

2018

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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

1

New Year's Day:

Encourage your teens to help you set goals for your teen space in 2018.

History Lesson: Ellis Island opened on this day in 1892.

2

Book Release: *The Cruel Prince* by Holly Black, the first book in a stunning new series about a mortal girl who finds herself caught in a web of royal faerie intrigue.

7

STEM FUN: Beat the cold with a fun discussion about chemical reactions and a "**Homemade Hand Warmer**" experiment.

8

Passive Program:

Create an easy **display of questions** for teens to research. Answers can be turned in for the chance to win a prize.

9

Book Release: In ***Unearthed*** by Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner, "When Earth intercepts a message from a long-extinct alien race, it seems like the solution the planet has been waiting for."

14

Help your teens beat cabin fever blues with a fun game that will get them moving. **Cupsid Down** pits teams against one another for a frenzied dash to flip plastic cups before time runs out.

15

Celebrate **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** with speakers and guided conversations about nonviolence, tolerance, and civil rights.

16

Book Releases: *Iron Gold* by Pierce Brown is an "adventure of revolution and betrayal among the stars."
In ***Truly Devious*** by Maureen Johnson, Ellingham Academy's "murderous past won't stay in the past."

21

Teen Chef: Pull out the blender and make some easy but tasty **smoothies** in your teen space.

22

Book Club: Explore with your teens ***I'll Give You the Sun***, the *New York Times* bestselling story by Jandy Nelson about love, family, and loss.

23

STEM Fun: Looking for more STEM resources, booklists, projects, or topics? Check out **YALSA's wiki** for a list of helpful sites and recommendations.

28

Share helpful safety measures for teens to take to protect themselves online on **Data Privacy Day**.

29

Help teens improve mental function and problem solving skills with **tangrams** on **National Puzzle Day**. Time them on their ability to create certain shapes or have them race one another.

30

Book Release: In ***Say You'll Remember Me*** by Katie McGarry, "When Drix was convicted of a crime—one he didn't commit—he thought his life was over. But opportunity came with the new Second Chance Program."

January

Teen Activity Calendar

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

3

On **National Drinking Straw Day**, have teens make **paper drinking straws**.

Happy birthday, **J.R.R. Tolkien (b. 1892)**. "Not all those who wander are lost."
— from a poem appearing in The Lord of the Rings series

4

Plan an evening of **fun questions, pop culture, and prizes** for **National Trivia Day**.

5

Invite a local filmmaker or professional in your community to the library to inspire teens to **try scriptwriting** on **National Screenwriter's Day**. #screenwritersday

6

Offer a technology petting zoo, or bring in "retro" technology to share with your teens for **National Technology Day**. Share **inspiring stories** about young inventors and coders. #technologyday

10

History Lesson: Thomas Paine published "**Common Sense**," a pamphlet that challenged the authority of the British government in the colonies in 1776 and supported the cause for independence.

11

Partner with your local police force to help teens stay safe, recognize the signs of distress, and know how and where to seek help on **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day**.

12

Books and Board Games: Improve teamwork and problem solving with an epic game of **Sentinels of the Multiverse**, where heroes fight villains to save humanity.

13

Host a class on **graphic design** where teens can make their own stickers on **National Sticker Day**.

17

Happy birthday, **Robert Cormier (b. 1925)**. "They don't actually want you to do your own thing, not unless it's their thing too."
— from *The Chocolate War*

18

Have teens create **crossword puzzles** that ask for synonyms for the listed clues on **National Thesaurus Day**. Don't forget to provide thesauruses to help.

19

Tease tastebuds with a fun **popcorn bar** of seasonings and toppings on **National Popcorn Day**.

20

Invite a local radio DJ to your teen room to teach spinning, or host a spinning talent show to celebrate **National Disc Jockey Day**.

24

On **National Compliment Day**, create a compliment wall out of sticky notes where teens can share positive comments to boost the confidence of friends.

25

Book Display: Send your teens to far away places with a fun **travel-themed display**. Check out these fun **literary maps**.

26

Passive Program: Don't have a magnetic wall? Try "**push-pin poetry**" to highlight the creativity of your teens.

27

Happy birthday, **Lewis Carroll (b. 1832)**. "We're all mad here." — from *Alice in Wonderland*
Treat your teens to delicious mug cakes for **National Chocolate Cake Day**.

31

Plan a painting party to encourage teens to explore self-expression through art on **National Inspire Your Heart with Art Day**. Visit **Social Artworking** for easy templates to lead your own canvas painting program.

Celebration of Life Month: Celebrate kids by planning programs with your **Children's Department** or local elementary schools.

International Creativity Month: Have teens teach each other new crafts, games, or hobbies.

National Be On Purpose Month: Unplug for a month in your teen space, and share **tips about mindfulness** with your teens.

National Personal Self-Defense Awareness Month: Offer a class on vigilance and personal safety for teens.