

## **Activities & Lessons for March Events**

### **American Red Cross Month**

- Invite a Red Cross representative to your school to share with children what the Red Cross does.
- Students conduct fundraisers/drives with money/goods to be donated to your local Red Cross.
- Listen to/read the news looking for locations where the Red Cross is currently helping others.

### **Music in our Schools Month**

- Work in cooperation with your music teacher to create/perform a musical. Invite parents!
- Students create their own songs. These songs could be based on a current unit of study.

### **National Craft Month**

- Work in cooperation with your art teacher to incorporate educational crafts with your current unit of study.
- Invite local experts/parents of various crafts into your classroom/school for "How-to Presentations."
- Students can teach their classmates how to create a certain craft.

### **National Frozen Food Month**

- Visit your local supermarket's frozen food section. Visit with a store manager about how frozen food is cared for. While on your trip, students may complete a scavenger hunt, writing activity, or graphing/counting activity.
- If possible, visit a frozen food plant. See first hand how food is packaged and shipped.
- Visit with the cafeteria manager about how they use frozen foods in the school lunches.
- "Frozen Food Day" - Students bring in a frozen food for lunch. Graph students' favorite frozen food.

### **National Noodle Month**

- Have students bring in their favorite type of noodle and have a "Noodle Lunch."
- Purchase a variety of noodles and have students create noodle art. (Don't forget...you can dye noodles with food coloring to add variety.)
- Visit a noodle making factory.
- Students write a story with a noodle as the main character.
- Research the history of noodles. How have they changed over time?

### **National Nutrition Month**

- Invite a nutritionist into your classroom to share with students the importance of nutrition.
- Learn about the basic food groups.
- Have students keep a daily eating log.
- Invite the school cafeteria manager into your class to share with students how they use nutrition in meal planning.
- Ask your families to plan meals together. Record the meals.

### **Woman's History Month**

- Present your students with a list of famous Women in History. Allow them to select one and learn more about her. Students can present an oral or written report.
- Present an important woman each week.
- Invite important women from your community into your classroom.
- Have students interview their mother and find out what women influenced her life.
- Have students predict in writing what women of today will be looked upon later as important "Women in History."

### **Youth Art Month**

- Work in cooperation with your art teacher to incorporate students' art time with the current unit of study.
- Create an art gallery containing students' work.
- Have students interpret art through music. Turn on some music (ie: classical) and have students draw what they are hearing.

### **1st Week - Newspapers in Our School Week**

- Contact your local newspaper and find out what type of programs they offer for school children.
- Create a newspaper scavenger hunt. Provide students with a sheet of what they are looking for and have them cut out, or write down, their answers.
- Students can create a classroom newspaper that would share information with parents.
- Students learn about the different types of writing involved with the newspaper. (Inform, persuade, etc.)

## **2nd Week - Bubble Gum Week**

- Graph students' favorite type of bubble gum.
- "Gum Day" - Students are able to chew gum in class. (Be sure to lay down a few ground rules.)
- Students write a story that involves bubble gum in the problem or goal.

## **17th - 24th - Clean Your Closet Week**

- Students can clean out their desks.
- Give awards for the cleanest desk/cubby.
- Teachers...get your self organized!

## **1st - National Pig Day**

- List all of the uses for pork.
- Students write a story with a pig (or pigs) as the main character(s).
- Read the various versions of The Three Little Pigs.

## **1st - Peanut Butter Lover's Day**

- Students list their favorite peanut butter foods.
- Grow peanut plants. Chart and graph their growth and development.
- Make your own peanut butter.
- Visit a peanut butter factory.
- Create a peanut butter poem.
- Create puppets from peanut shells.
- List reasons you love peanut butter.

## **1st - Saint David's Day**

- Research this Welsh holiday.

## **1st - Share a Smile Day**

- List all of the things that make you smile.
- Have students create a joke book.
- Share information about dental health...keeping a healthy smile. (Invite a dentist in or contact one for resources.)
- Send an electronic card to a friend.
- Write a story about someone who smiles too much/too little.
- Write a paragraph persuading people to smile.

## **2nd - Dr. Seuss's Birthday**

- Send Dr. Seuss a birthday card.
- Make green eggs & ham. (Food coloring)
- Write a poem in Dr. Seuss's honor.
- Using various Dr. Seuss books, have students create a new endings.
- Have a costume party...students dress as their favorite Dr. Seuss character.

## **3rd - National Anthem Day**

### **The Star Spangled Banner was adopted by Congress as the national anthem in 1931.**

- Students research and present an oral/written report on The Star Spangled Banner.
- Research other anthems.
- Learn more about the author of The Star Spangled Banner.
- Students write and produce their own anthem.
- Students learn and perform The Star Spangled Banner.

## **6th - Oreo Cookies for Sale**

### **On Sale for the first time in 1912.**

- Students write a story/paragraph about the best way to eat an Oreo cookie. (You may want to provide each student with their own cookie.)
- Take a survey of other classes about Oreo cookie eating habits. Consider the following questions: Do you eat out the middle first? Do you dunk your Oreo in milk? Students can graph and report out on their findings.
- Give each child an Oreo cookie and have them write a story of how they think the cookie got to their desk.

## **7th - Telephone Patent Granted In 1876 to Alexander Graham Bell.**

- Students write about what they think life was like before the invention of the telephone.

- Research and present an oral/written report on Alexander Graham Bell and/or the telephone.
- Students write about the telephones of the future. How will they look? operate? sound? etc.
- Visit a museum that contains telephones.
- Discuss what a patent is and how/why they are issued.
- Students create their own telephones using cans and strings.

### **8th - Working Women's Day**

- Students can research the role of women in the workplace.
- Invite working moms in to share their jobs.
- Students of working moms can create a card for their mom.

### **9th - Barbie's Birthday**

#### **Barbie Doll was introduced on this day in 1959.**

- Using the Internet, research the history of the Barbie doll.
- Students can create their own theme Barbie.
- Visit a doll museum.

### **10th - First Paper Money Issued Issued this day in 1862.**

- Research the history of money.
- Have students discuss the value of having paper money.
- Conduct an economics unit.
- Students create their own type of money. (Could be used for items in the classroom.)
- Visit a mint or treasury.
- Visit a bank.

### **11th - Johnny Appleseed Day**

#### **The anniversary of the death of John Chapman a.k.a. Johnny Appleseed.**

- Conduct a mini-unit on Johnny Appleseed (Have student work published to the Internet.)
- Students research and present an oral/written report on John Chapman.
- Learn about apples.
- Create a poem in John's honor.
- Compare and contrast John Chapman to another famous person from history.

### **12th - Commonwealth Day The Second Monday in March.**

- Students research this holiday celebrated by all Commonwealth countries.

### **12th - Girl Scout Day Girl Scouts founded in 1912.**

- Learn about the Girl Scout organization.
- Have students who are Girl Scouts share information.
- Learn how Girl Scout Cookie money is used.

### **13th - Good Samaritan Day**

- Define what a good Samaritan is.
- Brainstorm ways that students can be good Samaritans.
- Have students record the ways they are good Samaritans.

### **13th - Uranus Discovered In 1781.**

- Students research and present an oral/written report on this planet.
- In cooperation with the art teacher, students can create space art.
- Write a poem in honor of Uranus.
- Write and create a song in honor of Uranus. (Could include the other planets as well.)
- Students write a story about their adventure on or to this planet.

### **14th - Albert Einstein's Birthday Born in 1879.**

- Students research and create an oral/written report on Albert Einstein.
- Students learn about all of Einstein's contributions. They can pick one to learn more about.
- Visit the Einstein memorial in Washington, D.C.

#### **14th - Casey Jones' Birthday Born John Luther Jones in 1864.**

- Students research this American locomotive engineer.
- Students learn and perform the songs that honor him.

#### **15th - Absolutely Incredible Kid Day**

##### **Tell your kids how great they are!**

- Have a special celebration today for your students. (Speak to other teachers and try to have a school-wide celebration.)
- Create special certificates recognizing the uniqueness of each student.
- Hand-out "Free Homework" passes.

#### **15th - Ides of March**

- Research the details of this deadly event.
- Learn about Julius Caesar.
- Learn about astrology.

#### **17th - Rubber Band Invented In 1845.**

- List all of the possible uses for the rubber band.
- Learn more about the history of the rubber band and it's inventor.
- Visit a rubber band factory.
- Create some type of tool/gadget using rubber bands as the main component.

#### **17th - St. Patrick's Day**

- Hold an Irish snack time and/or lunch.
- Students can research and report about the history and traditions of this popular holiday.
- Focus your day on anything and everything GREEN!
- Write a St. Patrick's Day Poem.
- Students create leprechaun stories. (Or stories including the setting of Ireland.)
- Sharpen geography skills by learning about Ireland/Europe.
- Students write and perform a song and/or play.

#### **18th - First Walk in Space In 1965.**

- Students learn more about the people involved with this event.
- Find a piece of literature to share with the students.
- Students write a story about what it would have been like to walk in space.
- Research the history of the space program.
- Construct a timeline depicting the monumental moments of space history.
- Visit NASA online.
- Bring in dehydrated (space) food for students to try.
- Create a space capsule for your room. (Get the exact dimensions to make it more realistic. After spending a little time in the capsule, have students discuss/write about their feelings of this small space.

#### **18th - Birthday of Sparky the Fire Dog**

##### **Official mascot of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).**

- Invite a fireman in to discuss fire safety.
- Research and learn more about Sparky. (ie: How he came to be the Fire Dog.)
- Practice your fire drill.
- Have students discuss fire safety at home with their parents. Ask them to come up with their own fire/emergency plan.
- Students can make fire safety posters.

#### **19th - Swallow's Return Day**

##### **The traditional return of swallows to San Juan Capistrano.**

- Students research and report on the swallow.
- Sharpen geography skills and have students map the route of the swallows. Learn about the countries that they pass.
- Learn about migration.

#### **20th - Big Bird's Birthday**

##### **Sesame Street Character.**

- Create a birthday card.
- Write a poem in honor of Big Bird.

- Rent Sesame Street videos to share with students.
- Depending on the age, have students write about their best Big Bird memory.

### **20th - First Day of Spring**

- Students create a story or poem about Spring.
- Students list all of the reasons they like Spring.
- Teach a science lesson on the seasons.
- Talk about Spring flowers and the process they go through.
- Start some seeds! Use the plants for an indoor or outdoor school garden.
- Sort/classify various types of seeds or Spring plants/flowers.
- Learn about the local/regional Spring weather. (Average temp., precip., etc.)

### **21st - Children's Poetry Day**

- Teach students about the various forms of poetry.
- Invite parents in to conduct poetry readings.
- Invite in a famous poet.
- Share some of your own poetry.

### **21st - National Teen-agers Day**

- Let your teen-ager know how much they are appreciated.
- Take this day to talk to your teen-ager about important issues.
- If you have high school student aides, do something special for them.

### **21st - Single Parents' Day**

- Have students of single parents create an appreciation card/gift.

### **22nd - Randolph Caldecott**

- Explain the Caldecott Award to students.
- Read various Caldecott Award winning books throughout the day.
- Have students look at nominated books and have them discuss why they feel that particular book did not win.

### **22nd - National Goof Off Day**

- Students write about their favorite "goof off" activity.
- Students can survey other classes about their favorite activity. Create graphs so show the results.
- Give students the opportunity to earn "goof off minutes" throughout the day. Give them this extra time at the end of the school day.

### **22nd - National Sing-Out Day**

- Have students bring in tapes/CDs of their favorite songs.
- Have students write songs dealing with your current topic of study.
- Work in cooperation with the music teacher to create a special activity.
- Students research and report on a famous musician.

### **23rd - Toast Day**

#### **Nellie Melba revealed her Melba Toast recipe.**

- Bring in melba toast for students to eat.
- Take a survey of student's favorite toast toppings. (Create graphs for results.)
- Learn more about Nellie Melba.
- Create a list of all the ways toast can be used.

### **24th - Harry Houdini's Birthday Born in 1874.**

- Hold a magic day. Invite students to share their favorite magic trick.
- Invite a magician into your class.
- Students can research and report on the various aspects of Harry Houdini's life.
- Students write about how they think a popular trick works.

### **25th - Pancakes First Made**

#### **First made in New York City in 1882.**

- Have a pancake breakfast. (For the staff and/or students.) This can be a great measurement activity.
- Take a survey of everyone's favorite pancake topping and create a graph.

- Students write an "Ode to Pancakes" poem.
- Read "The Gingerbread Baby" by Jan Brett. Have students create a similar story with a pancake as the main character.

### **25th - Purim Begins at sundown.**

- Research the most festive of Jewish holidays.
- Invite a Jewish speaker in to share information about this holiday.

### **26th - Make Up Your Own Holiday Day**

- Discuss with students how various holidays have come to be. Also discuss how there is usually a symbol to accompany most holidays.
- Students create and describe their new holiday. Remind them to include details and a symbol.
- Have students write a persuasive paragraph on why their holiday should be celebrated.

### **29th - Coca-Cola was Invented In 1886.**

- Have students research the history of Coca-Cola (include the types of cans.)
- Bring in Coke for students to drink.
- Hold a Pepsi and Coca-Cola taste test.
- If able, visit a bottling/canning business.
- Have students write a descriptive paragraph about a Coca-Cola can, not giving away to the reader what they are describing.

### **30th - Alaska Purchased from Russia in 1867.**

- Students learn and report on Alaska. Have individuals or small groups learn about the different aspects of this state.

### **30th - Doctor's Day**

- Invite a doctor into your class. Have students prepare questions before hand that they would like to ask him/her.
- Have students learn about the history of the doctor. Compare and contrast the duties of a doctor during a different time period with that of today.

### **30th - Pencil with Eraser Patented in 1858.**

- Present students with new or even personalized pencils.
- Students create a story with a pencil as the main character.
- Students write a story from a pencil's point of view.
- Have students list all the possible uses of a pencil.

### **31st - First Map of the US Published**

- Use this day to sharpen map skills.
- Find maps from different decades and compare them.
- Have students create maps of various areas/locations: school, room, home, neighborhood, state, etc.
- Have a topographer visit your class.
- Create a treasure hunt map.

### **31st - Tater Day**

- Write a story with a potato as the main character.
- Cut a potato in half. Fill a glass or small bowl with water. Keeping a portion of the cut-end of the potato in water, push in 3 toothpicks evenly spaced around the side. Place in a sunny window and maintain the water level.
- Have students bring in potatoes and cook them in a variety of ways.