

# Fun Bill Harley Activities

## Illustrations

Draw a series of pictures to illustrate one of the following Bill Harley stories or songs (or pick your favorite)

Dad Threw the TV out the Window

The Great Sled Race

King of Calibar

You're Not the Boss of Me

Down in the Backpack

The Ballad of Dirty Joe



## Creative Writing

Write a story about your first day of preschool or kindergarten. Try to describe everything the way you saw it when you were 4 or 5 (well maybe you can embellish the things that you found strange, scary or funny) Once you've shared your story with you friends, family and/or class, listen to any of Bill's stories about being in school: "Happy Birthday Mrs. Nottingham", or "Mrs. Ammons and the Boys' Room."

Write a funny story about a ghost, a headless man or a bully. Think about how it would be possible for any of these scary things to end up being funny? What kinds of things would they say? What kind of silly things would they do, trying to be scary? To hear how Bill made these scary things funny, listen to "The Eeny Weeny Beeny Ghost," "Grandma vs. the Headless Man," or "Weezie and the Moonpies"



## Research

"Zanzibar"

Where is Zanzibar? Is anything Bill has in his song "Zanzibar" true? What isn't true? What else is there to know about Zanzibar? Who lives there? What do they do there? What do they grow there? Pick another country and try to write a song about it (and feel free to use Bill's "Zanzibar as your model.

"How the Town Around the Bend Got Its Name"

How did your town get its name? Did it have any other names? If it did, why did it change its name? What do you think your town should be called? When was your town founded? How did your town come into being? How would you go about legally changing the name of your town to something else?

"The Science Fair"

Why isn't a baking soda/vinegar volcano a good science project? What is hydrochloric acid? What does baking soda do to hydrochloric acid? What is the purpose of hydrochloric acid?

"There's a Pea on My Plate"

What is the most popular vegetable? The least popular? Is there a reason why peas are better or worse than corn? Carrots? Broccoli? Why would anyone make you eat a vegetable that you didn't like? What is the best vegetable(s) that you can eat? Are there vegetables that aren't good for you?

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