

Salem Witch Trials

<http://gardenofpraise.com/ibdmath.htm>

Directions: Underline the words in the story as you find them, unscramble them and write them in the boxes below.

It all started in January of that year when some young girls began playing a fortune-telling game. They would gather in the home of the minister Parris and listen to stories told by his slave Tituba . Some of the girls fell ill, and the village physician decided the girls were bewitched. They began to identify certain people as those who were responsible. Bridget Bishop was arrested and tried in June, and she was the first to be hanged. Sarah Osborne would die in prison, but the others were hanged on Gallows Hill in Salem. Another man Giles Corey refused to stand trial and was pressed to death when they put heavy rocks on him until he could no longer breathe. And what about Tituba, what happened to her? It is believed that in 1693 she was sold to another owner for the price of her prison fees. Twenty people died as a result of the Salem Witch Trials. In 1694 the courts declared that witchcraft was no longer an offense in Massachusetts Bay Colony. From these tragic events we can learn lessons of tolerance and understanding. We have seen the results of rumor, superstition, and false accusation. Lives are devastated and families are torn apart when these things prevail.

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