

SAA 67

D.K. Wilgus Folklore Collection

Series XVII: Kentucky Superstitions Card Archive

Sub-Categories List

List Compiled by
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Box 1-Birth & Infancy

- Where Children come From
 - Human
 - Animal
 - Botanical
- Fertility/Sterility/Contraception
 - Fertility
 - Sterility
 - Contraception
- Number of Children
 - Lucky/Unlucky Number
 - Body Indicators
 - Divination Rituals
- Birth Portents, Indicators
 - Birth Portents
 - Baby Showers
 - Visiting
 - Second Pregnancy
 - “Signs”
- Pregnancy
 - Conception
 - General Beliefs
 - Care of Body
 - Diet
 - Taboos (Tabos)
- Miscarriage/Abortion
 - “Signs”
 - Abortifacets
- Prenatal Influences
 - Disposition
 - Behavior
 - Food
- Birthmarks
 - General Beliefs
 - Appearance of Mark
- Resemblances, Imprinting
 - Location of Mark (Touching)
 - Removing Birthmarks
 - Appearance
 - Behavior

- Delivery
 - Time of delivery
 - General Beliefs
 - Presence of Males/Children
 - Hastening Delivery
 - Easing Delivery
 - Control of Hemorrhage
- After-Care
 - General After-Care
 - Taboos (Tabos, Tabus)
 - After Pains
- Care of Newborn
 - Care of Navel
 - General Care
- Sex of Baby
- Abnormal Births
 - Posthumous Birth
 - Premature Birth
 - Still Birth
 - Breech Birth
 - Cauls
 - Born with Tooth
- Time of Birth
 - Predictive of Future
- Twins and Triplets
 - General Beliefs
 - “Signs”
- Order of Birth
 - Qualities
- Naming, Baptism, Christening
 - Name Magic
 - Choosing Name
 - Use of Name
 - Carrying
 - “First Person”
 - Taboos (Tabus, Tobos)
 - Problems of Infancy
- Nursing
 - General Beliefs
 - Ailments, Remedies

- Methods of Weaning
- “Drying Up” Breast
- Timing of Weaning
- Growth, Size
- Life-Span
- Appearance

Box 2-Infancy & Childhood

- Deformities
 - General Beliefs
 - Head
 - Legs, Feet
- Human Body (Childhood)
 - Skin
 - Head
 - Hair
 - Eyes
 - Ears
 - Nose
 - Mouth
- Teeth
 - Deformities
- Teething
 - General Beliefs
 - Wearing Apparel
 - Animal Parts
 - Beads
 - Coins
 - Metal Objects
 - Parent-Child Relationships
 - Character & Disposition
- Bodily Functions
- Body, Bodily Functions and Activities
 - General Beliefs
 - Treatment
- Losing Baby Teeth
 - Abdomen
 - Fingers
 - Nails

- General Behavior
- Misbehavior
- Punishment “Signs”
- General Health Care, Disease Prevention and Cure
 - General Beliefs
 - Care of Body, Environment
 - Ritual Cures
 - Animal Parts
- Injuries
 - Wounds
 - Swallowing Foreign Material
 - Fretfulness, Nervousness
 - Bedwetting
 - Convulsions
 - Fever
 - Growing Pains
 - Heat
 - Jaundice
- Symptomatic Ailments
 - Stuttering
- Communicable Diseases
 - Chicken Pox
 - Cholera
 - Colds
 - Diphtheria
 - Measles
 - Mumps
 - Small Pox
 - Typhoid Fever
 - Whooping Cough
- Skin Ailments
 - Skin Rash
 - Diaper Rash
 - Hives
 - Itch
 - Sores, Soreness
- Head Ailments
 - Ear Ache
 - Deafness
 - Eye Ailments

- Nose Bleed
- Fallen Palate
- Sore Mouth, Gums, Throat
- Thrash, Thrush
- Thrash Doctors
- Blowing into Mouth
- Drinking water from shoe
- Household Remedies
- Animal Remedies
- Vegetable Remedies
- Mineral Remedies

Box 3-Childhood, The Human Body

- Throat and Neck Ailments
- Respiratory Ailments
 - Asthma, Bronchitis “Phthisic” “Tissic”
 - Choking
 - Cough
 - Hiccups
 - Hoarseness
 - Phlegm
 - Croup
 - Lung Ailments
 - Stomach Ailments
 - Liver-Grown
 - Kidney Ailments
 - Bowel Ailments
 - Colic
 - Diarrhea
 - Hernia
 - Piles
 - Worms
- Social Life
 - Playmates
 - Games and Pastimes
 - School
 - Birthdays
 - Christmas
 - Religious and Supernatural Beliefs

- Divination
- Bodily Attributes
 - Height
 - Strength
 - Longevity
 - Youthfulness
 - Beauty
 - Complexion, Skin Care
 - Obesity
 - Deformities
 - Eyesight
- Personality Projection
 - “Separable Soul”
 - Voices
- Character & Personality
 - General Beliefs
 - Sex
- Mental Ability
 - Intelligence
 - Promotion of Intelligence
 - Memory
- Parts of the Body
 - Blood
 - Skin
 - Freckles
 - Head
 - Hair
 - Hair Care

Box 4-The Human Body

- Parts of the Body (cont.)
 - Hair Care (cont.)
 - Ears
 - Face
 - Eyes
 - Nose
 - Mouth
 - Teeth
 - Body
 - Arms

- Hands

Box 5-The Human Body, Bodily Functions

- Parts of the Body (cont.)
 - Fingers
 - Fingernails
 - Legs
 - Feet
- Bodily Functions
 - Breathing
 - Sleeping
 - Telling dreams
 - Interpretation of Dreams

Box 6-Bodily Functions, Bodily Activities

- Bodily Functions (cont.)
 - Interpretation of Dreams (cont.)
 - Urination
 - Defecating
 - Menstruation
 - Sexual Intercourse
 - Shivering
 - Sneezing
 - Coughing
 - Hiccups
 - Yawning
 - Laughing
 - Crying
 - Spitting
- Bodily Activities
 - Retiring/Arising
 - Bathing
 - Shaving
 - Eating
 - Drinking
 - Smoking, Chewing
 - Looking
 - Pointing
 - Counting Things
 - Knocking on wood

- Sitting
- Walking
- Hopping, Jumping
- Stepping, Stepping over

Box 7-Bodily Activities

- Bodily Activities (cont.)
 - Stepping, Stepping over (cont.)
 - Stumbling
 - Falling
 - Dropping
 - Dropping Cutlery, utensils
 - Breaking Things
 - Throwing
 - Finding things
 - Lost Persons, Animals
 - Finding Lost Objects
- Wishing
 - Wishing
 - Body, Bodily Activities
 - Apparel

Box 8-Bodily Activities, Apparel & Ornaments

- Wishing (cont.)
 - Domestic Pursuits
 - Animals
 - Botanicals
 - Kissing
 - Speech
 - Whistling
 - Singing
- Divider Card: Body Apparel, Ornaments
 - General Beliefs
 - New Clothes
 - Putting on clothes
 - Hats
 - Accessories
 - Shoes

- Ornaments
- Amulets, Charms

Box 9-Health & Sickness (Folk Medication)

- Sickness
 - Prevention
 - Care of the Sick
- Practice of Medicine
 - Supernatural Procedures
 - “Power” Doctors
 - Medical Procedures
 - Surgical Procedures
- Medications
 - General Beliefs
 - Tonics (Health Maintenance)
 - Spring Tonics
 - Cure-Alls
 - Nerve Tonics
 - Appetite, Thirst
 - Cathartics
 - Emetics
 - Topical Agents
 - Antiseptics
- Mental and Emotional
 - Insomnia
 - “Spring Fever”
 - Intoxication
 - Insanity
- Injuries
 - Frostbite
 - “Too Much Sun”
 - Burns
 - Bruises
 - Wounds
 - Foreign Objects
 - Animal Bites
 - Snake Bite
 - Insect Stings

Box 10- Health & Sickness (Folk Medication)

- Injuries (Cont.)
 - Insect Bites
 - Sprains
 - Fractures
 - Amputations
 - Pain
 - Chills
 - Fever
 - “Night Sweats”
 - Motion Sickness
 - Convulsions (Epilepsy Etc.)
 - Fatigue
 - Dizziness
 - Fainting
 - Swellings
 - Tumors
 - Infections
- Systemic Ailments
 - Cancer
 - Diabetes
 - Dropsy
 - Paralysis
 - Pellagra
- Communicable Diseases
 - General Beliefs
 - Chicken Pox
 - Cholera
 - Colds
 - Colds Treatment
 - Salve, Poultices
 - Cold Medications
 - Diphtheria
 - Influenza, “Grippe”
 - Malaria
 - Measles
 - Meningitis
 - Mumps

Box 11- Health & Sickness (Folk Medication)

- Communicable Diseases (cont.)
 - Scarlet Fever
 - Small Pox
 - Syphilis, Gonorrhea
 - Typhoid
 - Whooping cough
- Skin Ailments
 - General Beliefs
 - Moles
 - Warts

Box 12- Health & Sickness (Folk Medication)

- Skin Ailments
 - Chapped Skin
 - Rashes
 - Eczema
 - Erysipelas
 - Skin eruptions
 - Shingles
 - Hives
 - Poison Oak, Ivy
 - Skin Parasites
 - Ringworm
 - Scabies “Itch”
 - Boils
 - Carbuncles
 - Sores
 - Blisters
- Blood Ailments
 - Blood Tonics
 - Blood Thinners
 - Anemia
 - Blood Pressure
 - Blood Poisoning
 - Bleeding

Box 13- Health & Sickness (Folk Medication)

- Blood Ailments (cont.)
 - Bleeding
- Muscle Ailments
 - Stiffness, soreness
 - Cramps, “Cricks”
 - Neck Cramps
- Bone Ailments
 - General Beliefs
- Joint Ailments
 - Arthritis
 - Rheumatism
- Head Ailments
 - Dandruff
 - Baldness
 - Headache
 - Face Ailments
- Eye Ailments
 - Eye Ailments
 - Sore Eyes
 - Sties
 - Removal of Foreign Objects
- Ear Ailments
 - Removal of Wax, Foreign Material
 - Earache
 - Deafness

Box 14- Health & Sickness (Folk Medication)

- Nose Ailments
 - Nose Bleeds
 - Sinus Ailments
- Mouth Ailments
 - Mouth Ailments
 - Care of lips
 - Cold Sores
 - Care of Gums Lining
 - Care of Teeth
 - Toothache
- Throat Ailments, Neck Ailments

- General Beliefs
- Sore Throat
- Congestion
- Coughs
- Choking
- Hiccups
- Goiter
- Respiratory Ailments
 - Asthma
 - Hay Fever
 - Bronchitis

Box 15-Health & Sickness (Folk Medication)

- Respiratory Ailments
 - Croup
 - Halitosis
- Internal Organs
 - Lung Ailments
 - Pneumonia
 - Tuberculosis
 - Heart ailments
 - Stomach Ailments
 - Womb Ailments
 - Liver Ailments
 - Gallbladder Ailments
 - Kidney & Bladder Ailments
 - Bowel Ailments
 - Diarrhea
 - Worms
 - Appendicitis
 - “Piles”
- Back Ailments
 - Backache
- Arms, Hands, Fingers
 - Arm Joints (Shoulder, Elbow, Wrist)
 - Finger Ailments
- Leg, Foot, Toe Ailments
 - Leg Ailments
 - Foot Ailments

- Athlete's Foot
- Toe Ailments
- Corns

Box 16-Love, Courtship, & Marriage

- Love, Courtship, Marriage
- Being in Love
 - Love
 - Success in Love
- Identity of Lover/ Husband
 - General Divination
 - Image of Lover
 - Dream Rituals
 - "First Person" Rituals
 - Characteristics of Lover
 - Initials of Lover
 - Name of Lover
 - Multiple Choice
- Courtship
 - Etiquette of courtship
 - "Loves me, Loves me Not"
 - Signs
- Marriage Signs
 - Personal Circumstances
 - Divination

Box 17- Love, Courtship, & Marriage

- Marriage Signs
 - Bodily Activities
 - Household Furniture
 - Household Chores
 - Food (Eating, Serving)
 - Sewing, Quilting
 - Weather
 - Animals
 - Botanicals
- Betrothal
- First to Marry, Next to Marry

- Signs
- The Marriage Partner
 - Taboos (Tabus)
 - Appearance
 - Character
 - Circumstance (Wealth, Poverty, etc.)
 - Proposal
 - Betrothal Etiquette
 - Bridal Showers
- Wedding
 - Timing of Wedding
 - Weather
 - Animal Omens
 - Preparations for Wedding
 - Conditions of Wedding
 - Wedding Garments
 - Wedding Ring
 - Wedding Ceremony
 - Post-Nuptial Activities
 - Marital Relationships

Box 18-Domestic Pursuits

- House
 - House Building
 - House
- Behavior in House
 - Entering, Leaving
 - Movement within House
 - Furniture
 - Taboos (Tabus)
 - Bringing things into house
 - Moving
- General Housekeeping
 - General Housekeeping
 - Control of Pests
- Cleaning
 - Cleaning Agents
 - Washing
 - Laundry

- Sweeping
- Ash Removal

Box 19-Domestic Pursuits con't / Travel & Communication

- Foods, Cooking
 - General Beliefs
 - Salt
 - Churning
 - Preparation of Food
 - Boiling
 - Baking
 - Pickling, Preserving
 - Table-Setting
 - Serving, Eating Foods
- Sewing
 - General Beliefs
 - Sewing Implements
 - Garments
 - Quilting
- Yard and Field
 - Yard Care
 - Fencing
- Household Tools and Implements
 - Knives, Pointed Objects
 - Farm Tools

TRAVEL AND COMMUNICATION

- Encounters
 - Human beings
 - Vehicles
 - Artifacts
- Communications
 - General Belief
 - Telephone
 - Letters

Box 20-Travel (con't), Social Relationships & Recreation

- Travel
 - General Beliefs

- Beginning a journey
- Turning Back
- Vehicles, Accommodations

SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS, RECREATION

- Amusements
 - Reading Books
 - Music, Instruments
 - Gift-Giving
 - Visits
 - Socials
 - Gambling
 - Hunting
 - Fishing
 - Sports (Athletics)
 - Baseball
- Calendric Beliefs (Days, Weeks, Months, “Special Days”, Seasons)
 - Days
 - Birthdays
 - New Year’s Day
 - Lucky Foods

Box 21-Social Relationships & Recreation, Economic & Business Affairs , Death & Dying

- Calendric Beliefs (Days, Weeks, Months, “Special Days”, Seasons) (cont.)
 - Other “Special Days”
 - Christmas
 - Seasons

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

- Work
 - General Beliefs
 - Starting Work
 - Taboos (Tabus)
 - Occupation
- Money
 - Acquiring & Spending
 - Denominations of Money
- Crime
 - Petty Crime
 - Murder

- Politics
 - Politics
- Death
 - General Beliefs
 - Drowning
 - Suicide
 - Supernatural
 - Household
 - Falling Stars
 - Cats
 - Cattle
 - Wild Animals
 - Chickens
 - Birds

DEATH

- Death
 - Insects
 - Botanicals
- Dying, The Dying
 - Dying

Box 22- Death & Dying , Religion, Witchcraft, Lower Mythology, etc. “Supernatural”

- Dying, The Dying
 - The Corpse
 - Household Rituals
- Funerals
 - Funeral Procession
 - Funeral Services
 - Burial
 - “Buried Alive”
 - Graves, Graveyards
 - After-Life, Mourning

RELIGION, WITCHCRAFT, LOWER MYTHOLOGY, DIVINATION, AMULETS, GHOSTS AND SPIRITS

- The Supernatural
 - Revenants
 - Violent Death

- Haunted Houses
- Apparitions
- Spirits
- Supernatural Lights
- Misperceptions & Pranks

Box 23- Supernatural, Weather, Cosmic Phenomenon, Time, The Universe

- Supernatural
 - Fabulates, Jests, First
 - Summoning Spirits
 - Dispelling Spirits
 - Witchcraft
 - Witches
 - Protection From Witches
 - Lower Mythology
 - “Conjures”
 - Divination
 - Water Witching
 - Religion
- Colors and Numbers
 - Numbers
 - Colors
- The Natural World
 - The Earth
 - Water
 - Air
 - Sun
 - The Moon
 - Stars
 - Sky
 - Rainbows
 - Clouds

WEATHER, COSMIC PHENOMENA, TIME, THE UNIVERSE

- Weather (General Beliefs)
 - Cold Weather
 - Drought
 - Wind
 - Storms
 - Thunder & Lightening

- Rain
- Snow
- Human Behavior Signs
 - Human Intervention
 - Dreaming
 - Eating
 - Misc.
 - Killing Animals

Box 24- Weather

- Human Behavior Signs (con't.)
 - Killing Animals (con't.)
- Weather Prediction
 - Barometers (contrived)
 - "Pilot Days"
- The Seasons
 - Advent of Spring
 - Spring Weather
 - Advent of Summer
 - Summer Weather
 - Advent of Autumn
 - Autumn Weather
 - Advent of Winter
 - Winter Weather
 - Animal Signs
 - Plant Signs
 - Duration of Winter
- Human Body Signs
 - Bodily Signs
- Planetary Signs
 - Sun
 - Moon, Stars

Box 25- Weather

- Planetary Signs (Con't.)
 - Moon, Stars (con't)
- Atmospheric Signs
 - Atmospheric Signs

- General Household
- Fire
- Smoke
- Dew, Moisture
- Frost
- Fog
- Sky
- Rainbows
- Clouds
- Thunder, Lightening
- Wind
- Storms
- Precipitation Signs
 - Rain
 - Snow

Box 26-Weather & Animal Signs

- Animal Behavior Signs
 - Animal Signs
 - Grooming
 - Restlessness
 - “Wallowing” Lying on Back
 - Huddling, Stillness
 - Sheltering
 - High / Low
 - Traveling
 - North / South
 - Preparations
 - Announcing
- Botanical Signs
 - Plant Signs
- Wild Animals
 - Snakes
 - Worms, Snails, Etc.
 - Fish
 - Birds

Box 27- Weather & Animal Signs, Animals & Animal Husbandry

- Wild Animals (Con't)
 - Particular kinds of birds
 - Insects
 - Spiders

ANIMALS, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

- Animals
 - General Beliefs
 - Dogs
 - Cats
 - Color, Appearance
 - Cats Crossing your path

Box 28- Animals

- Animals
 - Counter-Measures
 - Horses
 - Horseshoes
 - Mules
 - Cows
 - Domesticated Animals (Farms)
 - Domestic Fowl
- Animal Husbandry
 - Animal Husbandry
 - Animal Diseases
 - Dogs
 - Cats
 - Horses
 - Horse Diseases
 - Mules
 - Cattles
 - Calving
 - Milking
 - Cattle Diseases

Box 29 – Animals, Plants & Plant Husbandry

- Animal Husbandry
 - Swine (pigs, Hogs)
 - Sheep, Goats

- Poultry
- Poultry Diseases
- Bees

PLANTS / PLANT HUSBANDRY

- Botanicals
 - Grass
 - Clover
 - Weeds
 - Herbs
 - Flowers, House Plants, Vines
 - Vegetables
 - Fruits, Nuts
 - Trees
- Plant Husbandry
 - Prediction of Harvest
 - Soil Cultivation
 - Planting
 - Specific Crops
 - Planting by “nature” signs
 - Planting By the Calendar
 - “Special Days”
 - Planting By the Moon

Box 30- Plants , Indexes: Informants & Collectors Towns Counties

- Plant Husbandry (con't)
 - Planting by the moon (con't)
 - Zodiacal Signs
 - Transplanting
 - General Husbandry
 - Harvesting

INDEXES

- Informants and Collectors
- Towns
- Counties

Box 31 – Misc. Unfiled Cards