heads and leads them astray.

from Homer's *The Iliad*

Ate even tricked Zeus, then was punished and flung from Mt. Olympus, never allowed to return.

EXPLORE

What makes a good April Fool prank? -

- it is safe
- everyone gets to smile
- you can do it to anyone
- you can do it more than once

What makes a bad April Fool prank?

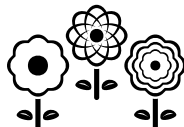
(Ate played mean jokes that got her in trouble)

- it hurts feelings
- it is dangerous
- it hurts or breaks things

Here is a good April Joke to tell

Q: If April showers bring May-flowers, what do Mayflowers bring?

A: Pilgrims!



CREATE

Make a GOOD April Fool Prank
A yummy plate of Brownies

E e E e E e E e

(brown E's)



YOU WILL NEED:

- 1 paper plate
- brown paper or paper to color on for e's and note for top
- brown markers, crayons or paints
- scissors if you want to cut out letters
- glue for attaching letters to plate
- aluminum foil

HOW TO:

- color or cut E's
- glue or color the E's on your paper plate (we used a foam tray from the grocery store)
- cover plate with some aluminum foil
- write a note on top

"Brownies"



Color some letters, then cut and paste or draw your own on a paper plate.

