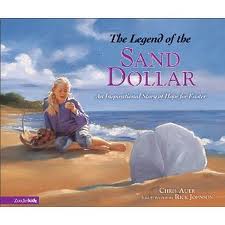
**Legend of the Sand dollar**

<http://mail.aol.com/33790-111/aol-1/en-us/mail/DisplayMessage.aspx?ws_popup=true>

<http://www.first-school.ws/activities/animals/ocean/sandollar.htm>

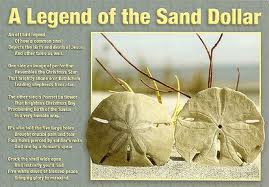
***Version One***

  
There’s a pretty little legend  
That I would like to tell  
Of the birth and death of Jesus  
Found in this lowly shell.  
  
If you examine closely,  
You’ll see that you find here  
Four nail holes and a fifth one  
Made by a Roman’s Spear.  
  
On one side the Easter Lily,  
Its center is the star  
That appeared unto the shepherds  
And led them from afar.  
  
The Christmas poinsettia  
Etched on the other side  
Reminds us of His birthday  
Our Happy Christmastide.  
  
Now break the center open  
And here you will release  
The five white doves waiting  
To spread Goodwill and Peace.  
  
This simple little symbol,  
Christ left for you and me  
To help us spread the Gospel  
Through all eternity.  
  
Anonymous

***Version Two***  
Upon this odd-shaped sea shell  
A legend grand is told  
About the life of Jesus  
The wondrous tale of old.  
  
The center marking plainly shows  
The well known Guiding Star  
That led to tiny Bethlehem  
The Wise Men from afar.  
  
The Christmas flower, Poinsettia  
For His Nativity  
The Resurrection too is marked  
The Easter Lily, see.  
  
Five wounds were suffered

by our Lord  
From nails and Roman’s spear  
When He died for us on the cross  
The wounds show plainly here.

Within the shell, should it be broke  
Five Doves of Peace are found  
To emphasize the legend  
So may Love and Peace abound.

Sand Dollars live in the warm waters in Florida, Georgia, South and North Carolina.