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- Holiday
- Celebration
- Birthday

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

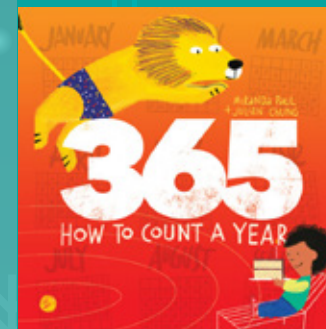
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

“The cool thing about reading is that when you read a short story or you read something that takes your mind and expands where your thoughts can go, that’s powerful.”

— Taylor Swift



1
Jon Agee’s Birthday: After reading *The Incredible Painting of Felix Clousseau*, have kids paint a simple object and help it “come to life” with googly eyes or a moving part.

2
Start off the new year with Miranda Paul’s *365: How to Count a Year* and get kids giggling with this STEM picture book and the fun activities to go with it.

3
Share NEA’s Read Across America January pick *No More Chairs* by Dan Gill, illustrated by Susan Gal.

4
Jonathan Stutzman’s Birthday: Celebrate with Tiny, Llama, or Fitz and Cleo. Go to [Jonathan’s website](#) to say “hi.”

5
Bird Day: Read *Shh! We Have a Plan* by Chris Haughton. It’s about a bunch of silly characters trying to catch a bird.

6
Happy Book Birthday to *Arctic Adventure: A Tundra Tale* by Alexandra Cook and Jyoti Rajan Gopal, a lyrical picture book that follows two arctic foxes and a pair of humans.

7
Orthodox Christmas: Read *The Tale of Baboushka, A Traditional Christmas Story* by Elena Pasquali. This holiday is celebrated more broadly in many countries in eastern Europe and northern Africa.

8
Grab some marshmallows and make some **marshmallow snowflakes** in this STEM activity posted in Frugal Fun for Boys and Girls.

9
Soup Month: After reading *There’s a Giraffe in My Soup* by Ross Burach, have kids write their own versions of an animal in a soup concoction. Provide soup recipes to take home.



10
Houseplant Appreciation Day: Have plants in your learning space? Have kids vote on literary names for them. A spider plant named Harry? Sure! Or a violet named Violet Beauregarde?

11
Thank You Month: Read *Thank You, Omu* by Oge Mora and have kids write thank you notes or compose a video or song to share with the school or family members.

12
Hot Tea Day: Need a warming way to spend January? Invite others into your space with a hot tea station and read *Tea Rex* by Mollie Idle or *The Tea Party in the Woods* by Akiko Miyakoshi.

13
Happy Book Birthday to *How to Hatch: A Gosling’s Guide to Breaking Free* by Sara Holly Ackerman, illustrated by Galia Bernstein. If there are classes in your school that hatch chicks, this book would be perfect.

14
Dress Up Your Pet Day: Have kids bring in their favorite stuffies dressed up or host a dress up parade with real pets (if you dare) and share *Fancy Nancy and the Posh Puppy* by Jane O’Connor, illustrated by Robin Preiss Glasser.

15
Hat Day: Invite kids to wear a hat and share the story behind it. Maybe it was a gift, a symbol of their favorite sports team, or simply their favorite color. Then read a hat-themed book.

16
Book Publishers Day: Teach kids how to locate the publisher’s name inside of a book and the role publishers play in creating a book.

17
Kid Inventors Day: Here are **some ideas from Twinkl** to honor this day and allow kids to explore their own invention ideas.

18
World Snow Day: Snuggle up with hot chocolate and **watch the making of A Snow Day for Amos McGee** by Phillip and Erin Stead.

19
Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Many schools and organizations hold a day of service on this day. Gather some ideas for how your space can offer something helpful today.

20
Penguin Awareness Day and Take a Walk Outdoors Day: To celebrate these two days in one, sing and move along with **Laurie Berkner’s Walking with the Penguins song**.

21
Hobby Month: What better time to try out a new hobby than Hobby Month? Host a crafting workshop or event at the library and invite kids to try something new.

22
Polka Dot Day: In honor of Minnie Mouse who wears this iconic pattern, this day celebrates the polka dot. Check out the **Children’s Book Council’s list** of polka dot themed books.

23
For a mid-winter read, check out *Hortense and the Shadow* by Natalia and Lauren O’Hara. Perhaps add some candles in a dark room, covered with a blanket.

24
Compliment Day: Compliment kids as they walk into the library today and encourage them to spread compliments to everyone they see today.

25
Create some excitement for the upcoming Winter Olympics with this fun fact: On this day in 1924, the first Winter Olympic games were held in France.

26
Crayola Creativity Week begins. Check out **Crayola’s site** for ways to bring creativity into your space.

27
Happy Book Birthday to *Plenty of Pancakes*, a new picture book by Carrie Finison, illustrated by Brianne Farley. Grab some mini pancakes and settle in for this fun read.

28
Library Shelfie Day: Take a picture with your favorite shelf of books and use #libraryshelfie to share out.

29
Puzzle Day: Have kids engage in all sorts of puzzles, from jigsaw and brain teasers to online puzzles. Or have them make their own.

30
Tomorrow is **Seed Swap Day:** Get a jump start on spring planting, and a lesson on pollinators, by hosting a seed exchange event in your space. Start by reading one of these **seed-themed books**.

31
Inspire Your Heart with Art Day: Art comes in all forms. Encourage kids to find their art niche. Read *If You Are an Artist* by Meg Auchenbach for inspiring young readers.

January 2026

Children’s Activity Calendar