

“Roses are red, Violets are blue;
But they don’t get around Like the dandelions do.”

— Harold A. Picket aka Slim Acres

june 2014

Audiobook Month | Dairy Month | National Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Month | National Rose Month | National Safety Month

June 1

It's Oscar the Grouch's birthday.

Plan a grouchy storytime; visit <http://awesomestorytime.wordpress.com/2008/11/05/grumpy-storytime/> for suggestions.

June 2

It's Helen Oxenbury's birthday.

For parents this summer, suggest Rob Reid's *Silly Books to Read Aloud*.

June 3

June is Fruits and Vegetables Month.

Visit www.clover.okstate.edu/fourh/aitc/lessons/extras/recipes/fruitveggames.html for directions to several games about fruits and vegetables.

June 4

It's Aesop's birthday.

Share some Aesop's fables with children.

June 5

World Environment Day

Visit www.enchantedslearning.com/crafts/wed/ for World Environment Day crafts and projects.

June 6

D-Day Anniversary

Today marks the 60th anniversary of the Allied troops' invasion of Normandy. Young history buffs may enjoy *D-Day, June 6, 1944*, a graphic history by Agnieszka Biskup.

June 7

Project time! You'll find projects for all six simple machines in *Explore Simple Machines: 25 Projects, Activities, Experiments*, Anita Yasuda's addition to the Explore Your World Series.

June 8

June is Dairy Month.

Share *Cock-a-Doodle-Moo!* by Bernard Most in a storytime about cows.

June 9

Word of the month: bovine: characteristic of or resembling cows or cattle.

June 10

It's Maurice Sendak's birthday.

Read *Maurice Sendak: A Celebration of the Artist and Work* by Justin Schiller.

June 11

Wedding bells are ringing with *Fancy Nancy and the Wedding of the Century*, a new Fancy Nancy title by Jane O'Connor.

June 12

It's Anne Frank's birthday.

Visit Anne Frank: Beyond the Diary Extension Activities at www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/anne-frank-beyond-diary-extension-activities.

June 13

Full Moon

June's full moon is known as the Strawberry Moon.

June 14

Flag Day

Did you know? Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the US flag in 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

June 15

Father's Day

Share Jeffrey Brown's *Darth Vader and Son* this Father's Day.

June 16

The first roller coaster in America opened at Coney Island in Brooklyn, New York, on this day in 1884.

June 17

It's baseball season. Share *Goodnight Baseball* by Michael Dahl in storytime.

June 18

It's Superman's birthday.

This is the day the Kents celebrated their adopted son's birthday.

June 19

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

Visit <http://juneteenth.com/> for more information and ideas for celebrating.

June 20

Explore nature through the nonfiction books of Laurence Pringle.

June 21

Summer Begins

Have a science-filled summer!

June 22

Watch and share the interview with Allen Kurzweil, author of *Potato Chip Science*, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=9e0hN2SKvFg.

June 23

It's Wilma Rudolph's birthday.

Watch Wilma run in the 1960 Olympics at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLmn7MsDhHU>.

June 24

Mix it up! Make slime and goo and other messy mixtures with Jordan Brown's *Crazy Concoctions: A Mad Scientist's Guide to Messy Mixtures*.

June 25

It's Eric Carle's birthday.

Visit www.eric-carle.com/EricCarleCollageMakingInstructionSheet.pdf for instructions on making a collage in the style of Eric Carle.

June 26

ALA Annual Conference, June 26–July 1, 2014, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

June 27

It's Helen Keller's birthday.

Watch a 1930 newsreel of Annie Sullivan and Helen Keller at www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvluLF35Uw.

June 28

The Raggedy Ann doll was invented in 1917 by Johnny Gruelle.

June 29

Ramadan Begins

Freedom Summer was 50 years ago.

Share *Freedom Summer* by Susan Goldman Rubin, which recounts the summer when student volunteers went to Mississippi to challenge voting discrimination.

June 30

It's David McPhail's birthday.

Head to the beach for storytime this week.

We have a little garden, A garden of our own, And every day we water there The seeds that we have sown.
We love our little garden, And tend it with such care, You will not find a faded leaf Or blighted blossom there.

— Beatrix Potter

july 2014

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

July 1

It's Emily Arnold McCully's birthday.

Did you know? Silly Putty was trademarked on this day in 1952.

July 2

The Palio is held in Siena, Italy, today. Hold foot or relay races in honor of this colorful medieval horse race.

July 3

Take a nature walk and make garlands from natural materials—acorns and other nuts, shells, pine cones, etc.

July 4

Independence Day

What did one firecracker say to the other?
My pop's bigger than your pop.

July 5

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

The Tour de France bicycle race begins today.

July 6

It's National Parks and Recreation Month.

Post information about parks and park activities in your area.

July 7

Visit the NASA Kids Club at www.nasa.gov/audience/for_kids/kidsclub/flash/index.html#UqdwjOKPHCo for online games.

July 8

It's Raffi's birthday.

Display Raffi's CDs and sing Raffi songs at your storytimes this week.

July 9

Youth Day in Morocco.

Share *Mirror* by Jeannie Baker, a wordless picture book about two boys and their families, one from Australia and the other from Morocco.

July 10

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

Share *The Bee Tree* by Patricia Polacco.

July 11

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

Show the film *Charlotte's Web*.

July 12

Full Moon

It's Henry David Thoreau's birthday.

Take a walk in the woods today.

July 13

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

July 14

It's Woody Guthrie's birthday.

Share Bonnie Christensen's picture book biography, *Woody Guthrie: Poet of the People*.

July 15

National Ice Cream Day

Share *Milk to Ice Cream* by Lisa M. Herrington and make ice cream.

July 16

It's Richard Egielski's birthday.

Learn some camp songs to share with children at www.ultimatecampresource.com/site/camp-activities/camp-songs.html.

July 17

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

July 18

It's Nelson Mandela's birthday.

Share *Nelson Mandela*, a picture book biography by Kadir Nelson.

July 19

Plan a picnic storytime. Visit www.perrypubliclibrary.org/webfm_send/76 for ideas.

July 20

Did you know? US astronaut Neil A. Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon on July 20, 1969.

July 21

Share *Parrots over Puerto Rico* by Susan L. Roth, a book about the plight of Puerto Rico's parrots.

July 22

Legend has it that on this day in 1284 the Pied Piper of Hamelin piped away the rats (and children) of his German village.

July 23

Share *Rosie's Magic Horse* by the late, great author Russell Hoban.

July 24

It's Amelia Earhart's birthday.

J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Fellowship of the Ring* is 60 years old this year.

July 25

It's National Blueberry Month.

Word of the month: delicious: very pleasing, especially to taste or smell; delightful

July 26

It's Jan Berenstain's birthday.

Watch a short interview with Jan and Mike Berenstain about the origins of the Bear family and *The Big Honey Hunt* at www.berenstainbears.com/parents/interview%201.html.

July 27

"I don't know what lies around the bend, but I'm going to believe the best does."
~ Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery

July 28

It's Natalie Babbitt's birthday.

It's a classic: *The Search for Delicious* by Natalie Babbitt.

July 29

It's Sharon Creech's birthday.

Celebrate the Chincoteague Pony Swim (set for tomorrow) with a horse and pony program.

July 30

The board game Monopoly was trademarked on this day in 1933. Set out a Monopoly game.

July 31

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

Celebrate with a party and all of your Harry Potter books and tapes. Show one of the Harry Potter films.

Oh, Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun,
Please shine down on me.

— Traditional

august 2014

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

August 1

It's Maria Mitchell's birthday.
Plan a stargazing night.

August 2

The first Lincoln penny was issued on this day in 1909.
Visit www.coin-collecting-guide-for-beginners.com/lincoln-cents.html,
a coin collecting guide for beginners.

August 3

National Watermelon Day
Visit www.watermelon.org/Carvings/Carvings-Entertainment.aspx
for watermelon carving ideas.

August 4

It's President Barack Obama's birthday.
It's Louis Armstrong's birthday.
Share *What a Wonderful World* by George David Weiss and Bob Thiele
and then play the song made famous by Louis Armstrong.

August 5

It's Neil Armstrong's birthday.
Display biographies of Armstrong and other astronauts.

August 6

Hiroshima Day
Today commemorates the day in 1945 when an atomic bomb
was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima.

August 7

It's Sea Serpent Day.
Visit www.librarypalooza.net/downloads/sea_serpent_050808.pdf
for ideas to celebrate this fun day.

August 8

Arctic explorer Matthew Henson was born on this day in 1886.
Share a biography of Henson and have children locate the North Pole on a map.

August 9

Smokey Bear is 70 years old today. Visit smokeybear.mrdonn.org/Smokey.html
for links to resources, activities and other ways to celebrate.

August 10

Full Moon
Check out the blog Little eLit at <http://littleelit.com/> for ideas of how
to incorporate digital media into your storytimes.

August 11

Check out Denver Public Library's list of "First Day of School Books" at www.denverlibrary.org/blog/first-day-school-books.

August 12

It's Middle Child's Day.
Share *Squashed in the Middle* by Elizabeth Winthrop.

August 13

It's Get Ready for Kindergarten Month.
Invite rising kindergartners to the library for a program this month.

August 14

"It is helpful to know the proper way to behave, so one can decide whether
or not to be proper."
~ *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine

August 15

It's E. Nesbit's birthday.
Read about the Bastables in E. Nesbit's first children's book,
The Story of the Treasure Seekers.

August 16

National Tell a Joke Day
Make a joke bulletin board and display your joke and riddle books.

August 17

Word of the month: colossal: extremely large, gigantic.

August 18

Host a back-to-school bash to celebrate the end of summer.

August 19

It's Potato Day.
Share *George Crum and the Saratoga Chip* by Gaylia Taylor, about the man credited
with inventing potato chips.

August 20

TV pioneer Philo Farnsworth patented a television on this day in 1930. Read *The
Boy Who Invented TV: The Story of Philo Farnsworth* by Kathleen Krull.

August 21

Create an interactive bulletin board: Ask parents to post their favorite books from
childhood and then display those titles you have in your collection.

August 22

Teacher: Jacob, go to the map and find North America.
Jacob: Here it is!
Teacher: Correct. Now, class, who discovered America?
Class: Jacob!

August 23

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

August 24

Mount Vesuvius erupted on this day in 79 AD. Plan a program on volcanoes.

August 25

Did you know? The National Park Service was founded on this day in 1916.

August 26

Women's Equality Day
Today commemorates the passage in of the 19th Amendment to the US
Constitution, giving women full voting rights in 1920.

August 27

Banana Lovers Day
Have a Bananagrams tournament. You can also adapt Bananagrams for preschoolers:
<http://kidsactivitiesblog.com/10432/literacy-game-for-kids-bananagrams>.

August 28

It's Allen Say's birthday.
Share *The Favorite Daughter* by Allen Say, in which a father helps his daughter find
pride in her heritage and unusual name.

August 29

Whitcomb Judson received a patent for the zipper in 1893. Make zipper pulls with
children this week.

August 30

It's Virginia Lee Burton's birthday.
Read *Virginia Lee Burton: A Life in Art* by Barbara Elleman.

August 31

Check out Here's Hank, a series by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver aimed at readers
ages six to eight, focusing on the affable struggling learner as a second grader.