

july 2005

National Blueberries Month | National Hot Dog Month | National Parks and Recreation Month

July 1

Canada Day
Silly Putty was trademarked on this day in 1952.

July 2

The Palio is held in Siena, Italy, today. Hold foot or relay races in honor of this colorful medieval horse race.

July 3

Dog Days begin.
Plan library activities in a local park—it's National Parks and Recreation Month.

July 4

Independence Day
Share *Apple Pie, 4th of July* by Janet S. Wong.

July 5

It's P. T. Barnum's birthday. Plan a circus storytime. Play calliope music.

July 6

Summer is camping season. Set up a tent in the library as a reading place.

July 7

Running of the bulls in Pamplona, Spain, begins. Read *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf.

July 8

Calgary Stampede begins in Calgary, Alberta. Share *Armadillo Rodeo* by Jan Brett, about a near-sighted armadillo at a rodeo.

July 9

Act out the story of *The Fat Cat*, a Danish folktale retold by Margaret Read MacDonald.

July 10

It's Mary McCleod Bethune's birthday.
It's National Blueberry Month. Share fresh blueberries with a reading of Robert McCloskey's *Blueberries for Sal*.

July 11

It's E. B. White's birthday.
"But the thing he enjoyed most in life was these camping trips in Canada with his father."
—*The Trumpet of the Swan* by E. B. White

July 12

It's Henry David Thoreau's birthday.
Visit www.cyberbee.com/henryhikes/henry.html for online activities about Henry David Thoreau based on *Henry Hikes to Fitchburg* by D. B. Johnson.

July 13

It's Marcia Brown's birthday.
Read Brown's Caldecott winner *Stone Soup*. Have children act out the story, making their own stone soup. Try fruit soup for a summer treat!

July 14

Bastille Day (France)
Celebrate France's national holiday with a parade, teach the French national anthem, "La Marseillaise," and read French fairy tales.

July 15

National Rabbit Week
Visit The House Rabbit Society at www.rabbit.org/, a group that rescues rabbits and educates the public on rabbit care and behavior.

July 16

It's Richard Egielski's birthday.
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince is here!

July 17

Space Week (17-23)
Disneyland opens in Anaheim, California, fifty years ago.
Show a classic Disney film at the library.

July 18

It's Nelson Mandela's birthday.
Share the life of this patriot with *Mandela: From the Life of the South African Statesman* by Floyd Cooper.

July 19

"Ice cream, you scream. We all scream for ice cream!"

July 20

First man on the moon, 1969. Display books about the first moon landing and the astronauts. Serve space food like freeze-dried ice cream.

July 21

Full Moon
Host an evening storytime and read folklore about the moon.

July 22

It's Alexander Calder's birthday.
Make a mobile in honor of the artist who invented the mobile.

July 23

"We're bored. There's nothing to do!"
—*Five Little Monkey with Nothing to Do* by Eileen Christelow
Find out how mother monkey solves their problem.

July 24

It's Amelia Earhart's birthday.
Make paper airplanes-or origami airplanes with Didier Boursin's *Origami Paper Airplanes*.

July 25

Did you know? Kay Thompson's *Eloise* was published fifty years ago. Take a trip to the Plaza Hotel with some *Eloise* books.

July 26

Share *Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping* by Peggy Parish and discover what "pitching a tent" means to literal-minded Amelia!

July 27

Walk on Stilts Day
Make tin can stilts today. Visit <http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/do/tin-canstilts.html> for directions.

July 28

Set up a bird feeder and watch the birds. Set out field guides and stories about birds.

July 29

Knock, Knock!
Who's there?
Canoe!
Canoe who?
Canoe paddle any faster?

July 30

It's Henry Ford's birthday.
Host a car storytime. Have a display of matchbox cars or have children bring theirs to the library.

July 31

It's J. K. Rowling's birthday.
Hats off to this astounding author! Make wizard hats in honor of her birthday.