

Keep a poem in your pocket / and a picture in your head
and you'll never feel lonely / at night when you're in bed.

— From "Keep a Poem in Your Pocket" by Beatrice Schenk de Regniers

june 2012

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

June 1

If you are a teacher or librarian email teachersandlibrarians@us.penguin.com with the subject line "Flanagan Frenzy" for information on Penguin's activity kits for the Ranger's Apprentice series and the Brotherband Chronicles.

June 2

It's Helen Oxenbury's birthday.

Check and replenish your collection of Oxenbury's board books for the very young.

June 3

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

June 4

Full Moon

Why couldn't the astronaut book a room on the moon? *Because it was full!*

June 5

World Environment Day

It's Rick Riordan's birthday.

Visit Riordan's website at rickriordan.com/my-books/kane-chronicles/house-of-life/egyptian-games.aspx for links to good sites for Egyptian fun and games.

June 6

D-Day Anniversary

Create a display of books, films, and comics about superheroes to capitalize on the popularity of the *Avengers* movie.

June 7

June is Dairy Month.

Share *Zig and Wilki in the Cow* by Nadja Spiegelman, a humorous graphic novel that also teaches about the digestive system of the cow.

June 8

It's Milking Time by Phyllis Alsdurf celebrates the routine of milking on a dairy farm in a narrative poem.

June 9

"I assure you that you can pick up more information when you are listening than when you are talking."

—*The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White

June 10

It's Maurice Sendak's birthday.

In honor of Sendak's passing last month, create a display of his books.

June 11

It's National Safety Month.

Share *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathmann in a storytime about safety.

June 12

It's Anne Frank's birthday.

"No one has ever become poor by giving."

Anne Frank

June 13

What did one firefly say to another? *Got to glow now!*

June 14

Flag Day

Older readers and Garth Nix fans will enjoy his new science fiction novel, *A Confusion of Princes*.

June 15

Fly a Kite Day

It's Brian Jacques' birthday.

Go to www.makinglearningfun.com/themepages/KiteBookmarks.htm for printable kite bookmarks in color or black and white.

June 16

Fear of the dark? Read Deborah Diesen's *The Pout-Pout Fish in the Big-Big Dark*.

June 17

Father's Day

Celebrate with a display of books about dads like *Every Friday* by Dan Yaccarino and *Papa, Do You Love Me?* by Barbara M. Joose.

June 18

It's Vivian Vande Velde's birthday.

Coming soon, a new chapter book by Vande Velde called *Deadly Pink*.

June 19

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

Share the history of Juneteenth with young readers with books like *Juneteenth* by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson and Drew Nelson in the *On My Own Holidays* series.

June 20

Summer begins.

How do animals adapt to a changing climate? Check out Caroline Arnold's *A Warmer World: From Polar Bears to Butterflies, How Climate Change Affects Wildlife*.

June 21

ALA Annual Conference (June 21–26) in Anaheim, CA

Display Newbery, Caldecott, Coretta Scott King and other award winning books this week.

June 22

Disney's animated film *Brave* opens today.

June 23

It's Wilma Rudolph's birthday.

Did you know? The hula hoop was patented forty-eight years ago today.

June 24

Nighttime Fun. Share *Fancy Nancy and the Late, Late, LATE Night* by Jane O'Connor at an evening storytime and Fancy Nancy party.

June 25

It's Eric Carle's birthday.

Summer Games. Visit Family Fun's website at <http://familyfun.go.com/summer/summer-games> for lots of summer activities to share with parents and caretakers.

June 26

Word of the month. Discombobulate: to throw into confusion.

June 27

It's Helen Keller's birthday.

It's a classic: *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey, a perfect summer story.

June 28

The Raggedy Ann doll was invented in 1917. Creator Johnny Gruelle made them to accompany the books he wrote.

June 29

Summer read: Sara Pennypacker's new novel, *Summer of the Gypsy Moths*.

June 30

It's David McPhail's birthday.

Charles Blondin became the first person to cross Niagara Falls on a tightrope in 1859. Read about another famous adventurer in Chris Van Allsburg's *Queen of the Falls*.

**"This land is your land, this land is my land / From California, to the New York Island
From the redwood forest, to the gulf stream waters / This land was made for you and me."**

— Woody Guthrie

july 2012

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

July 1

It's Emily Arnold McCully's birthday.

Lost and found! Share McCully's story *Picnic*, about a mouse that gets lost while on a family picnic.

July 2

Visit www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/fourth-of-july for activities and games for Independence Day.

July 3

Full Moon

Spiderman returns. Opening in a theater near you: *The Amazing Spiderman* (PG-13).

July 4

Independence Day

Did you know? In 1831, Samuel Francis Smith wrote the song "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" for Boston's July 4th festivities.

July 5

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

Plan a circus-themed storytime.

July 6

It's National Parks and Recreation Month. Hold a program in a local park this month.

July 7

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

Invite fathers and daughters to take a walk to the library for a father-daughter program.

July 8

It's Raffi's birthday.

What did the pig say at the beach on a hot summer day? *I'm bacon!*

July 9

Youth Day in Morocco.

What do you know about Morocco? Use library resources to learn more.

July 10

It's Don't Step on a Bee Day, the time to remember that going barefoot can mean getting stung by a bee.

July 11

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

Check out Anita Silvey's Children's Book-a-Day Almanac at www.childrensbookadayalmanac.com.

July 12

It's Henry David Thoreau's birthday.

Check out a video introduction to the life of Thoreau at www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYv8DjXgoI&feature=channel&list=UL.

July 13

Coming to a theater near you: *Ice Age: Continental Drift* (PG).

July 14

It's Woody Guthrie's birthday.

It's Brian Selznick's birthday.

It's mosquito season. Visit www.scholastic.com/teachers/collection/giant-anopheles-mosquito for teaching activities about mosquitoes.

July 15

National Ice Cream Day.

Learn how to make ice cream in a bag at crafts.kaboose.com/ice-cream-in-a-bag.html.

July 16

It's Richard Egielski's birthday.

Share *Hey, Al*, the Caldecott-winning picture book by Arthur Yorinks, illustrated by Richard Egielski.

July 17

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

July 18

It's Felicia Bond's birthday.

Share *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* with children and have them make mouse pictures.

July 19

Ramadan begins at sunset.

Share *Under the Ramadan Moon* by Sylvia Whitman, a picture book about the month of Ramadan observed by Muslims around the world.

July 20

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

July 21

These are the dog days of summer. Celebrate with a dog days storytime.

July 22

It's Alexander Calder's birthday.

Introduce children to Calder's mobiles and then make some, yourselves!

July 23

The Applewhites are back! Read *Applewhites at Wit's End* by Stephanie Tolan, a sequel to *Surviving the Applewhites*.

July 24

It's Amelia Earhart's birthday.

Make paper airplanes!

July 25

Look to the stars. Invite amateur astronomers to bring their telescopes to the library for a stargazing night.

July 26

It's Jan Berenstain's birthday.

Twist and shout! The Twist was a popular dance fifty years ago. Have a twist party.

July 27

The Summer Olympic Games begin in London.

Plan your own Olympic games day for kids. Visit www.activityvillage.co.uk/hold_your_own_olympic_games.htm for ideas.

July 28

It's Natalie Babbitt's birthday.

Check out Babbitt's new book *The Moon Over High Street*.

July 29

It's Sharon Creech's birthday.

Remake the world, a little at a time, each in your own corner of the world.

—*The Battle of the Labyrinth* by Rick Riordan

July 30

The board game Monopoly was copyright registered on this day in 1933. Play Monopoly today!

July 31

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

Visit www.funtrivia.com/quizzes/for_children/harry_potter.html for several online Harry Potter quizzes.

Flash and flicker and fly away, / Trailing light as you flutter far,
Are you a lamp for the fairies, say? / Or a flake of fire from a falling star?

— Evaleen Stein

august 2012

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

August 1

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

August 2

The first Lincoln penny was issued on this day in 1909.
Visit spaghettiboxkids.com/blog/penny-games for several penny games.

August 3

National Watermelon Day
Share *Peter Spit a Seed* at Sue by Jackie French Koller in storytime.

August 4

It's Get Ready for Kindergarten Month. Create a list and display of books about kindergarten.

August 5

It's Neil Armstrong's birthday.
Create a display of books about space travel.

August 6

Did you know? Gertrude Ederle became the first woman to swim the English Channel on this day in 1926. Read *America's Champion Swimmer: Gertrude Ederle* by David A. Adler.

August 7

It's Sea Serpent Day.
Visit smithsonianlibraries.si.edu/smithsonianlibraries/2009/08/sea-serpent-day.html for a 16th century image of a sea serpent.

August 8

It's Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings's birthday.
It's a classic: Rawling's *The Yearling*, about a boy who adopts an orphaned fawn.

August 9

Smokey Bear has a birthday.
Visit www.smokeybear.com/resources.asp for downloadable teaching resources about wildfire prevention.

August 10

It's National Inventors Month.
Find out what was invented in the month of August at inventors.about.com/od/todayinhistory/a/august.htm.

August 11

Visit the Adler Planetarium's website at www.adlerplanetarium.org/educate/resources for several fun teaching activities.

August 12

It's Ann M. Martin's birthday.
It's Walter Dean Myers's birthday.
Read *Bad Boy*, a *Memoir* by Walter Dean Myers about growing up in Harlem during the 1940s and 1950s.

August 13

Mystery fossils.
Visit www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/exhibits/mysteryfossil/mysteryfossil.php to find monthly mystery fossils to identify.

August 14

August is a super stargazing time. Share *How to Catch a Star* by Oliver Jeffers.

August 15

It's E. Nesbit's birthday.
If you haven't read British author Nesbit's children's books, check one out this month. They are excellent!

August 16

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

August 17

"One mosquito can keep me 'awaker' than a bad conscience."
—*Anne of Windy Poptars* by L.M. Montgomery

August 18

It's Bad Poetry Day.
Just for fun, have a bad poetry writing program.

August 19

It's Orville Wright's birthday.
Did you know? The "Black Cow," or root bear float, was created on this day in 1893. Make Black Cows.

August 20

It's Children's Vision and Learning Month.
Stress the importance of eye exams to parents of children starting school.

August 21

Hawaii becomes a state on this day in 1959.
Check out books by Graham Salisbury that are set in Hawai'i.

August 22

Tooth fairy fun. Read *April and Esme, Tooth Fairies* by Bob Graham and make tooth fairy boxes. Visit familyfun.go.com/crafts/tooth-fairy-box-670436 for directions.

August 23

Share Jonathan Allen's *I'm Not Ready*, about a little owl who doesn't feel quite ready to go to school.

August 24

Mount Vesuvius erupts on this day in 79 AD.
Display books about volcanoes.

August 25

It's Ian Falconer's birthday.
Visit and bookmark Olivia the Pig's website at www.oliviathepiglet.com.

August 26

Women's Equality Day
Today commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave women full voting rights in 1920.

August 27

Banana Lovers Day.
Visit www.scoutsongs.com/lyrics/banana.html for some banana "action" songs.

August 28

It's Allen Say's birthday.
His book, *Drawing from Memory*, will give readers insight into this wonderful illustrator.

August 29

It's State Fair time! Read Richard Peck's *Fair Weather* set in 1893, the year of the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

August 30

It's Virginia Lee Burton's birthday.
With state and county fairs happening, why not display some fair winning projects in the library?

August 31

Full Moon
It's Trail Mix Day.
Plan a storytime about nature and hiking and send home a healthy recipe for trail mix.