

5/12/24

# Mother of All Quizzes

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Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes  
Number of players: Unlimited  
Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers  
Suitable for visually impaired players.

## Overview:

We mark Mother's Day with this quiz about Mothers, Moms, Mamas, and so on.

## Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first clue. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may "buzz" in and answer.
4. Scoring: Give 10 points for each correct answer.

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1. Small in stature (only 4-feet 11-inches tall), she is best remembered for her work among the poor in Calcutta, India where she founded the Missionaries of Charity.
2. Born Ellen Cohen, this woman eventually changed her name and became a founding member of a 1960's hippie folk band whose hits included "Monday, Monday" and "California Dreamin'."
3. This 1981 film, based on a book by screen legend Joan Crawford's adopted daughter Christina, includes the infamous scene in which Crawford launches into a tirade after she finds a wire hanger in her daughter's closet.
4. When autumn is near, nurseries and garden centers are filled with this popular fall flower. Next to roses, they're the largest commercially-produced flower in the US.
5. While most experts agree that she was an imaginary "author" of fairy tales and nursery rhymes, some people still believe that this woman was a real person who sang songs and ditties to the children of Boston back in the 1660s.
6. She's one half of a fictional iconic hillbilly couple who was featured (with their fifteen rambunctious children) in ten comic films during the 1940s and '50s.
7. King Tutankhamun is famously known as this type of preserved body.
8. This substance comes from the inner shell of oysters and other mollusks, and is commonly used to make jewelry, buttons and other decorative items.
9. Now in its tenth season on Broadway, this musical, based on the songs of Swedish pop group ABBA, is one of the longest running shows in Broadway history.
10. She's the "head nun" in charge of other nuns at a convent.
11. When this old woman of nursery rhyme fame went to her cupboard to get her poor dog a bone, she found that her cupboard was bare.
12. With her four sons, this woman terrorized the American south and midwest during the 1930s with a string of kidnappings, robberies, and murders. She was shot and killed by federal agents in 1935.
13. For most of the 20th century, AT&T, known by this nickname, was the largest company in the world, with more than one million employees.

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## ANSWERS

1. Mother Teresa
2. Mama Cass
3. *Mommie Dearest*. In the film, the Joan Crawford character screams one of the most memorable lines in big screen history: "I told you! No wire hangers, EVER!"
4. Chrysanthemums, or "Mums" for short
5. Mother Goose
6. Ma Kettle
7. Mummy
8. Mother of pearl
9. *Mamma Mia!*
10. Mother Superior
11. Old Mother Hubbard
12. Ma Barker
13. Ma Bell