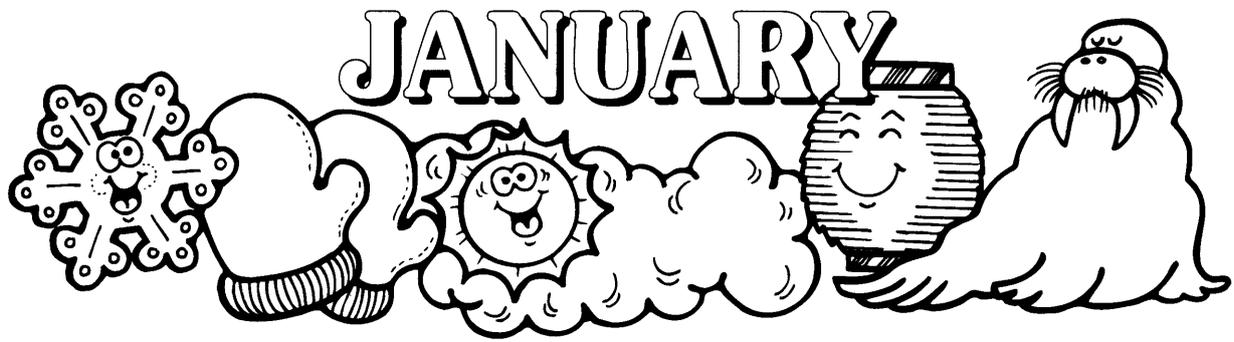


Calendar

January!





- 1ST** Today is **NEW YEAR'S DAY!** (Celebrate by asking your students to write their own New Year's resolutions!)
- 2ND** **BETSY ROSS**, designer of the first American flag, was born on this day in 1752. (Ask students to find pictures of the various flags that have flown over our country.)
- 3RD** **ALASKA** became the United States' 49th state on this day in 1959. (Have your students find ten interesting facts about Alaska and then locate the state on the classroom map.)
- 4TH** **LOUIS BRAILLE**, inventor of the alphabet for the blind, was born on this day in 1809. (Locate the Braille alphabet in an encyclopedia and have each child write his or her name in Braille.)
- 5TH** Today is **GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER DAY!** This multi-talented man invented more than 300 different products. (Ask students to list some of his accomplishments.)
- 6TH** **JOAN OF ARC** was born on this day in 1412. She was burned at the stake for her religious beliefs. (Ask students to find out more about this courageous woman and report their findings to the class.)
- 7TH** Today marks the birthdate of **MIGUEL HIDALGO**, father of Mexican independence. (Ask students to find out how this man helped his countrymen defeat the Spaniards.)
- 8TH** **ELVIS PRESLEY** was born on this day in 1935. (Just for fun, play a couple of his songs during class exercise time.)
- 9TH** The first school of **SEEING EYE DOGS** was founded on this day in 1929. (Ask students to list the many reasons a blind person might appreciate having a seeing eye dog.)
- 10TH** **OIL** was discovered in Texas on this day in 1901. (Ask students why this valuable resource is called "Black Gold.")
- 11TH** **CIGARETTES** were declared hazardous to our health on this day in 1964. (Have students list the various reasons people should not smoke.)

- 12TH** CHARLES PERRAULT, French writer and poet, was born on this day in 1628. Perrault wrote the famous tales of "Cinderella," "Puss and Boots" and "Little Red Riding Hood." (Read a version of one of these stories to your class, in his honor.)
- 13TH** STEPHEN FOSTER, composer of more than 175 songs, was born on this day in 1826. (Join your class in a round of "Oh! Susanna" in celebration.)
- 14TH** Missionary and humanitarian ALBERT SCHWEITZER was born on this day in 1875. (Ask students to find out what great things this man did and what prize he was awarded.)
- 15TH** MARTIN LUTHER KING, American civil rights leader, was born on this day in 1929. (Read Dr. King's "I have a dream" speech to your class. Ask them to write about their "dream" for America.)
- 16TH** Today is NATIONAL NOTHING DAY! (Ask children to invent their own holiday for this day. Have them choose colors, symbols and reasons for their holiday and present their ideas to the class.)
- 17TH** BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, American statesman and inventor, was born on this day in 1706. (Fly a kite with your class in celebration of Franklin's discovery of electricity.)
- 18TH** American heavyweight boxing champion MUHAMMAD ALI was born on this day in 1942. (Ali often recited short rhymes about himself such as "I run like a butterfly and sting like a bee!" Ask students to make up their own rhymes about themselves.)
- 19TH** ROBERT E. LEE, American Civil War general, was born on this day in 1807. (Ask students to list the states that fought on the side of the South during the Civil War.)
- 20TH** Today is PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION DAY in the United States. This event happens every four years when a new president takes the oath of office. (Watch this historical event on television with your class.)
- 21ST** MARY BRENT, the first woman in America to ask for the right to vote, was born on this day in 1648. (Ask your students to find out how many years it took for her request to be granted.)
- 22ND** Today is "ELSTEDENTOCHT" or the "Eleven Cities Race" in the Netherlands. Ice skaters race the 124 miles across the frozen canals of Holland. (Read Hans Brinker, by Mary Mapes Dodge, to your class in commemoration.)
- 23RD** JOHN HANCOCK, American patriot, was born on this day in 1737. (Ask students to locate a copy of the Declaration of Independence and then tell you why this man is so famous.)

- 24TH** GOLD was discovered in SUTTER'S MILL, California, in 1848. (Can your students find Sutter's Mill, (Sacramento) on the classroom map?)
- 25TH** The first WINTER OLYMPICS took place on this day in 1924 in Chamonix, France. (Ask students to list the various Winter Olympic events and write about the event in which they would like to compete.)
- 26TH** DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, American WWII general, was born on this day in 1880. (Ask students to find out about his contribution and where he had promised to "return.")
- 27TH** Austrian composer, WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART was born on this day in 1756. (Find a Mozart symphony and play it to your class during silent reading.)
- 28TH** The United States COAST GUARD was established on this day in 1915. (Ask students why we need this branch of the armed services to protect our coast.)
- 29TH** THOMAS PAINE, American political philosopher and writer, was born on this day in 1737. (Have students find the name of Paine's pamphlet that encouraged American independence.)
- 30TH** The LIBRARY OF CONGRESS began operating on this day in 1815. Today, it houses more than 80 million books! (Ask your student to find out which president's collection of 6,000 books began it all.)
- 31ST** HAM, a male chimpanzee, was rocketed into space during Project Mercury, in 1961. (Ask students how Ham helped the United States' space program.)

DON'T FORGET THESE OTHER IMPORTANT HOLIDAYS:

CHINESE NEW YEAR (Between the middle of January and early March, the first day of the new moon using the Chinese calendar.)

