

12 ELEMENTARY LIBRARY IDEAS FOR FEBRUARY

Idea #1: Set Up GroundHUG and Valentine Centers

by Julie Olson (That Library Girl)

February's short, so start celebrating Groundhog's and Valentine's Day all at once!

GroundHUG Day is a perfect catalyst for K-3 library centers! Your littles will rotate activities with shadow puppets and printables.

The big kids will explore shadows with a quick little EPIC e-book and a manageable-in-one-class research project!

(see them in That Library Girl's TPT store)



PreK-5

Top 10 New Book Releases

by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)

Released in the last 30 days

PICTURE BOOKS

- An American Story by Kwame Alexander
- The Indestructible Tom Crean by Jennifer Thermes
- The Gentle Genius of Trees by Philip Bunting
- Nell Plants a Tree by Anne Wynter
- · Jump In! by Shadra Strickland

CHAPTER BOOKS / NOVELS

- Sincerely Sicily by Tamika Burgess
- *Princess of the Wild Sea* by Megan Frazer Blakemore
- Just Jerry: How Drawing Shaped My Life by Jerry Pinkney
- The Superteacher Project by Gordon Korman
- The Carrefour Curse by Dianne K. Salerni

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Idea #2: Start a Valentine Estimation Jar (FREEBIE)

by Laura Trapp (The Trapped Librarian)



A Valentine estimation jar is a fun addition to your February library activities.

It's quick and easy to make this guessing jar with some Valentine candy hearts!

Perfect for I Love to Read Month or Book Fair Week.

(see it in The Trapped Librarian TPT store)

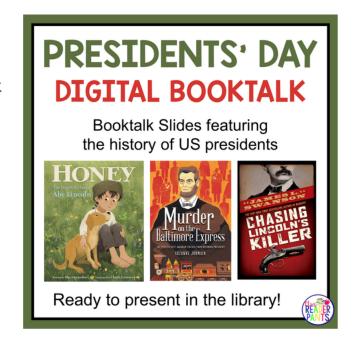
Idea #3: Celebrate Presidents' Day (FREEBIE)

by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)

This is a free scrolling slideshow of books for Presidents' Day. Every book was carefully selected to ensure reader interest. Every book has at least two positive professional reviews in Titlewave.

This presentation is fully-editable in Google Slides. It includes 28 picture books, middle grade, and YA fiction and nonfiction titles, all themed for Presidents' Day.

(see the Presidents Day Digital Booktalk)





FREE Valentines for Media Specialists!

All this month, Alexandria is offering super-cute Valentine templates for librarians. The sayings are pretty cute! See them all HERE.

Idea #4: Add Some Valentine's Day Centers

by Cari White (Library Learners)



Check out these fun centers to set up in your library and celebrate Valentine's Day!

See it in The Library Learners TPT store.

Idea #5: Host a Book Character Parade (FREEBIE)

by Julie Olson (That Library Girl)

If you're in charge of a book character parade this spring... you need this planner!

This FREEBIE has all the things you'll need to organize and promote! (Plus, I've added lots of personal tips and a PowerPoint template to fill in with your details!)

See it in the That Library Girl TPT store.







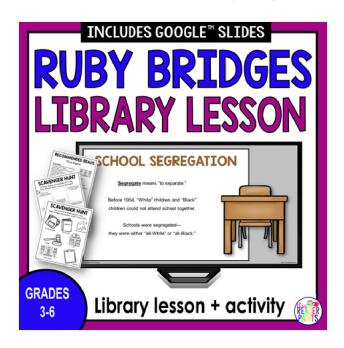
Interactive Bulletin Board Idea

Get your teachers and staff involved in <a>I Love to Read Month!

Ask them to write the title of a favorite childhood book on a heart shaped paper. Hang these on the bulletin board in your library.

Idea #6: Tell Ruby's Story

by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)



This Grade 3-6 library lesson will save you so much time!

Everything you need to teach elementary students about Ruby Bridges and school desegregation is included here.

You only need to add your school's information to a few slides (weekly agenda, birthdays) and an optional read-aloud of your choice.

(See it in the MrsReaderPants shop)

OUR FAVORITE READ-ALOUDS FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman by Kathleen Krull
- HISTORY

 WHITE STORY

 WHITE STO
- Be A King: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Dream and You by Carole Boston Weatherford
- King of Ragtime: The Story of Scott Joplin by Stephen Costanza
- The United States v. Jackie Robinson by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen
- Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly
- Granddaddy's Turn: A Journey to the Ballot Box by Michael S. Bandy
- A Ride to Remember: A Civil Rights Story by Sharon Langley
- Overground Railroad by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- Lizzie Demands a Seat!: Elizabeth Jennings Fights for Streetcar Rights by Beth Anderson
- Undefeated by Kwame Alexander
- Going Places: Victor Hugo Green and His Glorious Book by Tonya Bolden

Idea #7: Decorate with Valentine Conversation Hearts

by Julie Olson (That Library Girl)

Hey, Book Lovers... you may need these quirky, book-themed, library conversation hearts hanging around this February — just because THEY WILL MAKE YOU SMILE!

With corny phrases like "You're #1 in my book!" and "READ My Lips!" -- they'll bring a touch of whimsy to your decor when used to make a bulletin board, a Valentine tree, or maybe some circulation desk swag!





Idea #8: Explore Various February Topics

by Laura Trapp (The Trapped Librarian)



February library lessons can be engaging and fun for you and your students. This month has so many fun topics to choose from!

Get ideas for I Love to Read Month, Media Literacy, President Research, and Winter Sports activities.

<u>(read about it on The Trapped</u>
<u>Librarian blog)</u>



Curated, engaging library curriculum for teacher-librarians

Click to learn more!

Idea #9: Go On A Black History Scavenger Hunt

by Cari White (Library Learners)

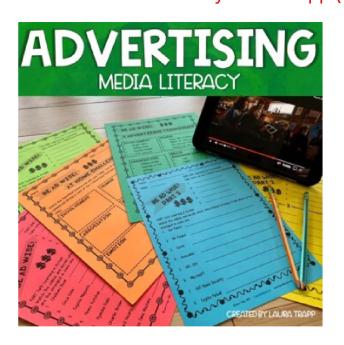
This Black History Library Scavenger Hunt provides one to four library lessons for you, in-person or virtual, helping your students learn about biographies and African-American contributions to our history!

See it in the Library Learners TPT store.



Idea #10: Teach Super Bowl Advertising Techniques

by Laura Trapp (The Trapped Librarian)



Teach important media literacy concepts as your students learn about advertising techniques in this engaging unit.

Fourth and fifth grade students will learn 5 basic advertising techniques as they analyze television commercials.

A fun unit, perfect for your lessons before or after the Super Bowl!

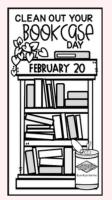
See it in The Trapped Librarian TPT store.



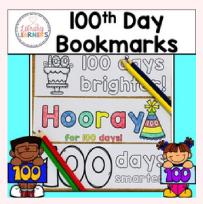
WHAT HAPPENED ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY?

<u>Find out on Ducksters!</u> This is a summary of important events and birthdays in February. Just click on the date on the calendar to find out fun facts about that day!

Idea #11: Color Some Free Bookmarks!









by Julie Olson (That Library Girl)

by Cari White (Library Learners)

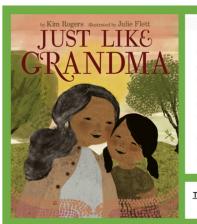
by Laura Trapp (The Trapped Librarian)

Idea #12: Share New Book Releases Each Week

by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)

Every Tuesday morning, Leigh Collazo of MrsReaderPants spotlights the week's best new book releases for Grades PreK-12.

Featured titles are hand-selected to ensure the highest quality, student appeal, and cultural diversity.



Becca loves spending time with Grandma. Every time Becca says, "Let me try," Grandma shows her how to make something beautiful.

Whether they are beading moccasins, dancing like the most beautiful butterflies, or practicing basketball together, Becca knows that, more than anything, she wants to be just like Grandma.

And as the two share their favorite activities, Becca discovers something surprising about Grandma.

THEMES: grandmothers, indigenous Americans, family, culture, traditions, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes

Each New Release Spotlight includes a free, downloadable, editable presentation of all titles included. Scroll the presentation on a loop in the library to see which books students and teachers are most interested in!

See all the New Release Spotlights on MrsReaderPants



The Elementary Library Newsletter is a collaborative monthly publication of several veteran elementary school librarians.

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