

# Poet Rainis 12 months

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## The goal of the lesson (integrated with computing)

- To promote literacy;
- To promote understanding of the text that was read;
- To repeat names of the months;
- To find out the names of months in ancient Latvian (explanation of ancient Latvian words)

Grade: 2



# Activities



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- Pupils repeat the names of the months -January, February, etc.,
- Does anyone know which is a month of snow crust? (pupils do not know this and make speculations). The topic of the lesson is discovered – the names of the months in ancient Latvian and their exploration.
- Rainis' poem 12 months is attached to the board, students first read it quietly, then read it together aloud.
- Each child is given a verse from the poem; illustrations of the poem's verses are attached to the board and in different places in the classroom; each of those illustrations reflect one month.
- The student's task is to read the given verse, study the pictures carefully (understand the picture – notice what is depicted in the picture, the nuances) and find a picture that illustrates the verse given to them and stand next to it.



- Those standing next to the same picture agree on the name of a particular month and take the picture.
- Next task – to form a line reflecting order of the year – starting from January and ending with December.
- Sequentially, each read their verse, display the picture, and together make sure whether the right picture was found. Name the month and how it was called in ancient Latvian. Also indicate the words or images in the illustration, the meaning of which is not known. The teacher writes on the board – January – New Year's month, February - Meteni (Shrove Tuesday's) month, etc. And separately note the words, for which an explanation will have to be found.
- All together go to the computer class to use the Internet dictionary tezaurs.lv and other digital resources, find explanations of the unknown words and their illustrations.
- Also create an explanatory dictionary in a shared document – the word to be explained, explanation, illustration.





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**Rainis**

**12 mēneši**

Nu nākat, bērniņi, izstāstāt —  
Ko divpadsmit mēnešus darīsat?

Jaungada mēnesi —  
saņemt skriesim,

Metēņu mēnesī —  
ķekatās iesim,

Sērsnu mēnesi —  
pavasari gaidīsim,

Sulu mēnesi —

Sulas dzīsim.

Lapu mēnesī -

lējot ganos dzīsim,

Ziedu mēnesī —

Jāņiem vaiņagus pīsim,

Siena mēnesī —

sieniņu grābsim,

Labības mēnesi —

plaujas vezumos kāpsim,

Rudens mēnesī —

pēc riekstiem lodāsim,

Veļu mēnesi —

veļus godāsim,

Sālnas mēnesi —

mežā pēc malkas steigsim,

Ziemas mēnesī —

ziemas saulgriežus sveiksīsim,

tad atkal jaunādu saņemt skriesim  
un cauru gadu darbiņos iesim.



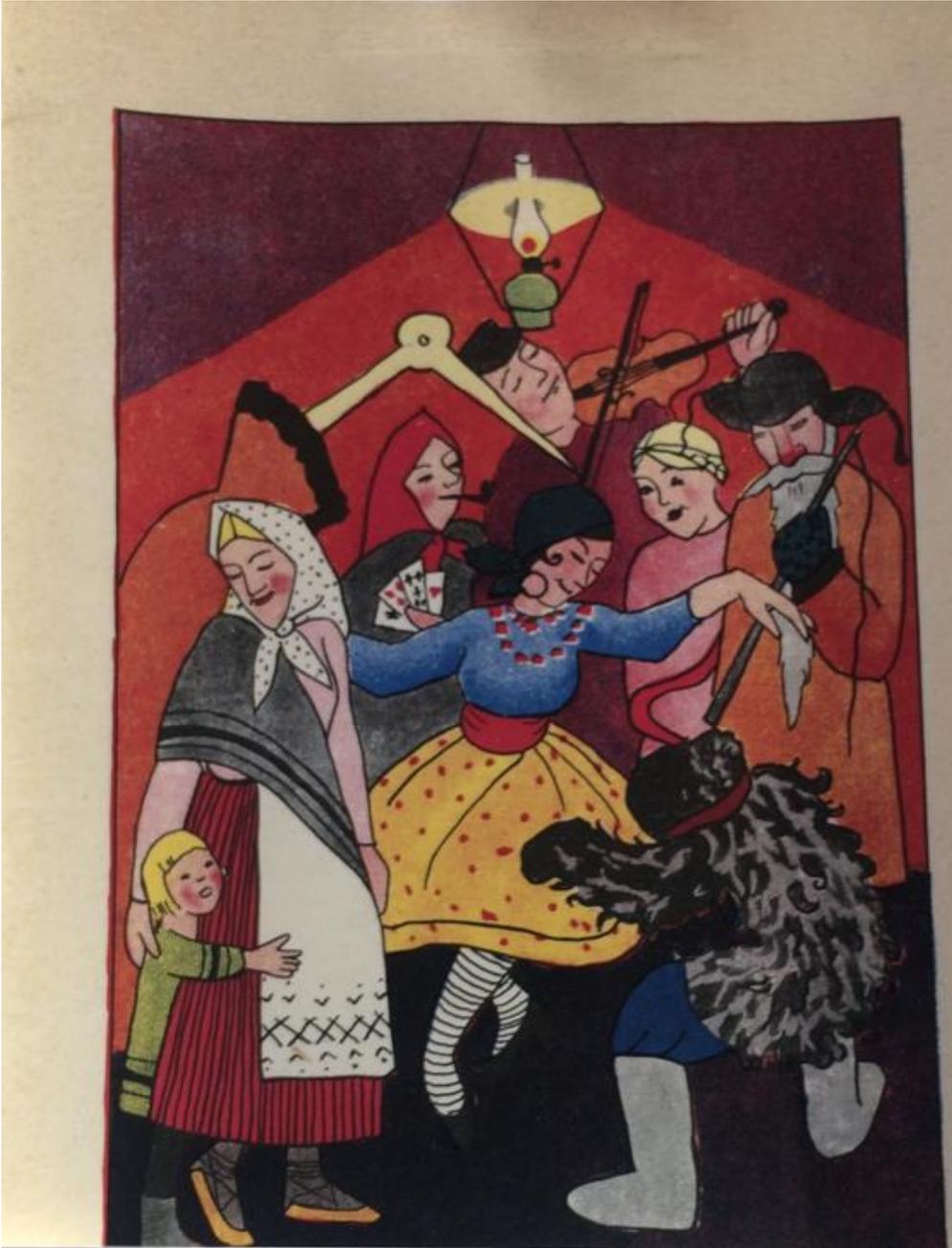


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New Year's month —  
let us welcome it,



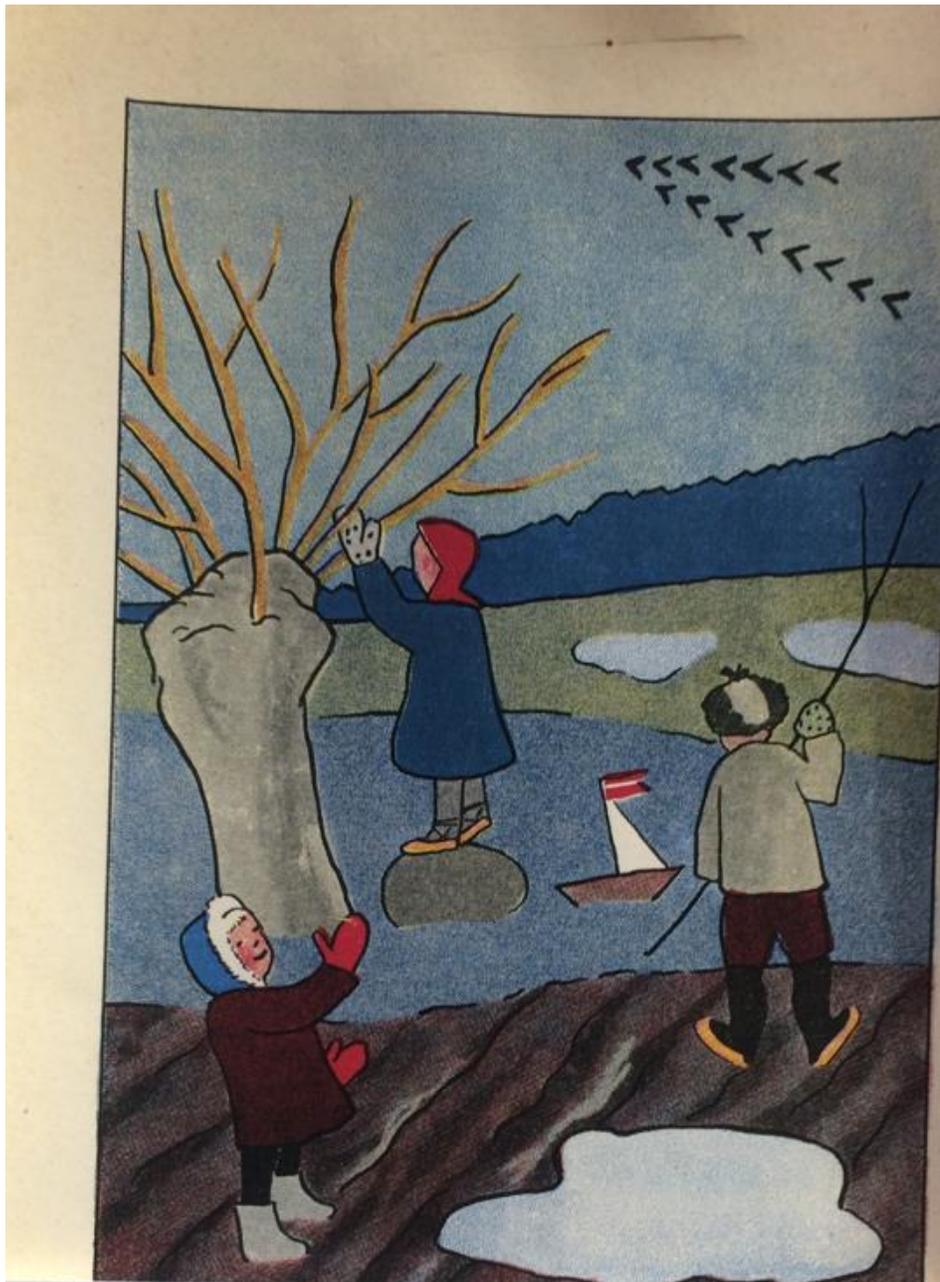


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Meteni (Shrove Tuesday's)  
month —  
let's wear mummers' masks,





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Snow crust month —  
we look forward to  
spring,



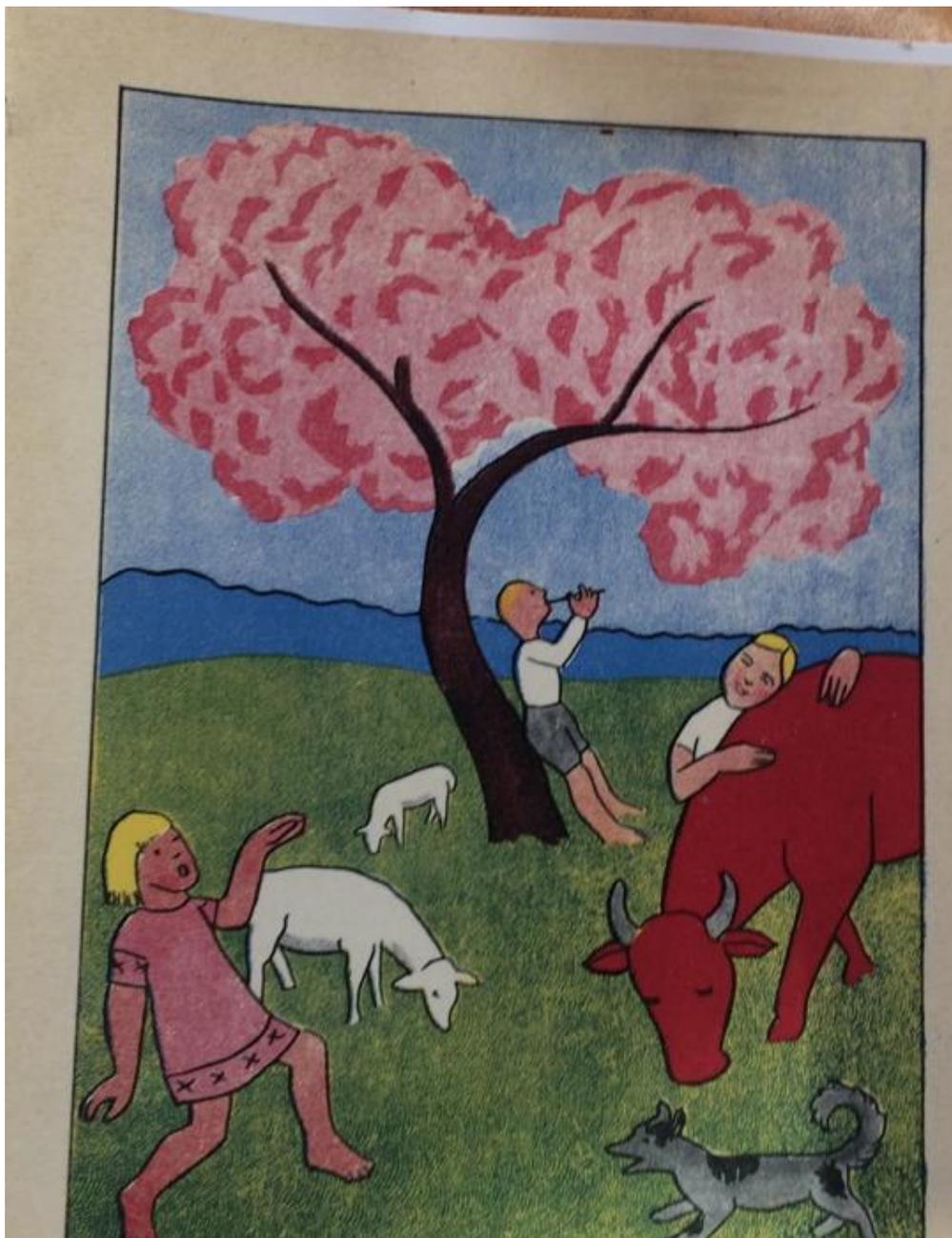


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Tree sap month —  
Let's harvest the tree  
sap,





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Leaves month —  
Let's get livestock to  
the pastures,





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Flowers month —  
Let's make the  
Midsummer crowns,





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Hay month —  
Let's rake the hay,





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Crop month —  
Let us harvest the grain,





Autumn month —  
Let us find the nuts,



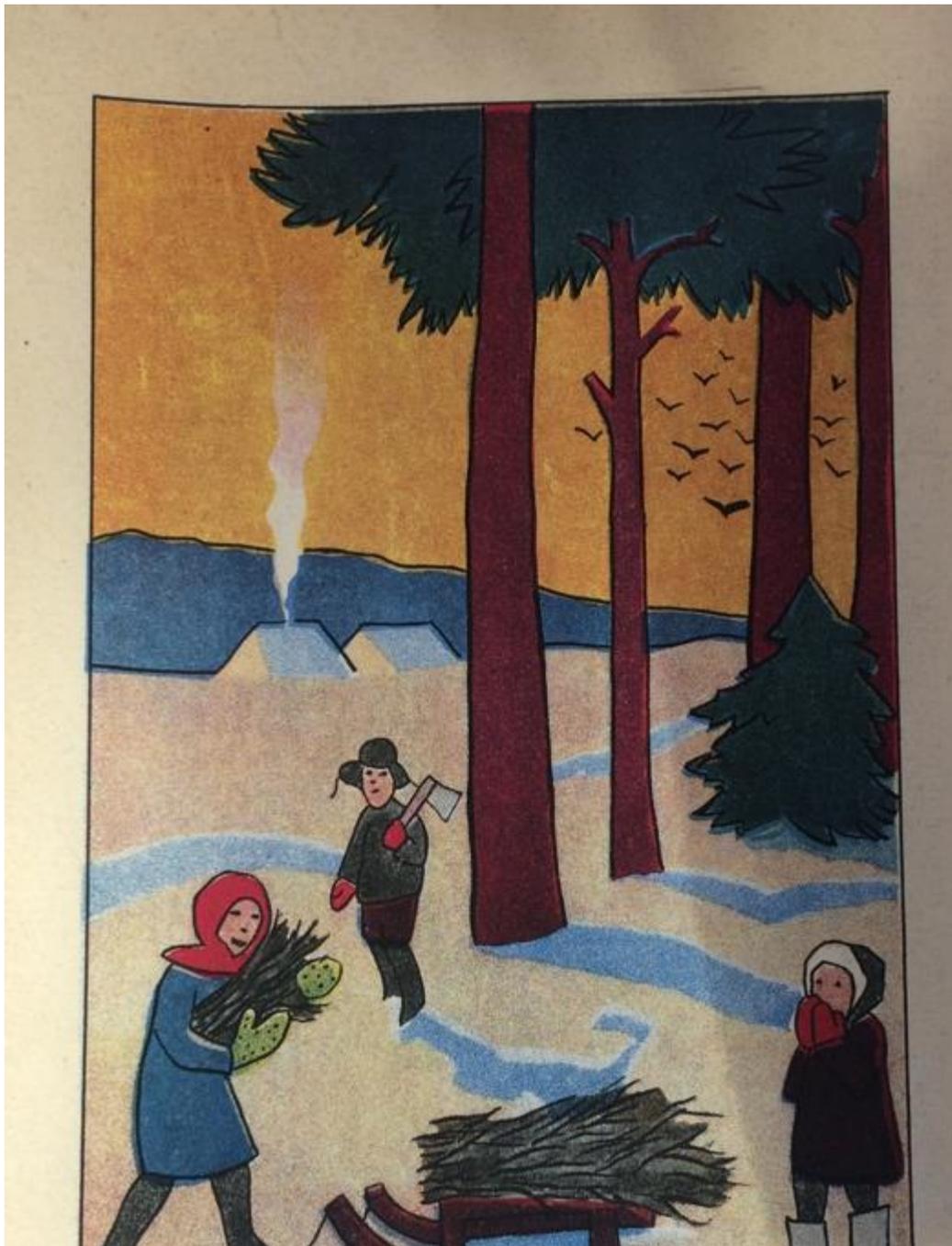


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Ancestor spirits  
month —  
we will honor  
them,



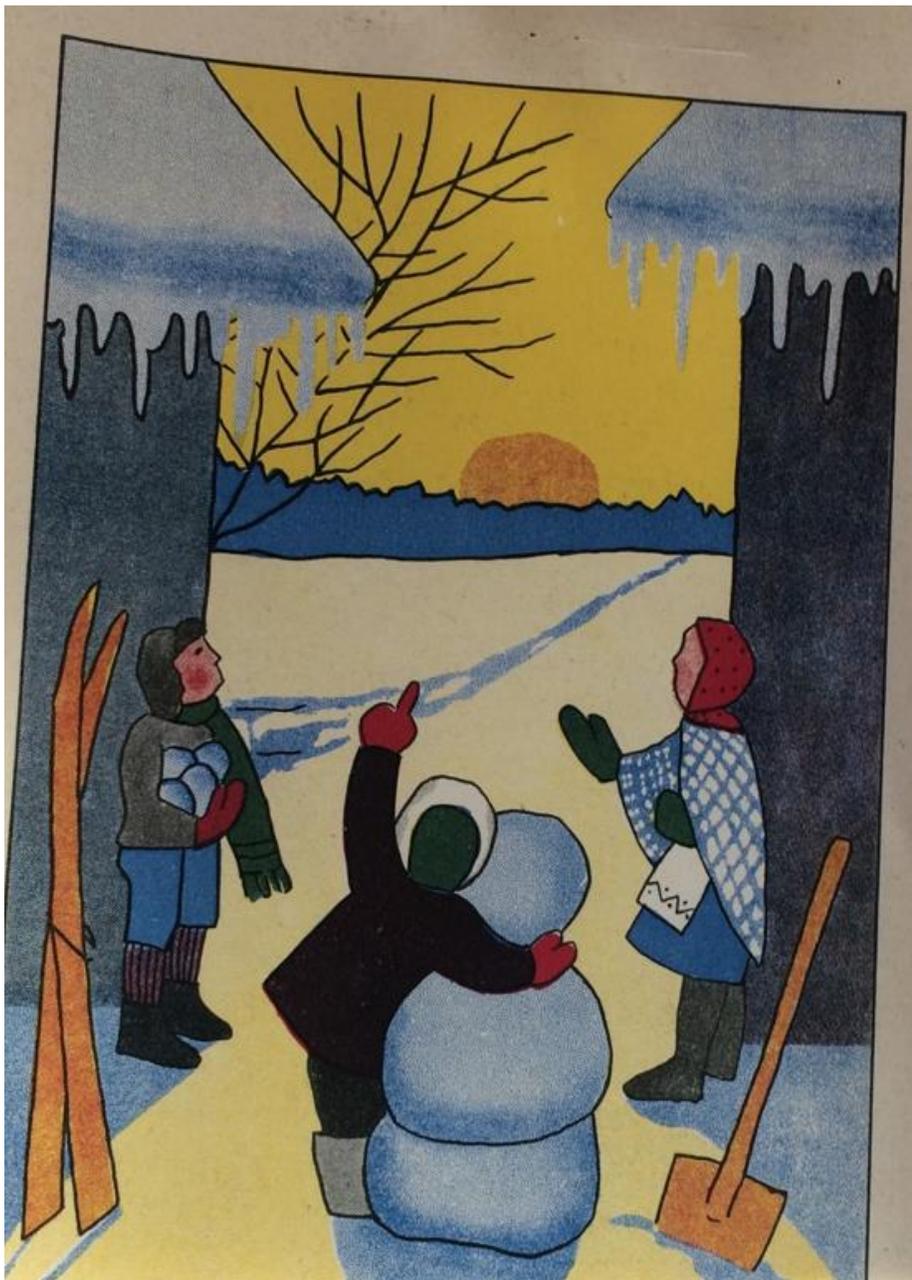


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Frosty month -  
We will rush to the forest to  
get firewood,





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Winter month -  
we will welcome the winter  
solstice,





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# Explanatory dictionary





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## Metēņi (Shrove Tuesday)

Ancient Latvian winter festival; the 12th day of February, in the evening of which, according to the ancient beliefs, the goddess Laima throws her gifts (the name Metēņi means 'to throw'); the eve of the lent.

In Latvian folk traditions, Metēņi introduced the beginning of spring and a new farming year. During this time, people reflected on what had been done and set the new goals for the coming year. Perhaps the name 'Metēņi' is related to this planning – the word 'meti' means place of rotation, the border, the time-turner. So they kind of "throw away" those old things and perform actions and rituals so that the next year there would be a good harvest and they would be able to accomplish everything that was planned.

Metēņi are also called Vastlāvji, Lastvāgi, Miesmeti, Miezmežu diena and other names.





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# Snow crust

The crust of the snow cover, which is usually formed when a wet surface of snow freezes.





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# To harvest the tree sap

At a certain time in spring drill a little hole in a birch or maple tree and drain the tree sap.





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## ‘Lēļot’

- To do something slowly.
- ‘Lēļojot ganos dzīsīm’ – the livestock will be slowly put on pastures (the cattle spend all day outside, in the meadows and the shepherd looks after them). Nowadays there is an electric fence around pastures, shepherd is no longer needed.





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# We will make crowns

## To make flower crowns

