

# Calendar Activities!

Try one of these calendar activities when teaching the concepts of time and the seasons.

## GREGORIAN CALENDAR

The calendar that most of the world uses today is called the Gregorian Calendar, named after Pope Gregory XIII, who declared its use in 1582.

The Gregorian calendar is based upon the time it takes for the earth to make one complete revolution around the sun, which is 365 days, 5 hours and 48 minutes. The extra minutes eventually add up to an extra day. So, every four years we add it to the end of the month of February (Leap Year).

Let children make their own monthly or yearly calendars. Instruct them to write in the name of the month and the numbers on the appropriate days. Tell them to also label holidays and family birthdays. These calendars make excellent gifts for Christmas or the New Year.

(There is a blank calendar page appropriate for each month in every Teacher's Friend Monthly Idea Book.)

## MINUTES, HOURS, DAYS...

Ask your students to complete the following statements on the class board:

- There are \_\_\_\_\_ seconds in an hour.
- There are \_\_\_\_\_ hours in an day.
- There are \_\_\_\_\_ days in a week.
- There are \_\_\_\_\_ weeks in a month.
- There are \_\_\_\_\_ months in a year.
- There are \_\_\_\_\_ years in a century.

Now, ask them to compute how many seconds in a week, how many days in a year, etc.

## MONTH BY MONTH

Create a variety of matching and organizational activities using the cards provided in this unit.

Reproduce the cards for all students onto heavy paper and ask them to color and cut them out. Have students complete some of the following:

- Place the seasons in order.
- Place the names of the days in order.
- Place the months in order.
- Group all the seasonal symbols together.
- Put the monthly names in alphabetical order.
- Put the days of the week in alphabetical order.
- Group together all the months with 30 days and those with 31 days. Which month has fewer than 30 days?

The game of "Concentration" can also be played with the cards. With a partner, students turn two decks of cards upside down. Turn over two cards. If the seasons match, keep the cards. If they don't match, turn them back over and lose a turn. Continue the game to see who wins the most cards. Now, play the game with days of the week or month.

## YEARLY FAVORITES

Ask children to think about their favorite time of year or month and write about it in the form of a poem or short story.

Ask them also to tell if they have a favorite day of the week. Instruct them to list all of their reasons for choosing this particular day.

