

august 2005

Children's Vision and Learning Month | Family Fun Month | National Inventors' Month

August 1

Simplify Your Life Week (1–7)

Anniversary of the first U.S. Census. Have children find out the population of their town, their state capitol and their state.

August 2

It's Children's Vision and Learning Month

Visit www.childrensvision.com/learning.htm for information on vision and learning in grade school children.

August 3

Where do elephants store their clothes? In their trunks.

Have a corny joke day at the library.

August 4

The Smithsonian Castle was completed 150 years ago. Visit Kids Castle at www.kidscastle.si.edu/, a Smithsonian site for children.

August 5

American Bandstand premiered on this day in 1957. Incorporate some dances into your storytimes!

August 6

Gertrude Ederle is the first woman to swim the English Channel on this day in 1926. Plan a Beach Day storytime. Have kids come in their swimsuits.

August 7

It's National Inventors'® Month

Visit and bookmark the U.S. Patent and Trademarks Office's Kids' Pages at www.uspto.gov/go/kids/.

August 8

It's National Smile Week

Bring out the smiles with a silly games day with backward relays races, etc. Check out *Games People Play* by Penny Warner for ideas.

August 9

It's Smokey Bear's birthday. Share Jean Pendziwol's *No Dragon's for Tea* and review fire safety rules.

August 10

Candid Camera premiered on TV on this day in 1948. Take some candid photos today of kids in the library.

August 11

It's Joanna Cole's birthday. Take a trip to ancient China with Ms. Frizzle's *Adventures: Imperial China* by Joanna Cole.

August 12

It's Frederick McKissack's and Walter Dean Myers's birthdays. The new school year is approaching. Read a book on getting organized to help you get ready.

August 13

It's Annie Oakley's birthday. Set your sights on Sue Macy's *Bulls-Eye: A Photobiography of Annie Oakley*.

August 14

Did you know? *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations* was first published 150 years ago. Post a quotation a day.

August 15

National Aviation Week (15–21)

Display books about airplanes and flight.

August 16

It's Matt Christopher's birthday.

Gold was discovered in the Klondike today in 1896. Have children find the

Klondike on a map.

August 17

It's Myra Cohn Livingston's birthday. Tape a large state or U.S. map to a wall and have children mark places they have visited on vacation.

August 18

Many families take vacations this month. Gather and display puzzle, song, game and other books and CDs that families would enjoy on car trips.

August 19

Full Moon

Have a summer pet show!

August 20

Vinegar Day

Share the English folktale, "The Old Woman Who Lived in a Vinegar Bottle" in honor of Vinegar Day.

August 21

It's Fair Season! Talk about the things you can do at fairs.

August 22

National Punctuation Day

Don't miss Robin Pulver's picture book, *Punctuation Takes a Vacation*.

August 23

"I think I can, I think I can."

Watty Piper's *The Little Engine That Could* was published seventy-five years ago. Use the "little engine's" mantra to get you through the upcoming school year.

August 24

Did you know? Mt. Vesuvius erupted on this day in AD 79. Make a bulletin board and book display about volcanoes.

August 25

The Wizard of Oz motion picture was released today in 1939. Have a Wizard of Oz party. Show this classic film at the library.

August 26

Women's Equality Day commemorates the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

August 27

It's Mother Teresa's birthday.

They were off to the lake in their rattletrap car.

They didn't go fast and they didn't go far when...

—*Rattletrap Car* by Phyllis Root

August 28

It's Allen Say's birthday.

Fourteen-year-old Emmett Till is murdered in Mississippi 50 years ago, sparking the beginning of the civil rights movement in the U.S.

August 29

It's Charlie Parker's birthday. Play some Charlie Parker tunes and share Chris Raschka's *Charlie Parker Played Be Bop*.

August 30

National Toasted Marshmallow Day

Share Kevin Henkes's *Bailey Goes Camping*.

August 31

It's Maria Montessori's birthday. Invite a Montessori teacher to give a talk on Montessori methods of teaching.