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*“It’s no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then.”*

– Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland



# JANUARY 2017

## Children’s Activity Calendar

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

<p>1</p> <p><b>New Year’s Day</b></p> <p><b>National Braille Literacy Month</b></p> <p>Explore the Great Expectations page of the National Braille Press for featured books and resources that bring picture books to life for kids with visual impairments: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/zpvzsh">http://tinyurl.com/zpvzsh</a>.</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>National Science Fiction Day</b></p> <p>Encourage students to read books like Madeleine L’Engle’s <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> or Jeffrey Brown’s Jedi Academy series.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Happy book birthday to <i>Bad Kitty Takes the Test</i> by Nick Bruel.</p>
<p>8</p> <p><b>Bubble Bath Day</b></p> <p>Read <i>Bubbles</i> by Veronica Hall, then sing along with Ernie and his rubber duckie: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/65o24ly">http://tinyurl.com/65o24ly</a>.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Check out these 20 must-try winter science experiments for kids: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/zm3o3rq">http://tinyurl.com/zm3o3rq</a>.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Happy book birthday to <i>Let’s Clap, Jump, Sing &amp; Shout; Dance, Spin &amp; Turn It Out!</i> by Patricia C. McKissack and Brian Pinkney.</p>
<p>15</p> <p><b>Martin Luther King Jr.’s Birthday</b></p> <p>Read aloud <i>Martin’s Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> by Doreen Rappaport and Bryan Collier.</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day (observed)</b></p> <p>Find out how Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream” speech became an impromptu addition to the March on Washington in this video from <i>History.com</i>: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/mhyplv">http://tinyurl.com/mhyplv</a>.</p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>Nothing Day</b></p> <p>Read <i>Let’s Do Nothing</i> by Tony Fucile and talk about your favorite way to do nothing.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Read <i>Bunny Slopes</i> by Claudia Rueda, an interactive picture book about a bunny who has everything needed for skiing—except snow.</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>National Handwriting Day</b></p> <p>A collection of teacher resources for celebrating is available from the Writing Instrument Manufacturers Association at <a href="http://tinyurl.com/zyu2mku">http://tinyurl.com/zyu2mku</a>.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Happy book birthday to <i>Hocus Focus</i> by James Sturm, Alexis Frederick-Frost, and Andrew Arnold.</p>
<p>29</p> <p><b>Rosemary Wells’ Birthday</b></p> <p>Color your favorite characters from the beloved Max &amp; Ruby series by visiting <a href="http://tinyurl.com/pb852tp">http://tinyurl.com/pb852tp</a>.</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Birthday</b></p> <p>Read <i>A Boy Named FDR: How Franklin D. Roosevelt Grew Up to Change America</i> by Kathleen Krull, Steve Johnson, and Lou Fancher.</p>	<p>31</p> <p><b>Eat Brussels Sprouts Day</b></p> <p>There’s a lot to love about brussels sprouts, both as a tasty treat and as a cancer-fighting superfood. Chow down on 15 tasty recipes (<a href="http://tinyurl.com/h862agw">http://tinyurl.com/h862agw</a>) and 11 fun facts (<a href="http://tinyurl.com/gqx5t5a">http://tinyurl.com/gqx5t5a</a>).</p>

National Braille Literacy Month | National Hobby Month

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

4

**Phyllis Reynolds Naylor's Birthday**

Read aloud an excerpt from one of 28 different stories in the Alice series.

5

**National Bird Day**

Hold a Bird Day coloring contest or make origami birds at [http://www.nationalbirdday.com/g\\_activities.php](http://www.nationalbirdday.com/g_activities.php).

6

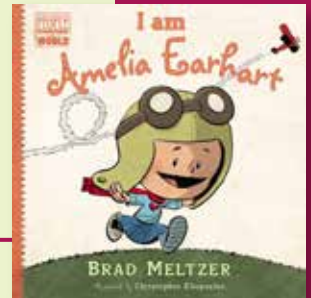
**National Shortbread Day**

Share this classic Scottish dessert that's simple and easy to make—only three ingredients! Check out the recipe at <http://tinyurl.com/puox2hc>.

7

**National Soup Month**

Hold a "Stone Soup" reader's theater: <http://tinyurl.com/zqhcukw>.



11

On this day in 1935, Amelia Earhart became the first pilot to fly from Hawaii to the mainland of the United States. Read *I Am Amelia Earhart* by Brad Meltzer and Christopher Eliopoulos for more facts from throughout Amelia's life.

12

**Brainteaser Month**

Share 45 brainteasers for kids: <http://tinyurl.com/n9woouu>.

13

**National Hobby Month**

Ask students what their favorite hobbies are. Then challenge them to try something new—it just might become a new hobby!

14

**Organize Your Home Day**

Read *More* by I.C. Springman and Brian Lies, a story about a magpie who collects more and more trinkets and baubles until his nest can't take another piece.

18

**A. A. Milne's Birthday**

Make a list of all the different words you can use to describe honey, Winnie the Pooh's favorite snack.

19

**Popcorn Day**

Salted? Buttered? Drizzled in caramel? How do you like your popcorn? Here are 50 delicious recipes to try: <http://tinyurl.com/osudppb>.

20

**National Penguin Awareness Day**

Tune into the Maryland Zoo's live penguin cam at <http://tinyurl.com/jkdp8as> and read *National Geographic Kids: Penguins* by Anne Schreiber.

21

**National Hugging Day**

At [nationalhuggingday.com](http://nationalhuggingday.com), you'll find the "Most Huggable Person of 2016," a list of reasons supporting why hugs are great medicine for the soul, and a list of ideas for celebrating.

25

**National Opposite Day**

Make a list of silly opposites to try today. Eat breakfast for dinner! Put pancakes on top of your syrup! Wear a pair of gloves on your feet! What else can students think of?

26

On this day in 1788, Australia was first settled. Learn more about the continent's beauty and people through *National Geographic Kids* at <http://tinyurl.com/jfqhryz>.

27

**Lewis Carroll's Birthday**

Watch Alice's world pop-up to life in breathtaking feats of paper engineering in Robert Sabuda's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

28

**National Kazoo Day**

Sing along with this kazoo song about a koala and a host of other animals at a zoo, courtesy of Emily Arrow and Renee Kurilla: <http://tinyurl.com/zoylrze>.

- Holiday
- Month/Week/Day/World Celebration
- Birthday Celebration



Brainteaser Month | National Soup Month