

Bold pink text indicates a live link. Click on the links to discover more information. For more programming ideas, visit ideas.demco.com/category/blog/.

“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.”

– Maya Angelou, *Letter to My Daughter*



April 2019

Children’s Activity Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 <p>7 International Beaver Day How much do you actually know about the world’s second largest rodent? This video from PBS highlights Why Beavers Are the Smartest Thing in Fur Pants.</p>	<p>1 April Fools’ Day Bring on the silly in your library by imposing some preposterous changes. All first graders must only check out books with a blue cover. Fifth graders may check out two or more books as long as all of the book titles rhyme. The sillier, the better!</p>	<p>2 Happy Book Birthday to <i>Babymoon</i> by Hayley Barrett, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal</p>
<p>8 School Library Month These Top 10 Ways to Celebrate School Library Month are sure to elicit excitement and joy from your students and staff!</p>	<p>9 Happy Book Birthday to <i>Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid: Rowley Jefferson’s Journal</i> by Jeff Kinney</p>	
<p>14 National Poetry Month The Academy of American Poets maintains and updates annually a Poetry in the Classroom Calendar that includes poems to read aloud, lesson plans, helpful resources, and more.</p>	<p>15 Tax Day Tax Day? More like stacks day! Devote extra time with your students in the stacks today, where the returns everyone hopes for are those in long-awaited-book form!</p>	<p>16 Happy Book Birthday to <i>Birth of the Cool: How Jazz Great Miles Davis Found His Sound</i> by Kathleen Cornell Berman, illustrated by Keith Henry Brown</p>
<p>21 Easter Sunday Did you know that the legend of the Easter Bunny takes its origins from 18th century German immigrants who brought with them stories of an egg-laying hare? The History Channel has the whole story.</p>	<p>22 National Autism Awareness Month The titles on this list of Books for Kids on the Autism Spectrum are appropriate for children of all ages.</p>	<p>23 Happy Book Birthday to <i>How I Learned to Fall Out of Trees</i> by Vincent Kirsch</p>
<p>28 Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month This list of the Best Math Games, Websites, and Apps for Kids from Common Sense Media is helpful to teachers and parents alike in engaging children in mathematical learning.</p>	<p>29 Amy Krouse Rosenthal’s Birthday The late Amy Krouse Rosenthal was a force of good in the world. Enjoy these twelve ways of looking at Rosenthal’s “heart-shaped life.”</p>	<p>30 Happy Book Birthday to <i>Most Marshmallows</i> by Rowboat Watkins</p>

Arab American Heritage Month | School Library Month | National Poetry Month | National Autism Awareness Month

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

3

Arab American Heritage Month

Find a favorite read aloud and discover new, inclusive book recommendations through these **Arab American Book Lists for Kids** from PragmaticMom.

4

Maya Angelou's Birthday

"Right may not be expedient, it may not be profitable, but it will satisfy your soul." Enjoy this and other critical wisdom as Dr. Angelou shares **"Just Do Right."**

5

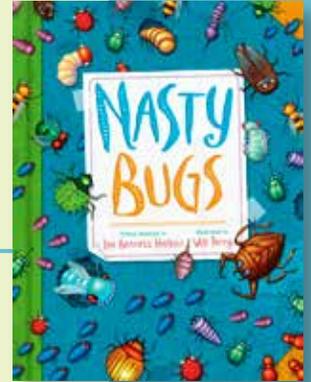
National Read a Road Map Day

Locate a copy of a road map for your county or district to display in a public area of your school, and then challenge students to locate their school on the map.

6

National Caramel Popcorn Day

What variations might you and your students come up with? Here's a **caramel popcorn recipe** to get you started.



10

National Siblings Day

Do you have any siblings? Have your students ever seen a photo of you with your sibling? Today might be a great day to show them! Invite students to bring in photos of themselves and their siblings as well.

11

National Pet Day

Many of your students may already be fluent in *The Secret Life of Pets*, thanks to the animated movie. Ask them what dream pet they'd like to adopt for the library, and then consider what secret life that pet may live while the library is empty.

12

Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day

What is the most unusual take on a grilled cheese you've experienced? These **18 Insanely Good Grilled Cheese Recipes** may just inspire you to take your sandwich in a new direction!



13

Lee Bennett Hopkins' Birthday

Hopkins is an American poet who has worked tirelessly throughout his life to bring poetry to children around the world. As you display works of poetry this month, be sure to include one of his several poetry collections.

17

Jillian Tamaki's Birthday

Tamaki's debut picture book, *They Say Blue*, is a masterful work of illustration and imagination. What ideas might it spark in your readers?

18

Piñata Day

Mya of Full-Time Kid lays out some **simple instructions** to make your own DIY piñata. How could book-themed piñatas transform your library?

19

National Humor Month

Want to make your students laugh? Read a few of the books on this list of **legitimately funny picture books**.

20

National Lima Bean Respect Day

Too ridiculous to be real? Probably. But imagine all of the overlooked veggies or foods with a bad rap that could be seen in a new light today with your help.

24

Loren Long's Birthday

Long lent his beautiful art to Matt de la Peña's *Love*, resulting in a beautiful, endearing picture book that finds love in all places. This **Publisher's Weekly article** with Matt de la Peña and Loren Long brings us the story behind the book.

25

National Poem in Your Pocket Day

From **Poets.org**, "On this day, select a poem, carry it with you, and share it with others at schools, bookstores, libraries, parks, workplaces, street corners, and on social media using the hashtag #pocketpoem."

26

National Audubon Day

Visit a local park and note how many different birds you observe today.

27

Independent Bookstore Day

You know what to do! Get out and support those indie bookstores who are instrumental in supporting readers and good reading habits throughout your community. Invite students to meet you there!



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