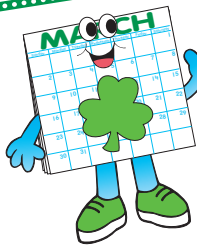


Just for March



Welcoming the Month

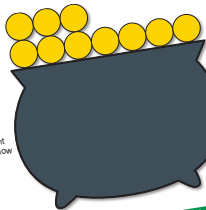
Lead little ones in this fun-tapping tune to familiarize them with March's changing weather. After singing the song, have students determine if the weather outside is like a lion (cool, wet, windy) or like a lamb (warm, sunny, mild). Then attach a lion or lamb cutout to the calendar for that day.

(Sung to the tune of "When the Saints Go Marching In")

Oh, March roars in like a lion. The winds are strong as they can be! But then it becomes soft and gently like a sweet little lamb. You see!

Lucky Days

Post a large pot of gold cutout. Each day of the month, invite a child to attach a gold coin cutout above the pot. Every Monday have a student attach two extra coins, one for Saturday and one for Sunday, above the pot. Then lead youngsters in counting the gold coins to determine the current date, how many days are left in the month, and how many days of the month have gone by.



Celebrations

Use these suggestions to highlight holidays and special events during the month.

Healthy Foods	Unhealthy Foods



Act Happy Week (annually, the week beginning with the third Monday in March)

Have each student share an activity that makes him happy as you write his words on a paper strip. Place the completed strips in a container. Each day during the week have a few students, in turn, draw a strip and pantomime the activity for his classmates to identify.

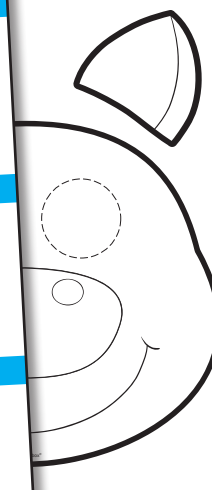
Riding a bike

St. Patrick's Day (March 17)

In advance, secretly hide a pot of gold cutout in the classroom. Tell students that a sneaky leprechaun hid a pot of gold. Then invite little ones to use magnifying glasses (if desired), make them from green tagboard) to hunt for the leprechaun's gold. After a child finds the gold, reward each student with a small prize, such as a shamrock sticker.

Start of Spring (March 19, 20, or 21)

Celebrate the beginning of spring by having each child make a personalized flower. To make one, a child glues a trimmed photo to the center of a flower cutout. Then she crumples tissue paper aquasol and glues them to the flower to frame the photo.



April

Welcoming the Month

Lead youngsters in singing this song to introduce them to some of the wonderful things that begin to happen during April.

(Sung to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

April is a month in spring. Flowers bloom and robins sing. Gentle rains begin to fall. Grass and flowers growing tall. Wags wag in the bright blue sky. You might see a butterfly.



Point to yesterday's date.

Stylish Umbrellas

Highlight important dates with this idea. Set paper drink umbrellas and tape them in the calendar area. During the month, when a special day such as a holiday, a birthday, or a field trip day occurs, have a volunteer tape an umbrella to the corresponding date. At the end of the month, revisit the dates and discuss what special happening occurred on that day.

April Celebrations

Use these suggestions to highlight holidays and special events during the month.

National Kite Month (April 1-30)

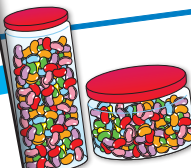
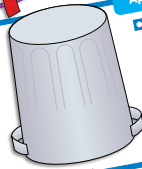
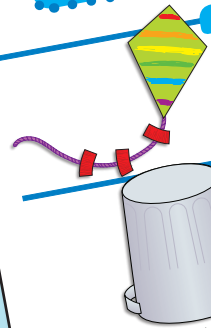
Turn your art center into a kite-making area. To make a kite, a child traces a tagboard kite on a sheet of paper and cuts out the tracing. Then she decorates her kite as desired. To complete her kite, she tapes a yarn tail to the back and craps paper strips (bows) to the tail. If desired, invite youngsters to pretend to fly their kites outside on a windy day.

April Fools' Day (April 1)

Prior to students' arrival, make some silly changes to your classroom, such as switching the month on the calendar, scribbling center names, or turning an empty trash bin upside down. When students arrive, bring center items, or turning an empty trash bin upside down. When students arrive, bring center items, or turning an empty trash bin upside down. When students arrive, bring center items, or turning an empty trash bin upside down.

National Library Week (annually, the second full week in April)

Show students several examples of bookmarks. Place a class supply of 2" x 6" marks. Place a class supply of 2" x 6" marks. Place a class supply of 2" x 6" marks. Place a class supply of 2" x 6" marks.



May

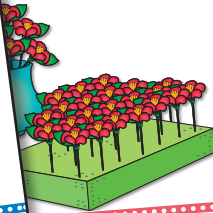
Welcoming the Month

Lead little ones in singing this fun-tapping tune to introduce a popular May pastime—gardening! Then invite youngsters to name something they would like to grow in a garden. Write students' responses on a large vegetable or flower cutout.

(Sung to the tune of "Up on the Housetop")

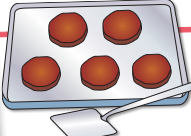
In May, we watch our garden grow from seeds planted row by row. Water them and hope there is lots of sun. Gardening is so much fun!

Plant, plant, plant, row by row. Watch that garden really grow. In May, we watch our garden grow from seeds we planted row by row.



Celebrations

Use these suggestions to highlight holidays and special events during the month.



Smile of the Day



Do you know if I say, "Cheese" Say, "Cheese" Smile, Say, "Cheese"

May Day (May 1)

Invite each child to make a personal maypole. To make one, she cuts pictures of flowers from magazines and glues them to a cardboard tube. Then she cuts (with help) crepe paper into thin strips and tapes one end of each strip to the inside of the tube.

Mother Goose Day (May 1)

On each of several white feather cutouts, write the name of a Mother Goose rhyme; place the feathers in a basket. Throughout the day, invite a volunteer to take a feather from the basket. Read aloud the name of the rhyme and invite little ones to join you in reciting the rhyme.

Día de Mayo (May 5)

Show youngsters a picture of the Mexican flag and invite them to name the colors. Then help each child make a replica of the flag by painting his hand with wide stripes of green, white, and red. Have him press his hand on a white index card. When the paint is dry, trim around the handprint and glue a copy of a Mexican flag symbol pattern from page 14 in the center of the index section. Then tape a craft stick to the handprint cutout.

MOM

WOW

