

May



1 **Mother Goose Day**

Have students skip rope while chanting Mother Goose rhymes.

2 National Pet Week is the first full week in May. Invite students to bring in photos or drawings of their pets.



3 National Hamburger Month Go on a field trip to a local fast food restaurant for a tour and hamburgers!

4 National Teacher Day is the Tuesday of the first full week in May. Let students make cards thanking teachers for their hard work.

5 Leo Lionni's Birthday The children's author was born today in 1910. Share one of his books, such as *Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse* or *Swimmy*.



The **world's first postage stamp** was **issued** in England today in 1840. Have students design their own stamps in honor of the occasion. Designs for postage stamps can be much larger than the final product. Hold a class-wide competition for the best design.

7 Cartoon Art Appreciation Week is May 1-7. Have a cartoon *Show and Tell* with the class. Have students bring in items that depict their favorite cartoon characters, such as stuffed animals, comic books, lunch boxes, etc.

8 No Socks Day Invite students to take off their socks in honor of this day.



Day-by-Day Calendar

9 Jean de Brunhoff's Birthday The creator of Babar was born on this day in 1899. Have students pick an animal and write a short adventure story about it.

10 National Etiquette Week begins on Monday in the second week of May. Make a *We Have Good Manners!* bulletin board. Have students draw pictures depicting good manners.

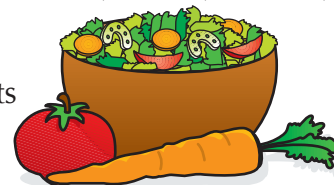


11 Irving Berlin's Birthday The song writer was born in 1888. Sing or play one of his songs, such as *God Bless America* or *White Christmas*.

12 Limerick Day Share limericks with the class. Have older students try their hands at writing poems in this style.

13 Electrical Safety Month Brainstorm safety rules to use when dealing with electricity such as, *Never use an electrical appliance around water*. Post the rules in the classroom.

14 National Salad Month Have a salad taste test. Bring in different varieties of salad, such as fruit, Caesar, chicken, etc. Record which salad most students liked best.

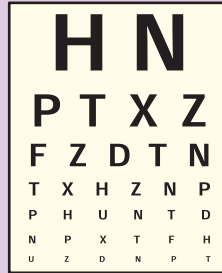


15 Physical Fitness/Sports Month Have students do several minutes of physical exercise each day this month such as jogging, jumping jacks, etc.



16 *National New Friends, Old Friends Week* is May 16-22. Divide students into small groups. Have each member of each group tell an anecdote about something they experienced with a friend.

17 *National Sight-Saving Month* Invite an ophthalmologist or optometrist to talk with students about ways to take care of their eyes.



18 *International Museum Day* If it is not possible to visit a museum, bring in photographs of works of art (paintings, sculptures, etc.) to share with the class.



19 *May Ray Day* Celebrate the warm days of May by taking students outside and letting them sit on blankets for a read-aloud story.

20 *Amelia Earhart began flying across the Atlantic* today in 1932. Teach the class some facts about this amazing pilot, such as she was born on July 24, 1897 and she earned her pilot's license in 1932.

21 *International Pickle Week* is May 21-31. Bring in sweet, sour, hot, fruit, and vegetable versions of pickles and have a pickle party.

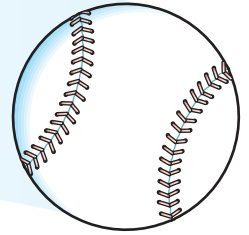


22 *National Salsa Month* Make salsa with the class to enjoy with tortilla chips as an afternoon snack.



23 *Older Americans Month* Have students make cards to deliver to a rest home in your area.

24 *National Backyard Games Week* ends on Memorial Day. Play softball, volleyball, etc., in honor of this week.



25 *Breathe Easy Month* Have students research ways to keep their lungs healthy.

26 *National Egg Month* Make a list of ways that eggs can be prepared as well as foods that contain eggs. Then, take a class survey of favorites and graph the results.



27 *The Golden Gate Bridge opened* today in 1937. Teach the class facts about the Golden Gate Bridge. If possible, bring in photos to share.

28 *The Sierra Club* was *founded* today in 1892. Explain that the Sierra Club is an environmental organization dedicated to protecting the Earth. Brainstorm ways to help this cause.

29 *International Jazz Day* is the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. Bring in jazz music to share with the class.



30 *Better Sleep Month* Brainstorm a list of benefits from getting a good night's sleep. Have students draw pictures to pair with the statements. Bind the pictures in a class book and let each student take it home to enjoy as a bedtime story.

31 *National Barbecue Month* Have students plan menus for the ideal barbecue—then write and decorate their menus on construction paper.

