

# june 2009

National Rose Month | June Dairy Month | National Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Month | Audio Book Month

## June 1

Promote your audio books this month on your library's Web site. Feature new children's titles.

## June 2

**It's Helen Oxenbury's birthday.**

Visit Reading Rockets at [www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/oxenbury](http://www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/oxenbury) for a video interview with this children's book illustrator.

## June 3

And the winner is...

Read *The Postcard* by Tony Abbott, the 2009 Edgar Award winner for best juvenile mystery.

## June 4

**June is Dairy Month.**

Visit <http://kidzzone.wisdairy.com/> for games and activities to celebrate Dairy Month.

## June 5

**World Environment Day**

**It's Rick Riordan's birthday.**

Throw a Percy Jackson party to celebrate the conclusion of the series.

## June 6

**D-Day anniversary**

**It's National Trails Day.**

Work with local organizations and help promote National Trails Day. Display books about hiking.

## June 7

**Full Moon**

Have a garden day with stories about gardening, such as Peter Brown's *The Curious Garden*.

## June 8

Neil Gaiman narrates his Newbery winner, *The Graveyard Book*, available on cassettes or CDs.

## June 9

**It's Donald Duck's birthday.**

Just Ducky: Lynne Berry's *Duck Tents*, is the latest addition to her stories about five ducks.

## June 10

**It's Maurice Sendak's birthday.**

Did you know? Sendak has written more than 80 books.

## June 11

Check out the DVD of Brian Lies's *Bats at the Beach*.

## June 12

**It's Anne Frank's birthday.**

Visit [www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/online/af/htmlsite/](http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/online/af/htmlsite/) at the US Holocaust Museum for the online exhibition, "Anne Frank: The Writer."

## June 13

Pack your bags!

Follow Helen Lester's penguin when he goes to Camp Whoopihaha in *Tacky Goes to Camp*.

## June 14

**Flag Day**

**It's Laurence Yep's birthday.**

Did you know? Yep's novel, *Dragonwings*, is about the experience of a young boy who emigrates from China to San Francisco. It was a Newbery Honor Book in 1976.

## June 15

**It's Brian Jacques birthday.**

Check out the Redwall Wiki at [redwall.wikia.com/wiki/Redwall\\_Wiki](http://redwall.wikia.com/wiki/Redwall_Wiki), a resource for all things Redwall.

## June 16

Share stories and chocolate at a program and read Davide Cali's *I Love Chocolate*.

## June 17

Good news! Children's classic *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey returns to bookstores this summer.

## June 18

**It's Vivian Vande Velde's birthday.**

Have children vote for their favorite book series this summer.

## June 19

Juneteenth, commemorating the end of slavery in the United States.

It's Garfield the Cat's birthday. Display your Garfield collection!

## June 20

Serve fresh fruit after reading fruity stories such as Robert McCloskey's *Blueberries for Sal*, *The Apple Pie That Papa Baked* by Lauren Thompson, and *Detective Small in the Amazing Banana Caper* by Wong Herbert Yee.

## June 21

**Happy Father's Day!**

Summer begins

Summer reading: *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* by Richard Louv.

## June 22

The doughnut was invented on this day in 1847. Share the episode about the run-amok doughnut machine in Robert McCloskey's *Homer Price*, and celebrate this tasty treat with Rebecca Bond's *The Great Doughnut Parade*.

## June 23

**It's Wilma Rudolph's birthday.**

"Winning is great, sure, but if you are really going to do something in life, the secret is learning how to lose."

— Wilma Rudolph

## June 24

Read Mark Teague's *Funny Farm* and meet Edward, the spiffy bulldog who doesn't quite fit in to farm life.

## June 25

"The Queen of Hearts, she made some tarts,  
All on a summer's day.

The Knave of Hearts, he stole those tarts,  
And took them clean away!"—Lewis Carroll

## June 26

**It's Charlotte Zolotow's birthday.**

Did you know? Author Charlotte Zolotow's daughter writes children's books, under the penname Crescent Dragonwagon.

## June 27

**It's Helen Keller's birthday.**

Check out *Dragonbreath*, Ursula Vernon's new graphic novel for middle graders.

## June 28

"Thundering Typhoons! Why does everything happen to me?"

—*The Adventures of Tin Tin: The Red Sea Sharks*

## June 29

Anna Alter's book, *What Can You Do with an Old Red Shoe?* will inspire creativity as it shows how every day things can be reused.

## June 30

**It's David McPhail's birthday.**

Summer Program tip: Check out books or Web sites to learn some new cooperative games where the focus is on succeeding as a group.

# july 2009

National Recreation and Parks Month | National Blueberries Month | National Hot Dog Month

## July 1

**It's Emily Arnold McCully's birthday.**

Pull books with red, white or blue covers and create a patriotic display for Independence Day.

## July 2

**It's National Recreation and Parks Month.**

Find out and publicize information about state, county, and city parks in your area and the recreational activities they offer to families.

## July 3

What is Uncle Sam's favorite snack? Fire crackers!

## July 4

**Independence Day**

Visit [www.usa.gov/Topics/Independence\\_Day.shtml](http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Independence_Day.shtml) for facts, fun and lots of links to information about our nation's birthday.

## July 5

**It's P. T. Barnum's birthday.**

"Without promotion something terrible happens...Nothing!"

—P.T. Barnum

## July 6

Did you know? July is named after Julius Caesar. Learn more about the Caesar cipher at [www.simonsingh.net/The\\_Black\\_Chamber/caesar.html](http://www.simonsingh.net/The_Black_Chamber/caesar.html)

## July 7

**Full Moon**

**It's Father-Daughter Take a Walk Together Day.**

Encourage a walk to the library for a father-daughter program.

## July 8

**It's Raffi's birthday.**

Visit [www.raffinews.com/educators/music](http://www.raffinews.com/educators/music) for lyrics and music arrangements for dozens of songs sung by this famous troubadour.

## July 9

The American Library Association's annual conference is in Chicago (July 9-15)

## July 10

Be creative with paper. Get ideas from Judith Cressey's *What Can You Do with a Paper Bag? Hats, Wigs, Masks, Crowns, Helmets, and Headresses Inspired by Artworks from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.*

## July 11

**It's E. B. White's birthday.**

Visit <http://webtech.kennesaw.edu/reading/charlotteweb.htm> for links to many Charlotte's Web activities and lesson plans.

## July 12

**It's Henry David Thoreau's birthday.**

"Books are the carriers of civilization" —Henry David Thoreau

## July 13

New from Jane O'Connor: *Fancy Nancy: Tea Parties.*

## July 14

**It's Woody Guthrie's birthday.**

Invite a folksinger to sing Woody Guthrie's and others' folk songs for a family program.

## July 15

Get your wands out! The film *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* opens today.

## July 16

Hot off the Press! *Mercy Watson: Something Wonky This Way Comes*, the latest of Kate DiCamillo's easy chapter books about Mercy, the precocious pig.

## July 17

Did you know? Disneyland, America's first theme park, opened today in 1955.

## July 18

**It's Felicia Bond's birthday.**

Visit the Mouse Cookies Web site at [www.mousecookiebooks.com/indexSite.html](http://www.mousecookiebooks.com/indexSite.html) for lots of activities.

## July 19

It's National Blueberry Month. Plan a blueberry program with stories like *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey and *Blueberry Mouse* by Alice Low. Serve blueberry muffins.

## July 20

Visit Kevin Henkes's Web site at [www.kevinhenkes.com/meet/fun.asp](http://www.kevinhenkes.com/meet/fun.asp) for activities related to his mouse books.

## July 21

Make a Kite. Visit <http://jas.familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts?page=CraftDisplay&craftid=11420> for easy kite directions.

## July 22

Game day. Gather puzzles and board games and have a game day at the library.

## July 23

Jewelry making. Make easy necklaces and bracelets from colorful paperclips.

## July 24

**It's Amelia Earhart's birthday.**

"Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail, their failure must be but a challenge to others." Amelia Earhart

## July 25

Make sure Junie B. Jones fans know about her Web site at [www.randomhouse.com/kids/junieb/](http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/junieb/)

## July 26

Share *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson with children. Ask them what they would draw with a magic crayon. What color would they choose?

## July 27

Share tongue-tangling poems from Jon Agee's *Orangutan Tongues: Poems to Tangle Your Tongue.*

## July 28

Flower Power. Teach children how to make daisy chains.

## July 29

It's NASA's birthday. Invite amateur astronomers to bring their telescopes to the library for a stargazing night.

## July 30

Organize a kitchen band with pots and pans, wooden spoons, etc. and have children put on a performance.

## July 31

**It's J.K. Rowling's birthday.**

Check out the offerings of the National Children's Museum in Washington, D.C. and the plans for their new building at [www.ncm.museum/home](http://www.ncm.museum/home).

# august 2009

National Inventors Month | Children's Vision and Learning Month | Family Fun Month | Get Ready for Kindergarten Month

## August 1

Did you know? Superhero Spider-Man was introduced on this day in 1962. Read about Adventure Girl, a.k.a. Amelia Grace, the heroine of Toni Buzzeo's *Adventure Annie Goes to Work*.

## August 2

### National KidsDay

Visit [www.kidsday.net](http://www.kidsday.net) to learn more.

## August 3

### National Watermelon Day

Visit [www.watermelon.org](http://www.watermelon.org) for recipes and fun facts about nutritious watermelons.

## August 4

Baseball season is heating up!

*You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?!* by Jonah Winter will introduce young readers to the ace Dodger pitcher.

## August 5

Nature writer Jim Arnosky moves to middle grade fiction with *The Pirates of Crocodile Swamp*, in which siblings Sandy and Jack flee to a nature preserve.

## August 6

### It's Barbara Cooney's birthday.

Create a display of her picture books.

## August 7

It's Betsy Byars's birthday. Visit [www.holidayhouse.com/free\\_materials.php](http://www.holidayhouse.com/free_materials.php) for downloadable readers' guides to Byars's Blossom Family books.

## August 8

Time to weed? If your library 'garden' is overdue for weeding, start with one small section at a time.

## August 9

Check out *Underwear: What We Wear Down There* by Ruth Freeman Swain for a "brief" overview of this fascinating article of clothing.

## August 10

Plan a boating storytime! Make paper boats and share Patricia Hubbell's *Boats: Speeding! Sailing! Cruising!*

## August 11

### It's Joanna Cole's birthday.

Ask students where they would most like to go with Ms. Frizzle in the Magic School Bus.

## August 12

### It's Ann M. Martin's birthday.

Did you know? Ann M. Martin LOVES scary books.

## August 13

It's corn season. Tell some corny jokes today.

## August 14

Did you achieve your goals for your summer reading program?

## August 15

### It's E. Nesbit's birthday.

Best Friends Day. Create a display of books about best friends.

## August 16

### It's National Aviation Week (August 16-22)

Visit AVKids.com at [www.avkids.com/about/](http://www.avkids.com/about/) for lesson plans, classroom activities, reading lists and resource materials.

## August 17

Visit the Library of Congress at [www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/](http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/) for webcasts of many children's book creators.

## August 18

### It's Paula Danziger's birthday.

Visit [www2.scholastic.com/browse/search?query=amber+brown+](http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/search?query=amber+brown+) for extension activities for many of Danziger's Amber Brown books.

## August 19

The "Black Cow" root beer float was created on this day in 1893. Serve root beer floats and celebrate!

## August 20

### It's National Inventors Month.

Read aloud poems from Lee Bennett Hopkins's *Incredible Inventions*.

## August 21

Did you know? Hawaii became a state 50 years ago today.

Visit 50 States.com at [www.50states.com/hawaii.htm](http://www.50states.com/hawaii.htm) for information on our 50th state.

## August 22

### National Tooth Fairy Day

Ramadan begins.

Did you know? Ramadan is a month of fasting for adult Muslims.

## August 23

Introduce children to pioneering oceanographer Jacques Cousteau with Jennifer Berne's *Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau*.

## August 24

Mount Vesuvius erupted on this day in AD 79.

For a good mystery set at that time, read *The Pirates of Pompeii* by Caroline Lawrence.

## August 25

Beginning readers will enjoy another Fancy Nancy title by Jane O'Connor, *Poison Ivy Expert*.

## August 26

### It's Women's Equality Day.

Visit [www.nwhp.org/resourcecenter/equalityday\\_quiz.html](http://www.nwhp.org/resourcecenter/equalityday_quiz.html) for a quiz.

## August 27

No More Bullying

Visit [www.education.wisc.edu/cbc/books/detailListBooks.asp?idBookLists=309](http://www.education.wisc.edu/cbc/books/detailListBooks.asp?idBookLists=309) for an article and list of recommended children's books about bullies and bullying.

## August 28

It's Allen Say's birthday.

Visit [www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/authors/allensay/author.shtml](http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/authors/allensay/author.shtml) to learn more about Say and [www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=11401](http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=11401) for extension activities to use with Grandfather's Journey.

## August 29

Just for Fun.

Visit Sea Serpents and Lake Monsters at <http://theshadowlands.net/serpent.htm> for pictures, videos and accounts of sea serpent sightings.

## August 30

Did you know? Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* began as a series of bedtime stories to his young son, Alistair.

## August 31

Why should you never tell secrets in the garden?

Because the corn has ears, the potatoes have eyes, and the beans talk!