

august 2006

Children's Vision and Learning Month | Get Ready for Kindergarten Month | National Inventors Month

August 1

It's **Maria Mitchell's birthday** today.
Share *Maria's Comet* by Deborah Hopkinson.

August 2

Check out backtoschool.about.com for back to school tips for parents and educators.

August 3

National Watermelon Day
Have a seed-spitting contest. Dry watermelon seeds and make collages.

August 4

Hot enough? For a look at a really hot topic, try *Into the Volcano* by Donna O'Meara about a volcano researcher at work.

August 5

It's **Neil Armstrong's birthday**. Visit magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/space/multimedia.html and see Neil Armstrong take the first steps on the moon.

August 6

Did you know? Gertrude Ederle became the first woman to swim the English Channel on this day in 1926. Read *America's Champion Swimmer: Gertrude Ederle* by David A. Adler.

August 7

It's **Betsy Byars's birthday**. Read Byars's delightful memoir *The Moon and I*.

August 8

August is a great time to share Lois Ehlert's *Planting a Rainbow* and *Growing Vegetable Soup*.

August 9

Full Moon
National Underwear Day
Feature Dav Pilkey's Captain Underpants books.

August 10

Scrabble anyone? Check out school.scrabble-assoc.com/ for information on the School Scrabble Program.

August 11

Did you know? Kool-aid was invented in Hastings, Nebraska. There are twenty flavors sold in the United States. Share some with kids at storytime.

August 12

It's **Ann M. Martin's birthday**. Celebrate with a display of her Baby-Sitters Club books and books on baby-sitting.

August 13

Plan a weird contest for Weird Contest Week (August 14–18).

August 14

It's **National Aviation Week** (Aug 14–20).
Invite a pilot or a paper airplane whiz to present a program.

August 15

"Nighttime is a great time to be at the fair ..."
—*Night at the Fair* by Donald Crews
Plan a storytime about fairs and promote your own state or county fair.

August 16

It's **Matt Christopher's birthday**. This prolific writer of sports fiction began writing at age 14!

August 17

Camp out in the library. Set up a tent in the library for a reading nook.

August 18

"Hot days can sure make tempers short"
—*Hot Day on Abbott Avenue* by Karen English

August 19

Did you know? The "Black Cow" root beer float was created on this day in 1893.

August 20

It's **never too hot to read**. Share *Hot City* by Barbara Joose about siblings Mimi and Joe on a hot summer day.

August 21

I Spy! Play "I Spy" games with children and share Lucy Micklethwait's *I Spy Shapes in Art*.

August 22

Plan a back-to-school bulletin board and book display of school stories.

August 23

It's **National Inventor's Month**.
Give teams of kids boxes of "stuff" and have them invent something with the contents.

August 24

Mount Vesuvius erupts on this day in AD 79. Make a volcano.

August 25

Back to school. Share Lauren Child's *I Am Too Absolutely Small for School*.

August 26

Women's Equality Day
Celebrate the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920, which gave women the right to vote.

August 27

Share the fall poems in Heidi Roemer's *Come to My Party and Other Shape Poems* then have students make their own shape poems.

August 28

Nights in August. Display books on stargazing and host an evening storytime about the stars.

August 29

Did you know? Whitcomb Judson patents the zipper on this day in 1893.

August 30

Stress the importance of eye exams to parents of children starting school.

August 31

Tucker in George Selden's *The Cricket in Times Square* is what kind of animal? (A mouse.)