

Kind hearts are the gardens; kind thoughts are the roots;
kind words are the flowers; kind deeds are the fruits."

— English Proverb

june 2013

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

June 1

Visit http://www.us.penguin.com/static/images/yr/pdf/GeorgeBrown_ClassroomGuide_12.pdf for Penguin's classroom guide to the George Brown, Class Clown series by Nancy Krulik.

June 2

It's Helen Oxenbury's birthday.

Did you know? Kate Greenaway medalist Oxenbury is married to another children's book creator, John Burningham.

June 3

June is Fruits and Vegetables Month. Celebrate with programs on gardening.

June 4

Summer read: *Pete the Cat at the Beach* by James Dean.

June 5

World Environment Day

The theme for this year's World Environment Day: Think.Eat.Save, an anti-food waste and food loss campaign that encourages you to reduce your footprint.

June 6

D-Day Anniversary

Dr. Seuss for adults. Try *Dr. Seuss Goes to War: The World War II Political Cartoons of Theodor Seuss Geisel*.

June 7

Did you know? "Eensie Weensie Spider" by Yola De Meglio was copyright registered on this day in 1946.

June 8

Check out *Hokey Pokey*, a middle grade fable by Jerry Spinelli.

June 9

Enjoy this rhyming homage to museums: *Museum* by Susan Verde.

June 10

It's Maurice Sendak's birthday. June is Dairy Month.

Visit <http://www.artistshelpingchildren.org/cowcraftsideactivitieskids.html> for a variety of cow art and craft ideas.

June 11

It's National Safety Month.

Post information on bicycle safety. Visit <http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/bike/kidsandbikesafetyweb/> for safety tips and rules of the road.

June 12

It's Anne Frank's birthday.

Post a sign at your desk that says, "Summer reading is good for you!"

June 13

Word of the month: ubiquitous: existing or being everywhere at the same time; widespread.

June 14

Flag Day

What did one flag say to the other flag?
Nothing. It just waved!

June 15

Fly a Kite Day

It's Brian Jacques' birthday.

Visit FunTrivia at http://www.funtrivia.com/quizzes/for_children/jacques_brian/redwall_-_general_trivia.html for several Redwall quizzes.

June 16

Father's Day

Take Me Out to the Ballgame! It's baseball season. Display biographies and fiction books about baseball.

June 17

Barbed Wire Baseball by Marissa Moss tells the story of a baseball field a Japanese father builds at a War Relocation camp during World War II.

June 18

It's Vivian Vande Velde's birthday.

Visit Vande Velde's website at <http://www.vivianvandelde.com/guides.cfm> for writing tips and study guides for two of her books.

June 19

Juneteenth, commemorating the end of slavery in the U.S.

Visit <http://www.leeandlow.com/images/pdfs/juneteenth.pdf> for a teacher's guide to Juneteenth Jamboree by Carole Boston Weatherford

June 20

Dig into Summer! Create a display of gardening, composting, worm, and dirt books.

June 21

Summer begins

Hold a summer solstice celebration.

June 22

The invention of the donut on this day in 1847 is attributed to Captain Hansen Gregory. Share the chapter about the unstoppable donut machine in *Homer Price* by Robert McCloskey.

June 23

Full Moon. It's Wilma Rudolph's birthday.

"My doctor told me I would never walk again. My mother told me I would. I believed my mother." – Olympic medalist Wilma Rudolph

June 24

Feature your nursery rhyme books this week and encourage young parents to share them with their children.

June 25

It's Eric Carle's birthday.

Visit this mom's blog for links to lots of activities about Eric Carle: <http://www.momto2poshilddivas.com/2012/06/happy-birthday-eric-carle-books.html>.

June 26

Easy project: visit <http://www.hellolody.com/2013/01/10/diy-paper-animal-heads/> and learn how to make easy paper animal heads.

June 27

ALA Annual Conference (June 27-July 2) in Chicago.

It's Helen Keller's birthday.

Read Blue Balliett's new book *Hold Fast*, set in Chicago.

June 28

"Amos had a lot to do at the zoo, but he always made time to visit his good friends." *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Phillip C. Stead

June 29

Just for fun: Share *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt.

June 30

It's David McPhail's birthday.

Read about librarian detectives in the booklist at Carnegie Library, <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/books/showbooklist.cfm?catid=5&list=LibrarianDetectives>.

I saw dawn creep across the sky, And all the gulls go flying by. I saw the sea put on its dress, Of blue midsummer loveliness, And heard the trees begin to stir, Green arms of pine and juniper. I heard the wind call out and say: 'Get up, my dear, it is today!'

— Rachel Field

july 2013

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

July 1

It's Emily Arnold McCully's birthday.

How do fireworks work? Watch the video at <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/science/weird-science-sci/idkt-fireworks/> to find out.

July 2

Post the poem "Paul Revere's Ride" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in honor of the Fourth of July.

July 3

Post fireworks safety rules.

July 4

Independence Day

Check out No Shelf Required, a blog about eBooks and other digital media at <http://www.libraries.wright.edu/noshelfrequired/>.

July 5

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

Share Lois Ehlert's *Circus* and play circus music.

July 6

It's National Parks and Recreation Month.

Learn about the National Park's Junior Ranger Program at <http://www.nps.gov/learn/juniorranger.cfm>.

July 7

Read an interview with Sheila Turnage, author of the Newbery Honor book *Three Times Lucky*, at <http://www.kidsreads.com/authors/sheila-turnage/news/interview-102512>.

July 8

Ramadan begins at sunset. It's Raffi's birthday.

Take a virtual tour of the National Toy Hall of Fame at <http://www.toyhalloffame.org/about>.

July 9

Youth Day in Morocco.

Share *The Butter Man* by Elizabeth Letts and Ali Alalou, a father's story of his youth in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco.

July 10

It's Don't Step on a Bee Day.

Share *The Life and Times of the Honeybee* by Charles Micucci.

July 11

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

"Trust me, Wilbur. People are very gullible. They'll believe anything they see in print." — White, *Charlotte's Web*

July 12

It's Henry David Thoreau's birthday.

Storytime goodbye: Share Rob Reid's "Wave Goodbye" at the end of your storytime or program. You can also find the lyrics at <http://www.rapnrob.com/pdf/wave.pdf>.

July 13

Check out Storytime Katie and her flannelboards at <http://storytimekatie.com/about/>.

July 14

It's Woody Guthrie's birthday.

It's Brian Selznick's birthday.

Did you know? Sarah Goode was the first African American woman to receive a patent in 1885. She patented a folding cabinet bed.

July 15

National Ice Cream Day.

Did you know? Vanilla continues to top the list as the most popular ice cream flavor with about 30% of the vote.

July 16

It's Richard Egielski's birthday.

Check out the winners of AASL's newest honor, "The Best Apps for Teaching and Learning."

July 17

You'll go on an African safari this summer when you check out *Safari, A Photicular Book* by Dan Kainen, which uses scanimation technique.

July 18

It's Felicia Bond's birthday.

Compile a list of your favorite children's audio books and prepare to talk them up when school starts.

July 19

The Rosetta Stone was found on this day in 1799 by one of Napoleon's soldiers during his Egyptian campaign.

July 20

It's National Blueberry Month. Share the classic *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey.

July 21

In 1945 President Truman orders atomic bombs to be used. Read *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin.

July 22

Full Moon.

Calculate kids' "moon" weight by multiplying their weight by 0.165.

July 23

Professional read: *DIY Programming and Book Displays* by Amanda Struckmeyer and Svetha Hetzler.

July 24

It's Amelia Earhart's birthday.

Check out 101 Tips for School Librarians at <http://101tips.wordpress.com/>.

July 25

ALSC's Great Websites for Kids at <http://gws.ala.org/> evaluates websites for children and their parents with a site of the week.

July 26

It's Jan Berenstain's birthday.

Check out Tim Federle's debut novel, *Better Nate Than Ever*, about a small-town kid who wants to make it on Broadway.

July 27

Review titles before they are published and spread the word about your favorites at Net Galley, <https://www.netgalley.com/>.

July 28

It's Natalie Babbitt's birthday.

It's a classic: Babbitt's 1975 tale about immortality, *Tuck Everlasting*. For a reading guide, visit <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/tuck-everlasting-discussion-guide>.

July 29

It's Sharon Creech's birthday.

Book talk Creech's *The Great Unexpected*.

July 30

Summer read: *Poison* by Bridget Zinn, a fun fantasy with a feisty female protagonist.

July 31

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

Which is your favorite Harry Potter book?

*In the summer when the days are hot, I like to find a shady spot,
And hardly move a single bit, And sit, and sit, and sit, and sit.*

— Author Unknown

august 2013

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

August 1

It's Maria Mitchell's birthday today.

Read aloud *Maria's Comet*, a biography of Maria Mitchell for the primary grades, by Deborah Hopkinson.

August 2

The first Lincoln penny was issued on this day in 1909. Make penny rubbings.

August 3

National Watermelon Day

Visit <http://www.akidshheart.com/holidays/summer/wmelonday.htm> for watermelon activities.

August 4

It's President Barack Obama's birthday.

Visit <http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/presidents-day/barack-obama/> for links to websites about our 44th president.

August 5

It's Neil Armstrong's birthday.

Bookmark this online quiz about the moon at <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/games/puzzlesquizzes/quizyournoodle-the-moon/>.

August 6

"I wished there was a way to keep that in a bottle, that one moment of wonderful perfect, so I could open it up whenever I needed to get a good whiff."
— *Umbrella Summer* by Lisa Graff

August 7

It's Sea Serpent Day.

It's a classic: *Cyrus the Unsinkable Sea Serpent* by Bill Peet

August 8

Summer read: *A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever* by Marla Frazee

August 9

Smokey Bear has a birthday.

Share *Big Smelly Bear* by Britta Teckentrup, a picture book about a bear who won't take a bath.

August 10

It's National Inventors Month.

Start a Lego Club!

August 11

It's Get Ready for Kindergarten Month.

August 12

It's Ann M. Martin's birthday. It's Walter Dean Myers's birthday. It's Middle Child's Day

Read *Bad Boy, a Memoir* by Walter Dean Myers, about growing up in Harlem during the 1940s and 1950s.

August 13

Dog days of summer? Display both nonfiction and fiction books about dogs. Invite kids to bring in photos of their dogs.

August 14

Just for fun: visit Awful Library Books at <http://awfullibrarybooks.net/about-2/>.

August 15

It's E. Nesbit's birthday.

Did you know? The premise of E. Nesbit's fantasy *Five Children and It* inspired Edgar Eager's *Half Magic*.

August 16

National Tell a Joke Day.

Make a joke bulletin board and display your joke and riddle books.

August 17

Summer Library Programs are ending. Did you achieve your goals? Let your director know about your successes.

August 18

Visit <http://www.crayola.com/crafts/pretend-youre-a-cave-painter-craft/> for a Crayola craft called "Pretend You're a Cave Painter."

August 19

It's Orville Wright's birthday. It's Potato Day.

Try some experiments from *Potato Chip Science* by Allen and Max Kurzweil.

August 20

Full Moon. It's Children's Vision and Learning Month.

Vision problems may interfere with students' ability to read and learn!

August 21

Visit Teaching Heart's website at <http://www.teachingheart.net/backtoschoolreading.html> for suggestions of books to read to your students during the first weeks of school.

August 22

Got Garfield? Add some Garfield posters to your walls and books to your collection. Visit <http://www.garfieldposters.com/> to order Garfield posters.

August 23

Plan a fun family movie night.

August 24

Mount Vesuvius erupts on this day in 79 AD.

Share *The Pirates of Pompeii* by Caroline Lawrence, the third in a series of mysteries about four friends.

August 25

It's Ian Falconer's birthday.

Celebrate pigs in children's books with a display including the Olivia books by Falconer.

August 26

Women's Equality Day

Today commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women full voting rights in 1920.

August 27

Banana Lovers Day.

Why are bananas never lonely? Because they hang around in bunches.

August 28

It's Allen Say's birthday.

Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I have a dream" speech fifty years ago today. Post the speech and books about King and the Civil Rights movement.

August 29

Check out The Mighty Little Librarian blog at <http://www.mightylittlelibrarian.com/>.

August 30

It's Virginia Lee Burton's birthday.

Share Burton's *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* with children today.

August 31

Visit http://cdn1.dolimg.com/explore/PMPages/Printable/Ring_of_Solomon_DG.pdf for a discussion guide to Jonathan Stroud's *Bartimaeus: The Ring of Solomon*.