

DECEMBER 2011

BULLETIN BOARD OF THE MONTH

Create a bulletin board around the words "Ho! Ho! Ho!" Feature books with humor, cartoons, jokes, limericks, comics, and more. Make it festive and create a display of books in the library to complement the bulletin board. Grades K-12.



► Moon Phases

- ☽ First Quarter – December 2
- ◯ Full Moon – December 10
- ☾ Last Quarter – December 17
- New Moon – December 24

► Gemstone of the Month: Turquoise or Zircon

- Flower of the Month: Holly or Narcissus
- Bingo's Birthday Month
- Colorectal Cancer Education and Awareness Month

<http://preventcancer.org/prevention/preventable-cancers/colorectal-cancer/>

► National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/impaired_driving/3d.html

► National Stress-Free Family Holidays Month

The American Institute of Stress; <http://www.stress.org>

► National Write a Business Plan Month

Instead of writing a business plan, take on renewing, updating, or developing a plan for collecting data about your school library program. See Ann Martin's article "Data-Driven Leadership" (<http://www.schoollibrarymonthly.com/articles/Martin2011-v28n2p31.html>) and the accompanying "Use This Page" (<http://www.schoollibrarymonthly.com/articles/pdf/DataDrivenGuide.pdf>) from SLM November 2011. Prof.

► Operation Santa Paws (December 1-24)

<http://www.santapaws.info>

► Rising Star Month

<http://www.RisingStarMonth.info>

► Safe Toys and Gifts Month

<http://www.preventblindness.org>

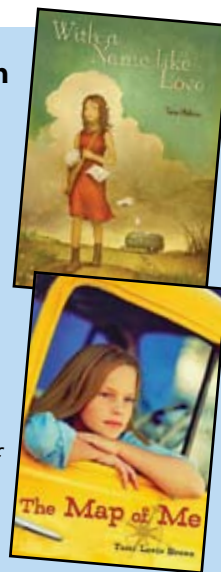
► Universal Human Rights Month

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>

Read a New Book Month

Introduce students to two new titles that deal sensitively with tough topics. One is Tess Hilmo's *With a Name Like Love* (Margaret Ferguson Books, 2011), a compelling story set in 1957 in rural Arkansas that reflects the true beauty of friendship and honesty. Download a free discussion guide (<http://tesshilmo.com/books/>). Tami Lewis Brown's *The Map of Me* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011) is a tender novel about being lost and being found.

Margie and her obnoxious sister Peep hop in daddy's Ford and travel the backroads of Kentucky in search of momma. Download a free activity kit for the novel (<http://www.tamilewisbrown.com/>). Grades 4-8.



DECEMBER 1-3

► Cookie Cutter Week (December 1-7)

<http://www.cookiecuttercollectorsclub.com>

Discuss with students the meaning of the term "Cookie-cutter," defined by the *Urban Dictionary* (<http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=cookie-cutter>) as "Marked by sameness and a lack of originality; mass-produced." Then read the book *The Crown on Your Head* (Feiwel and Friends, 2011) and discuss the meaning of the word "unique." Grades K-5.

► Recipe Greetings for the Holidays (December 1-8)

1 THURSDAY

► United Nations World AIDS Day

<http://www.worldaidsday.org/>; <http://www.unaids.org/en/>

► Death of Oliver Wolcott—1797

► President Jackson Announced Elimination of the National Debt—1834

► Birthday of Julia A. Davis Moore—1847-1920

► Basketball Created—1891

► Canada Yukon Order of Pioneers Founded—1894

► Birthday of Ray Henderson—1896-1970

► Birthday of Mary Martin—1913-1990

► Lady Astor Sworn In as First Woman in Parliament—1919

► U.S. Civil Air Patrol Organized—1941

► Rosa Parks Refused to Give Up Bus Seat—1955

► Virgin Islands National Park Established—1956

► Airlift of Refugees from Cuba Began—1965

► First Draft Lottery Since WWII—1969

► Atlantis Launched—1988

► Congress Passed GATT Treaty—1994

2 FRIDAY

► Special Education Day

<http://www.specialeducationday.com>

► United Nations International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

<http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/slavery>

► Birthday of Richard Montgomery—1738-1775

► Napoleon Crowned Emperor of France—1804

► James Monroe Announced "Monroe Doctrine"—1823

► Gag Rules Repealed by Congress—1844

► John Brown Executed—1859

► Birthday of Georges Pierre Seurat—1859-1891

► Freedom Statue Placed on Capitol Dome—1863

► Birthday of Charles Ringling—1863-1926

► Daughters of the American Revolution Chartered—1895

► Birthday of Peter C. Goldmark—1906-1977

► Birthday of Adolph Green—1915-2002

► Birthday of Charlie Ventura—1916-1992

► Birthday of Sylvia Syms—1917-1992

► Birthday of Maria Callas—1923-1977

► Birthday of Alexander Haig, Jr.—1924-2010

► Model A Ford Unveiled—1927

► LaGuardia Airport Began Operation—1939

► Controlled Chain Reaction of Uranium Achieved—1942

► Environmental Protection Agency Established—1970

► Soyuz 16 Launched—1974

► Alaskan National Parks Created—1980

► Four American Women Murdered and Buried Outside San Salvador—1980

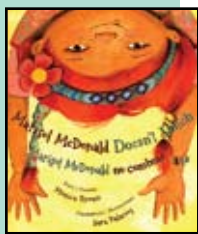
► First Permanent Artificial Heart Implanted in Human—1982

► American Hostage Joseph Cicippio Freed—1991

► Enron Filed for Bankruptcy—2001

DECEMBER 1-7 Tolerance Week

Celebrate tolerance and acceptance of differences with the book by Monica Brown, *Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match/Marisol McDonald no combina* (English and Spanish text). Marisol is a multiracial, Peruvian-Scottish-American soccer playing artist and she likes being a little different. Celebrate diversity with this new book and download a free activity kit (<http://www.monicabrown.net/teachers/>). Grades 1-3.



DECEMBER 4-10

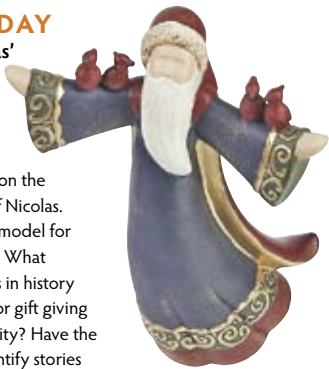
- ▶ Clerc-Gallaudet Week (December 4-10)
- ▶ National Handwashing Awareness Week (December 4-10)
<http://www.healthreachchc.org/news/healthTip.php?IDT=39>

5 MONDAY

- ▶ United Nations International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development
- ▶ Haiti Discovered by Christopher Columbus—1492
- ▶ Birthday of Martin Van Buren—1782-1862
- ▶ Death of Phyllis Wheatley—1784
- ▶ Daniel Shay's Rebellion—1786
- ▶ George Washington Reelected—1792
- ▶ Birthday of George A. Custer—1839-1876
- ▶ Birthday of Bill Pickett—1870-1932
- ▶ President Grant Apologized to Congress—1876
- ▶ Birthday of Clyde V. Cessna—1879-1954
- ▶ Birthday of Ann Nolan Clark—1896-1995
- ▶ Birthday of Carl F. Cori—1896-1984
- ▶ Birthday of Walt Disney—1901-1966
- ▶ Birthday of Strom Thurmond—1902-2003
- ▶ Albert Einstein Granted Visa to Travel to US—1932
- ▶ Prohibition Repealed (Twenty-first Amendment)—1933
- ▶ Montgomery, AL, Bus Boycott Began—1955
- ▶ AFL-CIO Founded—1955
- ▶ *Pioneer Venus I* Beamed Back First Information—1978
- ▶ Sonia Johnson Excommunicated from Mormon Church because of ERA Views—1979

6 TUESDAY

- ▶ St. Nicholas' Day
Have students discover information on the sainthood of Nicolas. Why is he a model for Santa Claus? What other figures in history are known for gift giving and generosity? Have the children identify stories that illustrate generosity. Grades 2-6.
- ▶ Jean Baptist Point DuSable Established Permanent Settlement in Chicago—1790
- ▶ First Session of the U.S. Congress in Philadelphia—1790
- ▶ Birthday of Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin—1805-1871
- ▶ Missouri Earthquakes—1811
- ▶ Birthday of Eberhard Faber—1823-1879
- ▶ Naval Observatory Established—1830
- ▶ Birthday of John Singleton Mosby—1833-1916
- ▶ Birthday of Charles F. Chandler—1836-1925
- ▶ Thirteenth Amendment to U.S. Constitution Ratified—1865
- ▶ Washington Monument Construction Completed—1884

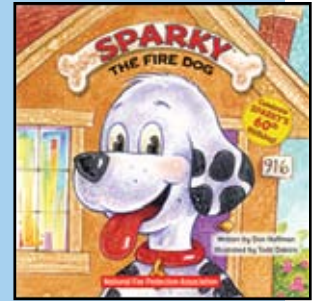


DECEMBER 7

National Fire Safety Council Founded—1979

<http://nfsc.org/>

Sixty years ago, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), introduced Sparky... a spotted Dalmatian puppy who teaches fire safety (<http://www.nfpa.org/>). Celebrate Sparky's 60th birthday with the book *Sparky the Fire Dog* (Imagine, 2011). Have students find out about the purposes of the National Fire Safety Council (NFSC) and the NFPA. After reading the book, list the fire safety measures covered, then check against the list at the back. Which ones do the children have in place at home? Grades K-3.



- ▶ Birthday of Robert W. Woodruff—1889-1985
- ▶ Birthday of Ira Gershwin—1896-1983
- ▶ Birthday of Alfred Eisenstaedt—1898-1995
- ▶ Birthday of Hester Burton—1913-2000
- ▶ First Presidential Address Broadcasted—1923
- ▶ Everglades National Park Established—1947
- ▶ Teamsters Expelled from AFL-CIO—1957
- ▶ First U.S. Satellite Launch Attempt Blew Up on Pad—1957
- ▶ Gerald Ford Sworn in as Vice President—1973
- ▶ Death of Charles A. Levine—1991

7 WEDNESDAY

- ▶ National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- ▶ United Nations International Civil Aviation Day
- ▶ Cicero Executed by Mark Antony—43 B.C.
- ▶ Birthday of Giovanni Lorenzo Bernini—1598-1680
- ▶ Birthday of Marie Grosholtz Tussaud—1761-1850
- ▶ Delaware Ratified Constitution—1787
- ▶ Martin Van Buren Elected President—1836
- ▶ First Performance by New York Philharmonic—1842
- ▶ Battle of Prairie Grove—1862
- ▶ Birthday of Virginia Kirkus—1893-1980
- ▶ Birthday of Gerard F. Kuiper—1905-1973
- ▶ Birthday of Jacob Kainen—1909-2001
- ▶ Birthday of Victor Kermit Kiam II—1926-2001
- ▶ Japanese Attacked Pearl Harbor—1941
- ▶ Birthday of Harry Chapin—1942-1981
- ▶ *Apollo 17* Launched—1972
- ▶ First U.S. Execution by Lethal Injection—1982
- ▶ *Galileo* Launched—1995

8 THURSDAY

- ▶ Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- ▶ Birthday of Horace—65 B.C.-8 B.C.
- ▶ Birthday of Mary, Queen of Scots—1542-1587
- ▶ Birthday of Eli Whitney—1765-1825
- ▶ Death of James Hoban—1831
- ▶ First Christmas Card Produced—1843

- ▶ Birthday of William Crapo Durant—1861-1947
- ▶ Lincoln Proclaimed Amnesty—1863
- ▶ Birthday of Jean Sibelius—1865-1957
- ▶ Birthday of Manuel Ponce—1882-1948
- ▶ American Federation of Labor Organized—1886
- ▶ Birthday of Diego Rivera—1886-1957
- ▶ Birthday of Bohuslav Martinu—1890-1959
- ▶ Birthday of Elzie Crisler Segar—1894-1938
- ▶ American Bird Banding Association Founded—1909
- ▶ U.S. Formally Entered World War II—1941
- ▶ Chinese Nationalists Moved to Formosa, Taiwan—1949
- ▶ John Lennon Killed—1980
- ▶ U.S./U.S.S.R. Treaty for Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles—1987
- ▶ Dissolution of the Soviet Union—1991
- ▶ Death of Kimberly Bergalis—1991
- ▶ NAFTA Signed—1993

9 FRIDAY

- ▶ United Nations International Anti-Corruption Day
- ▶ Birthday of Edwin Sandys—1561-1629
- ▶ Birthday of Claude Louis Berthollet—1748-1822
- ▶ "The Charge of the Light Brigade" (Tennyson) Published—1854
- ▶ Birthday of Joaquin Turina—1882-1949
- ▶ Birthday of Clarence Birdseye—1886-1956
- ▶ Birthday of Emmett Kelly—1898-1979
- ▶ Birthday of Grace Hopper—1906-1992
- ▶ Christmas Seals Went on Sale to Fight TB—1907
- ▶ Birthday of Douglas Fairbanks Jr.—1909-2000
- ▶ Birthday of Tip O'Neill—1912-1994
- ▶ British Began Offensive in North Africa—1940
- ▶ China Declared War on Japan, Germany, and Italy—1941
- ▶ Genocide Convention on Prevention and Punishment of Crime of Genocide—1948
- ▶ John Birch Society Founded—1958
- ▶ Petrified Forest National Park Established—1962

DECEMBER 11-17

12 MONDAY

- ▶ Bonza Bottler Day
- ▶ Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- ▶ Mexico: Guadalupe Day
- ▶ Puerto Rico: Las Mañanitas
- ▶ Birthday of John Jay—1745-1829
- ▶ Pennsylvania Ratified Constitution—1787
- ▶ Birthday of William Lloyd Garrison—1805-1879
- ▶ Birthday of Stand Watie—1806-1871
- ▶ Birthday of Gustave Flaubert—1821-1880
- ▶ First African American Sworn into U.S. House of Representatives—1870
- ▶ Birthday of Harry M. Warner—1881-1958
- ▶ Birthday of Edward G. Robinson—1893-1973
- ▶ First Radio Signal to Cross the Atlantic Picked Up—1901
- ▶ India's Capital Became Delhi—1911
- ▶ Birthday of Frank Sinatra—1915-1998
- ▶ Boys Town Founded—1917
- ▶ Birthday of Bob Barker—1923-
- ▶ Birthday of Edward Koch—1924-
- ▶ Birthday of Robert Noyce—1927-
- ▶ Japan Sank U.S. Gunboat—1937
- ▶ Birthday of Grover Washington—1943-1999
- ▶ United Nations Accepted Six-block Land Tract in Manhattan—1946
- ▶ United Mine Workers Withdrew from AFL—1947
- ▶ Gramm-Rudman Act Signed—1985
- ▶ Russia: Constitution Day—1993
- ▶ Supreme Court Ruled for Bush—2000

13 TUESDAY

- ▶ Sweden: St. Lucia Day
- ▶ Francis Drake Began Circumnavigation Voyage—1577
- ▶ Abel Tasman Arrived in New Zealand—1642
- ▶ Dartmouth College Received Charter—1769
- ▶ First Incident in Revolutionary War—1774
- ▶ Birthday of Mary Todd Lincoln—1818-1882
- ▶ Birthday of Phillips Brooks—1835-1893
- ▶ Battle of Fredericksburg—1862
- ▶ Birthday of Alvin C. York—1887-1964
- ▶ President Wilson Arrived in France—1918
- ▶ Birthday of Philip W. Anderson—1923-

- ▶ George Gershwin's *An American in Paris* Premiered—1928
- ▶ Rio Grande Diverted and Boundary Changed between U.S. and Mexico—1964
- ▶ Philadelphia Mint Began Stamping Susan B. Anthony Dollar—1978
- ▶ Martial Law Cracked Down on Solidarity Movement—1981
- ▶ North and South Korea Signed Treaty of Reconciliation and Nonaggression—1991

14 WEDNESDAY

- ▶ Birthday of Nostradamus—1503-1566
- ▶ National Bank Proposed—1790
- ▶ Death of George Washington—1799
- ▶ Alabama Admitted to U.S.—1819
- ▶ Birthday of John Mercer Langston—1829-1897
- ▶ Birthday of James Harold Doolittle—1896-1942
- ▶ Birthday of Margaret Chase Smith—1897-1995
- ▶ South Pole Reached by Roald Amundsen—1911
- ▶ Birthday of Don Hewitt—1922-2009
- ▶ Birthday of Charlie Rich—1932-1995
- ▶ Soviet Union Dropped from League of Nations—1939
- ▶ *Mariner Two* Transmitted Information about Venus—1962
- ▶ DNA Created in Test Tube—1967
- ▶ Israel Annexed the Golan Heights—1967
- ▶ First Non-stop, Non-refueled Flight Around the World Began—1986
- ▶ Ferry Salem Express Sank Off Safaga, Egypt—1991

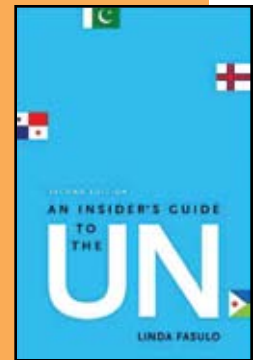
15 THURSDAY

- ▶ Bill of Rights Day
- ▶ Birthday of Nero—37-68
- ▶ Bill of Rights Ratified—1791
- ▶ Death of Mad Anthony Wayne—1796
- ▶ Birthday of Alexandre Gustave Eiffel—1832-1923
- ▶ Birthday of George B. Post—1837-1913
- ▶ Birthday of Ludwig Lazarus Zamenhof—1859-1917
- ▶ Birthday of Charles E. Duryea—1861-1938
- ▶ Birthday of Arthur D. Little—1863-1935
- ▶ Death of Sitting Bull—1890
- ▶ French Defeated Germans in WWI—1916
- ▶ Birthday of Friedrich Hundertwasser—1928-2000

DECEMBER 14

United Nations Voted to Establish Headquarters in New York—1946

Have students learn more about the United Nations—the accomplishments and controversies. *An Insider's Guide to the UN* (United Nations, 2005) provides an overview of the purpose and mission of this peacekeeping agency. Grades 9-12.



- ▶ Groundbreaking Ceremony for Jefferson Memorial—1939
- ▶ *Gone With the Wind* Premiered—1939
- ▶ Nylon Yarn Manufactured—1939
- ▶ Battle of San Pietro—1943
- ▶ U.S. Forces Landed in Philippines—1944
- ▶ Plane Carrying Glenn Miller Disappeared over English Channel—1944
- ▶ Adolf Eichmann Sentenced to Death—1961
- ▶ First Space Rendezvous—1965
- ▶ Communist China Granted Diplomatic Recognition by U.S.—1978
- ▶ *Vega I* Launched to Rendezvous with Halley's Comet—1984
- ▶ Chile's Military Dictatorship Ended—1989

16 FRIDAY

- ▶ South Africa: Reconciliation Day
- ▶ Oliver Cromwell Became Lord Protector of England—1653
- ▶ Birthday/Baptism of Ludwig Van Beethoven—1770-1827
- ▶ Boston Tea Party—1773
- ▶ Napoleon Divorced from Josephine—1809
- ▶ Earthquake Near New Madrid, MO—1811
- ▶ New York City: Great Fire—1835
- ▶ *A Christmas Carol* Published—1843
- ▶ Birthday of Edward E. Barnard—1857-1923
- ▶ Battle of Nashville—1864
- ▶ Premiere of Dvorak's *New World Symphony*—1893
- ▶ Birthday of Sir Noel Coward—1899-1973
- ▶ Birthday of Margaret Mead—1901-1978
- ▶ Battle of the Bulge—1944
- ▶ Truman Proclaimed National State of Emergency to Fight Communism—1950
- ▶ Swineflu Vaccination Program Halted by U.S. Government—1976
- ▶ EPA Head Cited for Contempt of Congress—1982
- ▶ Jean-Bertrand Aristide Elected President of Haiti—1990
- ▶ United Nations Revoked Resolution on Zionism—1991

DECEMBER 12

Stolen Mona Lisa Recovered—1913

Work with the art teacher to help students explore the work of Leonardo da Vinci. Take a virtual trip to the Louvre and follow a discussion about the Mona Lisa (<http://tinyurl.com/2ozqf9>). The book *Leonardo: Beautiful Dreamer* (Dutton Children's Books, 2003) is a great resource, as is *Amazing Leonardo da Vinci Inventions You Can Build Yourself* (Nomad Press, 2006). Grades 4-7.



DECEMBER 18

Premiere of *The Nutcracker*—1892

Introduce students to the book *Duke Ellington's Nutcracker Suite* (Charlesbridge, 2011). It tells the story of how Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn re-invented, in their own style, Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite* (musical CD included). Collaborate with the music teacher to compare the traditional version with Ellington's interpretation. Grades 4-8.



DECEMBER 18-24

- ▶ Hanukkah (December 21-28)
- ▶ Gluten-Free Baking Week (December 19-25)
<http://www.theglutenfreelifestyle.com>; <http://www.celiac.com/categories/Gluten%252dFree/>

19 MONDAY

- ▶ Birthday of John Winthrop—1714-1779
- ▶ *Poor Richard's Almanack* First Published—1732
- ▶ Birthday of William Parry—1790-1855
- ▶ Birthday of Mary Livermore—1821-1905
- ▶ Birthday of Albert A. Michelson—1852-1931
- ▶ Birthday of Minnie Maddern Fiske—1865-1932
- ▶ Birthday of Eleanor Porter—1868-1920
- ▶ Corrugated Paper Patented—1871
- ▶ Birthday of Oliver LaFarge—1901-1963
- ▶ Birthday of Richard Leakey—1944-
- ▶ Birthday of Miguel Pinero—1946-1988
- ▶ First Radio Voice Broadcast from Space—1958
- ▶ *Intelsat 4 F-3* Launched—1971
- ▶ Birthday of Alyssa Milano—1972-
- ▶ *Cosmos 1614* Launched—1984
- ▶ United States Invaded Panama—1989

20 TUESDAY

- ▶ United Nations International Human Solidarity Day
- ▶ *Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery* Departed for Virginia—1606
- ▶ First Successful Cotton Mill in Pawtucket, RI—1790
- ▶ Louisiana Purchase—1803

- ▶ Death of Sacagawea—1812
- ▶ Missouri Imposed Bachelor Tax—1820
- ▶ Birthday of Samuel A. Mudd—1833-1883
- ▶ Birthday of Baron Shibasaboro Kitazato—1856-1931
- ▶ South Carolina Seceded from Union—1860
- ▶ Attack at Holly Springs—1862
- ▶ Birthday of Harvey S. Firestone—1868-1938
- ▶ Birthday of Walter S. Adams—1876-1956
- ▶ Incandescent Light Demonstrated by Edison—1879
- ▶ Birthday of Robert Gordon Menzies—1894-1978
- ▶ Birthday of Suzanne K. Langer—1895-1985
- ▶ Birthday of Sidney Hook—1902-1989
- ▶ First U.S. Scientist Received Nobel Prize—1907
- ▶ Birthday of George Roy Hill—1922-2002
- ▶ Birthday of David Levine—1926-2009
- ▶ Death of Erick Ludendorff—1937
- ▶ Montgomery Bus Boycott Ended—1958
- ▶ Berlin Wall Opened for Visitors—1963
- ▶ American Poet Laureate Established—1985
- ▶ U.S. Troops Overthrew Noriega Regime in Panama—1989
- ▶ First Joint Siberian-American Musical Theatre Production—1990
- ▶ Clinton Impeached by U.S. House of Representatives—1998

21 WEDNESDAY

- ▶ National Haiku Poetry Day
- ▶ New England: Forefather's Day
- ▶ Pilgrims Landed at Plymouth—1620
- ▶ Birthday of Benjamin Disraeli—1804-1881
- ▶ Death of James Parkinson—1824
- ▶ Birthday of Joseph G. McCoy—1837-1915
- ▶ Birthday of Henrietta Szold—1860-1945
- ▶ Sherman Captured Savannah—1864
- ▶ Birthday of Joseph Stalin—1879-1953
- ▶ Basketball Played at Springfield College, MA—1891
- ▶ Curies Discovered Radium—1898
- ▶ First Crossword Puzzle Published—1913
- ▶ Birthday of Andor Foldes—1913-1992
- ▶ Birthday of Kurt Waldheim—1918-2007
- ▶ Birthday of Paul Winchell—1922-2005
- ▶ First Moon Voyage Launched (*Apollo 8*)—1968
- ▶ Pan American Flight 103 Explosion—1988

22 THURSDAY

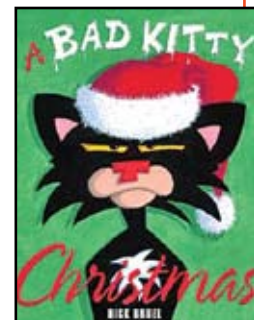
- ▶ Winter Solstice
- ▶ Yule
- ▶ Saracens Conquered Alexandria, Egypt—64

- ▶ Birthday of James Edward Oglethorpe—1696-1785
- ▶ Birthday of William Ellery—1727-1820
- ▶ Death of John Newbery—1767
- ▶ Birthday of Giacomo Puccini—1858-1924
- ▶ Birthday of Edwin Arlington Robinson—1869-1935
- ▶ Birthday of Edgard Varese—1883-1965
- ▶ Birthday of Halden K. Hartline—1903-1983
- ▶ Birthday of Peggy Ashcroft—1907-1991
- ▶ Birthday of Lady Bird Johnson—1912-2007
- ▶ Birthday of William O. Steele—1917-1979
- ▶ New York's Lincoln Tunnel Opened—1937
- ▶ First Gorilla Born in Captivity—1956
- ▶ Berlin's Brandenburg Gate Re-Opened—1989

DECEMBER 21

Humbug Day

This is a good day to read *A Bad Kitty Christmas* by Nick Bruel (Roaring Brook Press, 2011), a lively book that adapts Moore's "A Visit from St. Nicholas" while incorporating the ABCs, plenty of holiday vocabulary, and the actions of a very naughty cat. It has a sweet ending that restates the meaning of holidays like Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Eid. It is sure to bring giggles to listeners as well as satisfied smiles. Grades K-5.



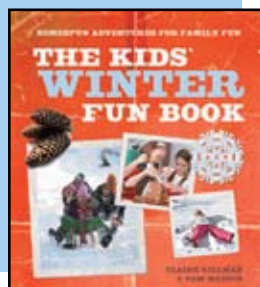
23 FRIDAY

- ▶ Humanlight Celebration
- ▶ Japan: Birthday of the Emperor
- ▶ Birthday of Joseph Smith—1805-1844
- ▶ Birthday of Samuel Smiles—1812-1904
- ▶ Birthday of Harriet Monroe—1860-1936
- ▶ Birthday of Sarah B. Walker—1864-1919
- ▶ *Hansel and Gretel* Premiered—1893
- ▶ Birthday of James Gregory—1911-2002
- ▶ Federal Reserve System Established—1913
- ▶ Birthday of José Greco—1918-2000
- ▶ Birthday of Gerald O'Loughlin—1921-
- ▶ Birthday of Ruth Roman—1923-1999
- ▶ Birthday of Floyd Kalber—1924-2004
- ▶ Birthday of Akihito—1933-
- ▶ Execution of Tojo Hideki—1948
- ▶ Metric Conversion Act—1975
- ▶ First Nonstop Flight around the World without Refueling—1987

DECEMBER 22-MARCH 20

Winter

In the library, feature various craft and winter activity books and make a list to share with families. Books like *The Kids' Winter Fun Book* (Barrons, 2011) offer many activity ideas as well as crafts that can be made with readily available supplies. Winter warming recipes are also included. Grades K-7.



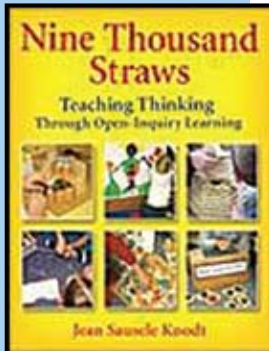
DECEMBER 25-31

- ▶ Christmas (December 25)
- ▶ Kwanzaa (December 26, 2011-January 1, 2012)

It is the 45th anniversary of Kwanzaa. Have students discover the origins of this holiday and its link to Africa and Swahili. Grades K-8.

DECEMBER 25-31 It's About Time Week

This week is about innovative ideas, creativity, and trying new things! Work with teachers to develop ways for students to explore opportunities for creative thinking. Use the book by Jean Sausele Knodt, *Nine Thousand Straws: Teaching Thinking through Open-Inquiry Learning* (Teacher Ideas Press, 2008) and read her article for *SLM* May 2010 (<http://schoolibrarymonthly.com/articles/Knodt2010-v26n9p41.html>). Prof.



26 MONDAY

- ▶ Bahamas: Junkanoo
- ▶ Boxing Day
Fact Monster; <http://www.factmonster.com/spot/boxingday1.html>
Have students explore the tradition surrounding Boxing Day. Find out how the family of Ernest Hemingway celebrated the day (<http://www.ehfp.org>). Grades 4-8.



- ▶ National Thank You Note Day
<http://www.thank-you-note-examples-and-tips.com/>
- ▶ National Whiner's Day
- ▶ Ireland: Day of the Wren
- ▶ St. Stephen's Day
- ▶ Second Day of Christmas
- ▶ Stock Exchange Holiday
- ▶ Luxembourg: Blessing of the Wine
- ▶ Birthday of Thomas Nelson—1738-1789
- ▶ Battle of Trenton—1776
- ▶ Birthday of Juan Lovera—1778-1841
- ▶ Birthday of Laurant Clerc—1785-1869
- ▶ Birthday of Charles Babbage—1792-1871
- ▶ Britain Began Blockade of Chesapeake and Delaware Bays—1812
- ▶ Birthday of George Dewey—1837-1917
- ▶ Coffee Percolator Patented—1865
- ▶ Birthday of Henry Miller—1891-1980
- ▶ Birthday of Mao Tse-Tung—1893-1976

DECEMBER 26

Birthday of Susan Butcher—1954-2006

Trail Breaker Kennel: <http://www.susanbutcher.com/>; Iditarod: <http://www.iditarod.com/learn/susanbutcher.html>
Have students discover the accomplishments of Butcher who won the Iditarod four times. They can learn about the race, the dog teams, and Alaska.



- ▶ Radium Discovered—1898
- ▶ Shenandoah National Park Established—1935
- ▶ Sumatran-Andaman Earthquake and Tsunamis—2004

27 TUESDAY

- ▶ St. John, Apostle-Evangelist: Feast Day
- ▶ Birthday of Johannes Kepler—1571-1630
- ▶ Birthday of Jacob Bernoulli—1654-1705
- ▶ Birthday of George Cayley—1773-1857
- ▶ Birthday of Louis Pasteur—1822-1895
- ▶ Carry Nation Smashed First Bar—1900
- ▶ Birthday of Marlene Dietrich—1901-1992
- ▶ Birthday of Anna Russell—1911-2006
- ▶ Birthday of William Howell Masters—1915-2001
- ▶ Birthday of Lee Salk—1926-1992
- ▶ Radio City Music Hall Opened—1932
- ▶ World Bank Created—1945
- ▶ Birthday of Tovah Feldshuh—1952-
- ▶ Soviet Troops Invaded Afghanistan—1979

28 WEDNESDAY

- ▶ Holy Innocents Day (Childermas)
- ▶ First Ad for *Poor Richard's Almanack*—1732
- ▶ Birthday of John Molson—1763-1836
- ▶ Iowa Admitted to U.S.—1846
- ▶ Birthday of Woodrow Wilson—1856-1924
- ▶ Chewing Gum Patented—1869
- ▶ Birthday of Mortimer Adler—1902-2001
- ▶ Messina Earthquake—1908
- ▶ Birthday of Lou Jacobi—1913-2009
- ▶ Pledge of Allegiance Officially Recognized—1945
- ▶ Endangered Species Act Signed into Law—1973

29 THURSDAY

- ▶ St. Thomas of Canterbury: Feast Day
- ▶ Tick Tock Day
This is the day to finally decide to do what you have always wanted to do to improve the library

program. Set goals for the next semester or the next year. Take on a project on the "To Do" list. Make a plan. Find the resources (people, materials, links) that will help. Attend a conference. Prof.

- ▶ Death of Thomas Becket—1170
- ▶ Birthday of Madam de Pompadour—1721-1764
- ▶ Birthday of Charles Goodyear—1800-1879
- ▶ Birthday of Andrew Johnson—1808-1875
- ▶ Birthday of William E. Gladstone—1809-1898
- ▶ Texas Admitted to U.S.—1845
- ▶ YMCA Organized in the U.S.—1851
- ▶ Birthday of Pablo Casals—1876-1973
- ▶ Wounded Knee Massacre—1890
- ▶ Birthday of Joyce C. Hall—1891-1982
- ▶ Birthday of Klaus Fuchs—1911-1988
- ▶ Assassination of Grigori Efimovich Rasputin—1916
- ▶ Birthday of Tom Bradley—1917-1998
- ▶ Birthday of Alexander A. Farrelly—1923-2002
- ▶ Birthday of Ed Flanders—1934-1995
- ▶ Birthday of Thomas Edwin Jarriel—1934-
- ▶ Occupational Safety and Health Act Signed into Law—1970

30 FRIDAY

- ▶ No Interruptions Day!
- ▶ Birthday of Asa G. Candler—1851-1929
- ▶ Gadsden Purchase Signed—1853
- ▶ *USS Monitor* Sank—1862
- ▶ Birthday of Simon Guggenheim—1867-1941
- ▶ Birthday of Stephen Leacock—1867-1944
- ▶ Birthday of Tojo Hideki—1884-1948
- ▶ Philippines: Rizal Day—1896
- ▶ AT&T Formed—1899
- ▶ USSR Established—1922
- ▶ Birthday of Jo Van Fleet—1922-1996
- ▶ Birthday of Bo Diddley—1928-2008
- ▶ First NTSC Color TVs for Sale—1953
- ▶ Madagascar: Republic Day—1975
- ▶ Saddam Hussein Executed—2006

DECEMBER 27

Howdy Doody TV Premiere—1947

Not only was Howdy Doody a television show, it was also a comic book from 1950-1956. Have students find out more about the history of comics and introduce them to many celebrated cartoonists in the newly published book *Nursery Rhyme Comics: 50 Timeless Rhymes from 50 Celebrated Cartoonists!* (First Second, 2011). Grades 4-9.

