

# Daily Discoveries for **March**

Thematic Learning Activities for  
***EVERY DAY***



Written by Elizabeth Cole Midgley

Illustrated by Jennette Guymon-King



**Teaching & Learning Company**


1204 Buchanan St., P.O. Box 10

Carthage, IL 62321-0010

# This book belongs to

---



Several of the activities in this book involve preparing, tasting and sharing food items. We urge you to be aware of any food allergies or restrictions your students may have and to supervise these activities diligently. All food-related suggestions are identified with this allergy-alert symbol: 

Please note: small food items (candies, raisins, cereal, etc.) can also pose a choking hazard.

Cover art by Jennette Guymon-King

Copyright © 2006, Teaching & Learning Company

ISBN No. 1-57310-468-X

Printing No. 987654321

**Teaching & Learning Company**  
**1204 Buchanan St., P.O. Box 10**  
**Carthage, IL 62321-0010**

The purchase of this book entitles teachers to make copies for use in their individual classrooms, only. This book, or any part of it, may not be reproduced in any form for any other purposes without prior written permission from the Teaching & Learning Company. It is strictly prohibited to reproduce any part of this book for an entire school or school district, or for commercial resale.

All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America.

At the time of publication every effort was made to insure the accuracy of the information included in this book. However, we cannot guarantee that agencies and organizations mentioned will continue to operate or maintain these current locations.

# Table of Contents

March 1	National Pig Day . . . . .	5
March 2	Dr. Seuss' Birthday. . . . .	13
March 3	Alexander Graham Bell's Birthday. . . . .	16
March 4	Lamb or Lion Day. . . . .	26
March 5	Kite Day. . . . .	35
March 6	Michaelangelo's Birthday. . . . .	46
March 7	Luther Burbank's Birthday. . . . .	52
March 8	International Women's Day . . . . .	60
March 9	Teeth for Keeps Day. . . . .	64
March 10	Harriet Tubman Day. . . . .	75
March 11	Shake, Rattle and Roll Day . . . . .	81
March 12	Postal Service Day . . . . .	88
March 13	Small Talk Day . . . . .	101
March 14	Albert Einstein's Birthday . . . . .	107
March 15	Andrew Jackson's Birthday. . . . .	112
March 16	James Madison's Birthday . . . . .	114
March 17	St. Patrick's Day . . . . .	117
March 18	Bubblicious Day . . . . .	128
March 19	Balloon Bonanza Day . . . . .	133
March 20	First Day of Spring. . . . .	140
March 21	Pancake Appreciation Day . . . . .	144
March 22	Caldecott's Birthday . . . . .	149
March 23	Give Me Liberty Day . . . . .	152
March 24	Harry Houdini's Birthday. . . . .	155
March 25	Gutzon Borglum's Birthday . . . . .	159
March 26	"Egg"stravaganza Day . . . . .	162
March 27	Easter . . . . .	171
March 28	Sensational Seeds Day . . . . .	179
March 29	Bein' Beautiful Day. . . . .	185
March 30	Vincent Van Gogh's Birthday. . . . .	188
March 31	Eiffel Tower Day . . . . .	190
	March Calendar . . . . .	192

## Dear Teacher or Parent,

Due to the stimulus of a high-tech world, parents and teachers are often faced with the challenge of how to capture the attention of a child and create an atmosphere of meaningful learning opportunities. Often we search for new ways to meet this challenge and help young people transfer their knowledge, skills and experiences from one area to another. Subjects taught in isolation can leave a feeling of fragmentation. More and more educators are looking for ways to be able to integrate curriculum so that their students can fully understand how things relate to each other.

The Daily Discoveries series has been developed to that end. The premise behind this series has been, in part, the author's educational philosophy: anything can be taught and absorbed by others in a meaningful way, depending upon its presentation.

In this series, each day has been researched around the history of a specific individual or event and has been developed into a celebration or theme with integrated curriculum areas. In this approach to learning students draw from their own experience and understanding of things, to a level of processing new information and skills.

The Daily Discoveries series is an almanac-of-sorts, 12 books (one for each month) that present a thematically based curriculum for grades K-6. The series contains hundreds and hundreds of resources and ideas that can be a natural springboard to learning. These ideas have been used in the classroom and at home, and are fun as well as educationally sound. The activities have been endorsed by professors, teachers, parents and, best of all, by children.

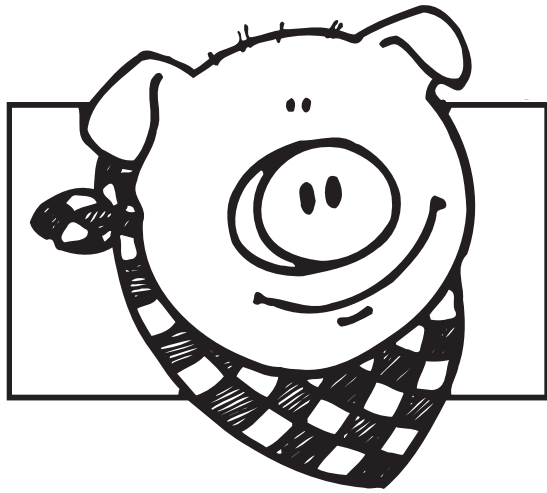
The Daily Discoveries series can be used in the following ways for school or home:

- to develop new skills and reinforce previous learning
- to create a sense of fun and celebration every day
- as tutoring resources
- as enrichment activities that can be used as time allows
- for family fun activities

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Cole Midgley

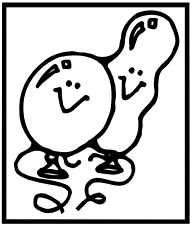


# National Pig Day

March 1



National Pig Day

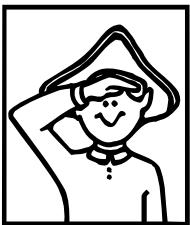


## Setting the Stage

- Today's a day to go "hog-wild" and totally make a pig of yourself! Create a bulletin board of a "pigsty" with a fence with pigs behind it and a pig trough with corncoobs and mush in it. Or make a "pigsty" area with bales of hay and stuffed toy pigs on them. You might like to dye a pair of long johns pink and add a curly pipe cleaner tail. Wear this pig costume to greet your students today.
- Construct a semantic map or web with facts your students know about pigs. Then let students suggest questions about pigs they would like answered throughout the day.



National Pig Day

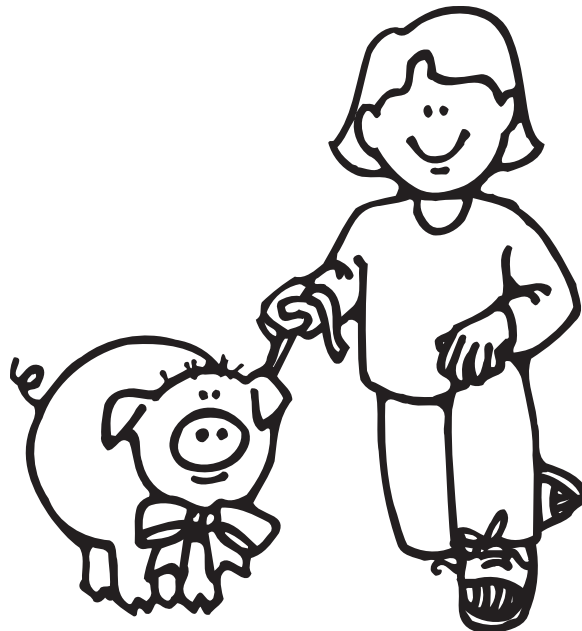


## Historical Background

Though pigs have historically been raised for their meat, they are intelligent and affectionate, smarter than people realize. In the last few years pigs have become popular pets, but due to people's desire for ham, bacon and other pork products, most pigs are still considered "food."



National Pig Day





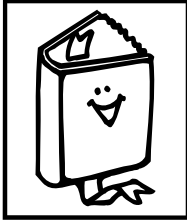
National Pig Day



National Pig Day



National Pig Day



## Literary Exploration

*All Pigs Are Beautiful* by Dick King-Smith

*Amanda Pig* (series) by Jean Van Leeuwen

*The Book of the Pig* by Jack Denton Scott

*Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White

*Chester, the Worldly Pig* by Bill Peet

*Emmett's Pig* by Mary Stolz

*Little Pig, Big Trouble* by Eve Tharlot

*The Little Pig in the Cupboard* by Helen Buckley

*Little Pink Pig* by Pat Hutchins

*Louanne Pig* (series) by Nancy Carlson

*Nothing But a Pig* by Brock Cole

*Oink and Pearl* (series) by Kay Choroa

*The Old Woman and Her Pig* by Paul Caldane

*Oliver Pig* (series) by Jean Van Leeuwen

*Perfect Pigs* by Marc Brown and Stephen Krensky

*Perfect the Pig* by Susan Jeschke

*Pig Tale* by Lewis Carroll

*A Pig Tale* by Olivia Newton John

*Pig Tale* by Helen Oxenbury

*Pig, Pig* (series) by David McPhail

*Pigericks* by Arnold Lobel

*Piggins* by Jane Yolen

*Pigs* by Robert Munsch

*Pigs from One to Ten* by Arthyr Geisert

*Pigs Might Fly* by Dick King-Smith

*The Pig's Wedding* by Helme Heine

*Pigsty* by Mark Teague

*The Pig War* by Betty Baker

*Roland, the Minstrel Pig* by William Steig

*The Seven Sloppy Days of Phineas Pig* by Mitchell Sharmat

*Small Pig* by Arnold Lobel

*Snuffles and Snouts* by Laura Robb

*Spiffen: A Tale of a Tidy Pig* by Mary Ada Schwartz

*The Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Joseph Jacob

*This Little Pig* by Miska Miles

*This Little Pig Named Curly* by Millen Brand

*The Three Little Javelinas* by Susan Lowel

*The Three Little Pigs* by Erik Blegvad

*The Three Little Pigs* by Bruce Isen

*The Three Little Pigs: An Old Story* by Margot Zemach

*Tidy Pig* by Lucinda McQueen

*A Treeful of Pigs* by Arnold Lobel

*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka

*We Keep a Pig In the Parlor* by Suzanne Bloom

*What a Ham! Jokes About Pigs* by Rick Walton

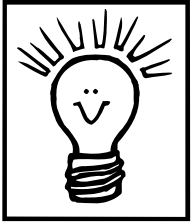
*Which Pig Would You Choose?* by Edith Kunhardt

*Wiggles, the Wishing Pig* by Pauline Watson

*Wiggly Pig* by Jon Blake

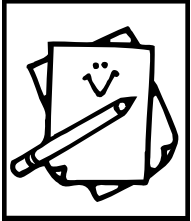
"You're Eating Like a Pig Again!" poem from *Something Big Has Been Here* by Jack Prelutsky





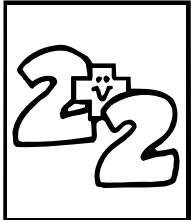
### Language Experience

- Try to teach your students some pig Latin (ig-pay atin-lay)!
- Brainstorm other things that are sloppy, grunt or are pink.



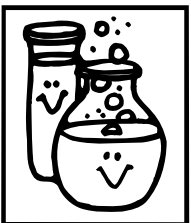
### Writing Experience

- After reading some of Arnold Lobel's *Pigericks* with the class, let students try to write pig limericks.
- Let students write some "Pig Tales," stories about pigs. See reproducible on page 11.



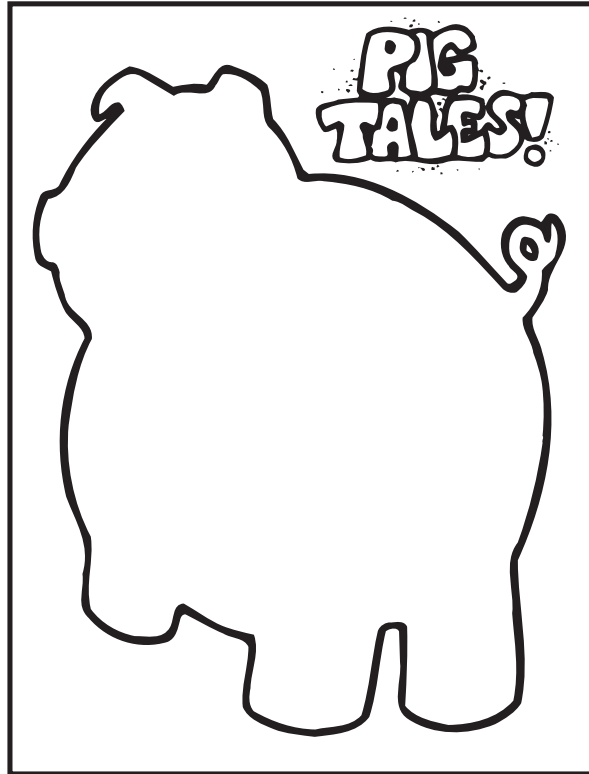
### Math Experience

- Have fun with addition and subtraction reviews about a piggy bank. (Example: Matt had 50 cents in his piggy bank but decided to take out 20 cents. How much did he have left?) Use your students' names in the problems.



### Science/Health Experience

- Learn about pigs and their habitat. Designate which are sows, boars and piglets.
- Discuss animal by-products that come from pigs.



National Pig Day



National Pig Day



National Pig Day



National Pig Day



National Pig Day

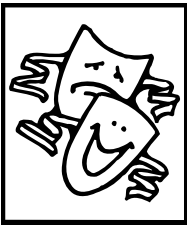
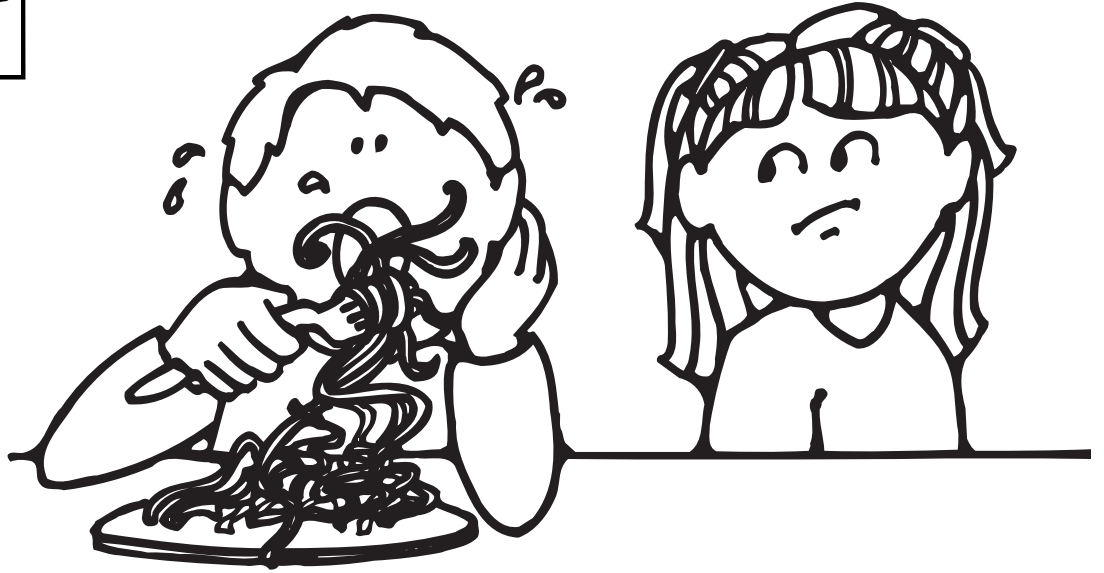


National Pig Day



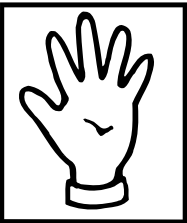
### Social Studies Experience

- After reading *Perfect Pigs: An Introduction to Manners* by Marc Brown and Stephen Krensky, discuss good manners.



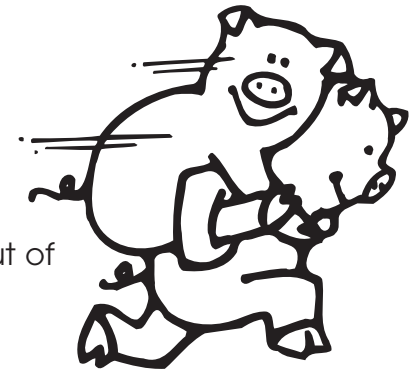
### Music/Dramatic Experience

- Have students form groups and act out the familiar story of "The Three Little Pigs." Let them add an interesting twist at the end.
- Sing the song, "This Little Piggy Went to Market."



### Physical/Sensory Experience

- Your students will enjoy competing in a pig-snorting contest.
- Allow students to decorate each other's faces with shaving cream to make pigs out of themselves.
- Hold "piggyback" races.
- Toss around the old "pigskin" (football).



- ⚠ Have a "pig"hetti and meatball-eating contest! Have students wear bibs or art smocks, put their hands behind their backs to see who finishes first. This may be messy so have paper towels handy!
- Play Grab the Bacon Bits. Divide the class in half and give each player a number. The leader gives a "hog call" (yells two numbers) and the players from each side with those numbers run to get the bacon (eraser) from the center. Award two points to the team whose player gets back in line first with the bacon.