

Daily Fun with Your Little One!

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Help your child get ready to learn to read!

Each day features a fun activity that will help your child build pre-reading skills. Activities are color-coded by skill. Ask your children's librarian for more ideas on how to promote early literacy skills with daily activities at home.

1 Science

It's National Space Day! Go to the library and check out a nonfiction book about space or the planets to read together.

2 Play

On National Fitness Day, go outside and get some exercise while playing a game of tag.

3 Reading

It's National Lemonade Day. Celebrate by reading *Maisy Makes Lemonade* by Lucy Cousins together.

4 Writing

It's National Weather Observers Day. Have your child draw pictures of the weather outside in the morning, afternoon, and evening.

5 Reading

It's Cinco de Mayo! Read *Marco's Cinco de Mayo* by Lisa Bullard together.

6 Sounds

Flip through a magazine or book with pictures of different animals, and ask your child to make the sounds that the animals make.

7 Math

Put out a bowl of colored cereal, such as Fruit Loops, and have your child sort the pieces by color.

8 Rhymes

How many words can your child think of that rhyme with "May"?

9 Play

On National Sleepover Day, have a "sleepover" in the middle of the day! Get out sleeping bags, pillows, and snacks, and play games.

10 Songs

Sing "Where Is Thumbkin?" and do the hand motions.

11 Stories

Read a book about halfway through. Then stop and ask your child what she thinks will happen next and how it will end.

12 Writing

Write letters on a small piece of paper and stick it to the inside cover of a CD case. Have your child trace the letters with a dry erase marker.

13 Sounds

Show your child a picture of an object. Ask him to tell you what sound is at the beginning and end of the word for the object.

14 Play

It's National Dance Like a Chicken Day. Put on your child's favorite music and let loose!

15 Math

It's National Chocolate Chip Day. Use chocolate chips to solve simple addition and subtraction problems. Then have a sweet treat!

16 Writing

On National Love a Tree Day, have your child draw a picture of her favorite kind of tree.

17 Reading

While grocery shopping, have your child help you read your shopping list.

18 Songs

While preparing dinner, make up a song together about what you're making.

19 Rhymes

Read a rhyming book together, such as *The Pout-Pout Fish* by Deborah Diesen.

20 Stories

Ask your child to tell you a story about what he thinks her stuffed animals do during the day.

21 Science

Take a walk outside, and talk about all of the animals that you see or hear.

22 Sounds

Sit quietly inside for 30 seconds. Then go outside and sit quietly for 30 seconds. What sounds did you hear outside that you didn't hear inside?

23 Stories

It's National Lucky Penny Day. Tell your child a story about a time a penny or another object brought you good luck.

24 Math

It's National Scavenger Hunt Day. Send your child on a scavenger hunt around the house to find colored objects.

25 Songs

Sing your child's favorite song together as you get ready for bed.

26 Rhymes

Put several items in a bag, such as a spoon, a pen, a sock, a doll, and so on. Have your child pull items out and say a word that rhymes with each item.

27 Science

Fill a small bowl with water and sprinkle pepper over the entire top of the water. Have your child put dish soap on her fingertip and touch the middle of the water.

28 Reading

It's National Hamburger Day! Read *Sam's Hamburger* by David Pelham together.

29 Math

While cleaning your child's room, have him count and sort his toys and stuffed animals.

30 Writing

It's National Creativity Day! Set out crayons, glue, glitter, and other craft supplies, and tell your child to let her creativity to go wild!

31 Songs

On National Smile Day, sing a silly song together that makes your child smile.

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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

Holiday

Celebration

Birthday



"If you make happy those that are near, those that are far will come."

— Grace Lin, *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*

May 2020

Children's Activity Calendar

3

National Teacher Appreciation Week:

You are appreciated in so many ways, whether expressly shared or secretly treasured. Take time this week to share gratitude for your colleagues helping to raise a community of readers!

4

Keith Haring's Birthday:

Share **Keith Haring: The Boy Who Just Kept Drawing** by Kay A. Haring, illustrated by Robert Neubecker, to introduce students to an artist whose influence on pop art is still seen today.

5

Cinco de Mayo:

Celebrate this significant day in Mexican history by reading **Cinco de Mouse-O!** by Judy Cox, illustrated by Jeffrey Ebbeler.

10

Mother's Day: There are lots of different ways to be a family, as well as lots of ways to celebrate those who raise us. Share **All Ways Family** by Noemí Fernández Selva, illustrated by Cristina Losantos.

11

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month: Display books recognized by the **Asian/Pacific American Awards for Literature** and share information about the award with your learners.

12

National Bike Month:

Share **Duck on a Bike** by David Shannon, and ask students where their favorite place to ride a bike is.

17

Grace Lin's Birthday:

Choose an **activity** from *A Big Bed for Little Snow* or one of Grace's other books to celebrate this award-winning author's birthday!

18

Jewish American Heritage Month:

Author Lesléa Newman shares books that center the Jewish faith and culture in response to the ripples from recent synagogue attacks on this episode of the **Kidlit These Days** podcast.

19

Happy Book Birthday to

The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes by Suzanne Collins

24

Older Americans Month:

Try one of these **10 ways to celebrate older Americans**.

25

Memorial Day:

Learn about the Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom, which pays tribute to the men and women of the U.S. armed forces, by reading **Rolling Thunder** by Kate Messner, illustrated by Greg Ruth.

26

Happy Book Birthday to

Be Amazing: A History of Pride by Desmond Napoles, illustrated by Dylan Glynn

31

Mental Health Awareness Month:

Check out these **helpful resources**.



WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

School Principals' Day:

Surprise your head of school with one of these **gift ideas** from artists on Etsy.

2

Free Comic Book Day: Plan a trip to your local **comic book shop** to pick up some free comics for your students, or coordinate a meet-up for the school community to celebrate comics locally!

6

Happy (belated) Book Birthday to *Papa Brings Me the World* by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw, which was released yesterday.

7

National Tourism Day:

Ask students, "Where would you go if you could go anywhere in the entire world?" Have students take pictures of themselves in front of a green screen and then superimpose images from travel destinations.

8

No Socks Day: This might make for some extra stinky shoes, but it will also be liberating for your feet!

9

Celebrate **National Nurses Week** by inviting everyone to draw a heart on a Band-Aid and wear it around to celebrate school nurses, the ones who help us stay healthy each and every day of school!

13

Stevie Wonder's Birthday:

Fill your teaching space with music by one of the most acclaimed and successful musicians of the 20th century. And for those who want to learn more, share *Who Is Stevie Wonder?* by Jim Gigliotti.

14

National Dance Like a Chicken Day: Best if performed in large groups (and possibly with someone recording it on their phone!)

15

National Endangered Species Day: Learn more about endangered animal species and consider **adopting an animal** with your class through the World Wildlife Federation (WWF).

16

National Love a Tree Day:

You or your students may have a favorite tree near your home or on your walk to school. Today is a great day to hug that tree and thank it for its shade, strength, and fortitude.

20

National Pick Strawberries Day: How many strawberries can fit into one quart container? And how many can avoid being eaten while you count? Have students estimate with this delicious natural treat.

21

National Photography Month: Set up a photo booth with silly summer props, like hats, sunglasses, and beach balls, and take pictures of students for a bulletin board titled "Coming Soon: Summertime Shenanigans!"

22

National Buy a Musical Instrument Day: You and your students can make homemade music with these **6 DIY Instruments**.

23

National Lucky Penny Day: Finding a penny lying heads-up is said to be good luck. Here are **14 other superstitions about pennies**.

27

Sun Screen Day: How much is that sun screen actually protecting you? Here's a **super cool activity** to do with kids to find out!

28

National Hamburger Day: You know what your library or classroom needs? A **DIY Cheeseburger Pillow**!

29

Andrew Clements' Birthday: Learn more about **the life of the late author** whose best-selling book *Frindle* has sold over 6.5 million copies worldwide. Then try a Clements book you haven't read before!

30

National Water a Flower Day: Who wouldn't want more flowers around their library, classroom, school, or neighborhood? Help learners to know how much water is "just right" when caring for our petaled friends.

