

Hans and Katrina in New Amsterdam

Not So very far from Betty and Ruth lived two little children, Katrina and Hans Van Tassel.

Now Hans and Katrina were Dutch, and they came from Holland with their father and mother to join a Dutch colony in the new country. Holland is now part of a country in Europe that we call the Netherlands.

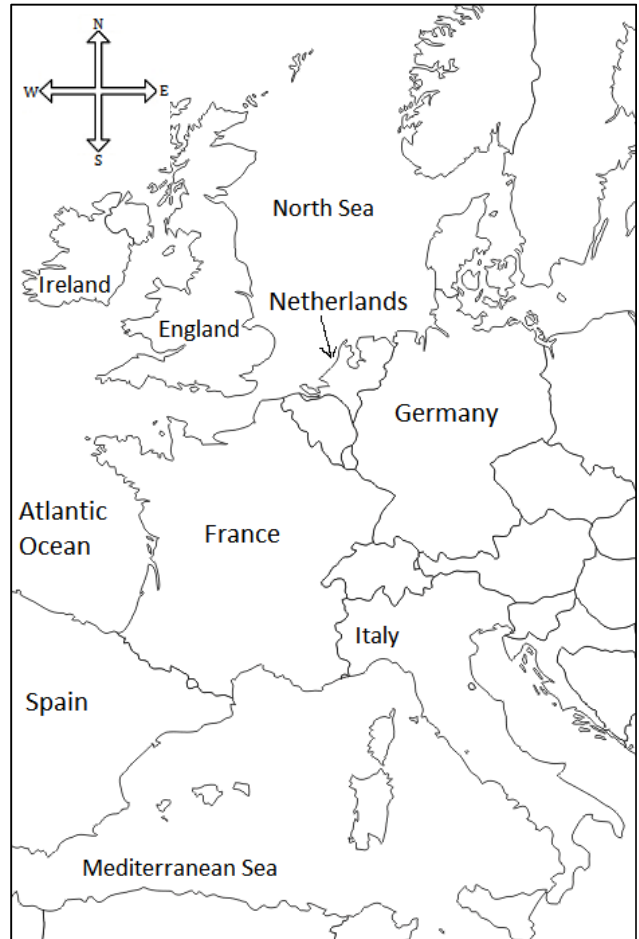
They called their new city New Amsterdam, after a city in their native land. Today, New Amsterdam is known as New York City.

Dutch

Holland

Netherlands

New Amsterdam



- 1. Color the Netherlands red on the map above.**
- 2. What large body of water borders the Netherlands?**
 - a. Atlantic Ocean**
 - b. Irish Sea**
 - c. Mediterranean Sea**
 - d. North Sea**

The Dutch were a happy, jolly people. They liked to have good times, and they liked to see their children have good times. Hans and Katrina were not expected to be sober and quiet, as Betty and Ruth were. They were allowed to romp and play and dance. Sometimes they were even allowed to go to the grown-up folks' parties. Often they were allowed to sit up after dark and listen to the stories that their father and mother liked to tell. No story did Hans and Katrina like so well as the story of old Rip Van Winkle, who went to sleep and slept for twenty years up in the Catskill Mountains.

Rip Van Winkle

Catskill Mountains

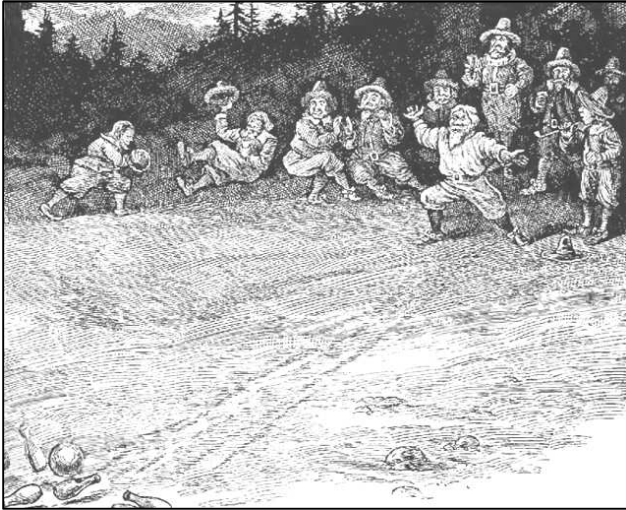
There is a funny picture book with the story of Rip Van Winkle in it. It has the picture of the little short elves who made signs to Rip Van Winkle, but who could not speak to him.

There is the picture of Rip carrying the cask up the mountain side, and another picture of the elves rolling their ninepins.



When Ruth and Betty heard the rolling in the skies they called it thunder; but Hans and Katrina knew better. They knew it was the elves still

rolling their ninepins, just as they rolled them so long ago.

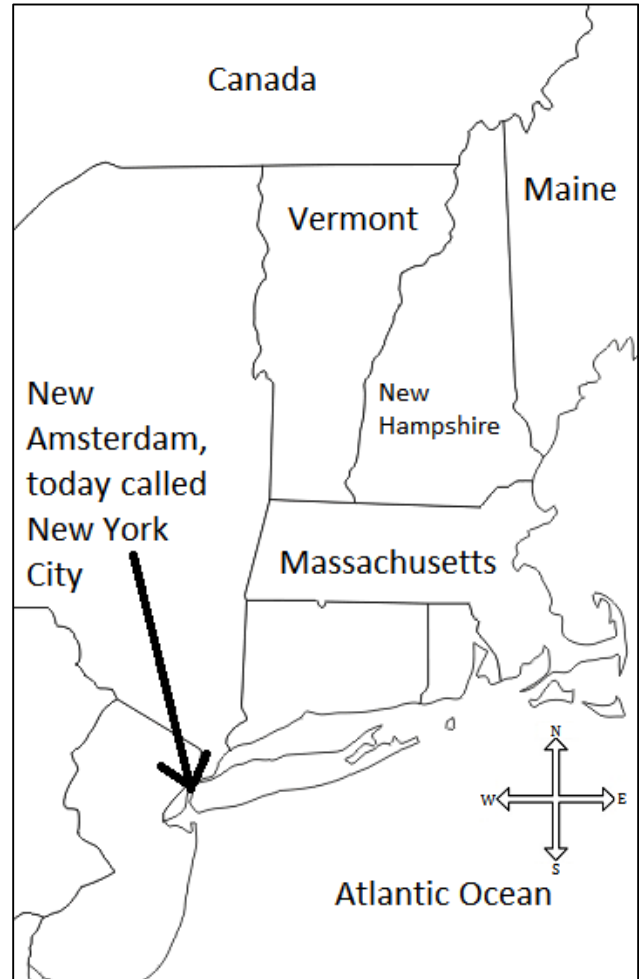


3. The game of ninepins is most similar to the modern American sport of ____.

- a. baseball
- b. bowling
- c. football
- d. tennis

But Hans and Katrina were not always romping and telling stories. They were very busy little folks, for all they were so jolly. Katrina could sew and knit, and Hans could cut wood and drive the cows as well as anyone could.

You should have seen Katrina when she was dressed for a party. She wore a funny little cap, and tied her hair in a hard knot behind. She wore a kerchief round her neck, and her skirts were full and stiff. Indeed, she wore so many of these skirts that they stood out like a Dutch cheese.



4. Draw a star over New Amsterdam, today called New York City.

New York City

Hans wore a tight little jacket, and so many pairs of trousers, one over another, that he looked quite like the pictures of the greedy boy in the story books.

Hans and Katrina went to school, just as Ruth and Betty did. The schools would seem very odd to us now, but

there were no lazy children in them, you may be sure. The Dutch teacher always carried a birch rod in his hand; and any child who came to school to play was sure to feel that rod.



It may be that these jolly little Dutch children were more mischievous in school than the sober little English children were. We are not sure; but both English and Dutch children had good times in their schools and with their teachers, there is no doubt of that.

mischievous

Both the Dutch and the English mothers liked to scrub and clean their houses. Their windows were rubbed until they shone like looking glasses; and the floors were as white and clean

as tables. These floors were covered with white sand. The housekeepers drew pretty patterns in this sand; for this was the only kind of carpet that they had.



5. How many windows are on the front side of the Dutch house above?

The English houses were hip-roofed, but the Dutch houses were gable-roofed. The Dutch often built little stoops on the front of their houses; for they liked to sit on these stoops in the evening and talk with the people who passed by.

New Year's Day was a holiday with Hans and Katrina. Everybody made calls on that day, and there were always parties on New Year's evening.

Hans and Katrina were sure to have a Merry Christmas, for it was the Dutch who set the fashion of hanging the Christmas stockings around the fireplace. And Santa Claus never forgot to bring Christmas presents to the Dutch children.

stoop

stockings

They had good times at Easter, too. For on that day, they sent each other presents of colored eggs tied with bright ribbons.

colored eggs

The faces of Hans and Katrina were fat and round and rosy. Perhaps it was because they had such good times. Their laugh, too, was honest and cheery. Perhaps it was because they were such honest, cheery little people themselves. No children in all the land were happier, healthier, and jollier than little Dutch Hans and Katrina.

Hans and Katrina

6. happier :

- a. less happy
- b. more happy

7. Would you have enjoyed living in Dutch New Amsterdam? Why or why not?

Word Search Puzzle

Directions: Find each of the terms below in the word search puzzle.



Catskill Mountains

colored eggs

Dutch

elves

Hans

Holland

Katrina

mischievous

Netherlands

New Amsterdam

New York City

ninepins

North Sea

Rip Van Winkle

stockings

stoop



8. The picture above shows New Amsterdam as it looked during Hans and Katrina's time. It was controlled by the Dutch from 1614 until 1664, when the British took control. In 1665, the British renamed the city. What is it called today?

9. The British renamed New Amsterdam in 1665. How long has it had its current name?

Directions: Illustrate a scene from the lives of Hans and Katrina.

Click here for the answer key and other titles in this series: <http://bit.ly/1k8N8m2>