

Table of Contents

January 1	New Year's Day	5
January 2	Soup Day	17
January 3	J.R.R. Tolkien's Birthday	25
January 4	Grimms' Fairy Tale Day	29
January 5	George Washington Carver Day	36
January 6	New Mexico Statehood Day	43
January 7	Magnificent Mittens Day	47
January 8	Elvis Presley's Birthday	56
January 9	Richard Nixon's Birthday	63
January 10	Let It Snow Day	65
January 11	Solo Day	80
January 12	Little Red Riding Hood Day	85
January 13	Popcorn Day	88
January 14	African Safari Day	100
January 15	Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	107
January 16	Nothing Day	116
January 17	Benjamin Franklin's Birthday	122
January 18	Winnie the Pooh Day	126
January 19	Robert E. Lee's Birthday	130
January 20	Inauguration Day	134
January 21	Hat Day	139
January 22	Couch Potato Buster's Day	144
January 23	National Handwriting Day	150
January 24	Gold Fever Day	155
January 25	Winter Olympic Games Day	159
January 26	Michigan Statehood Day	163
January 27	Mad Hatter Day	170
January 28	Emmy Award Day	173
January 29	Pasta Party Day	176
January 30	FDR Day	180
January 31	Chinese New Year Day	184
January	Calendar	192

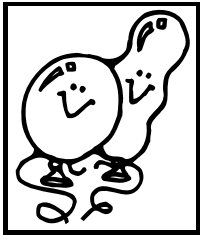


New Year's Day

January 1



New Year's Day



Setting the Stage

- Display a picture of a giant wishing well (gray construction paper "stones" for the base and a brown construction paper "tile" well "roof"). A gold construction paper "bell" can be hung under the center of the roof. Use the caption: "Here's Wishing You WELL This Coming Year!" Students can write on construction paper water pails about their hopes for the New Year. These pails can be displayed around the well.
- If you live in a cooler area, use this bulletin board idea. Display a picture of students in winter clothing (coats, scarves and mittens) surrounded by book jacket covers. Add the caption: "Warm Up to a Good Book!"
- Construct a semantic map or web with what your students already know about New Year's Day and its customs. Students can share questions they have during the course of the day.



New Year's Day



New Year's Day



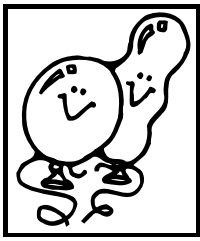
New Year's Day



New Year's Day

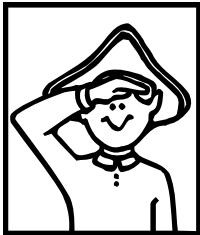
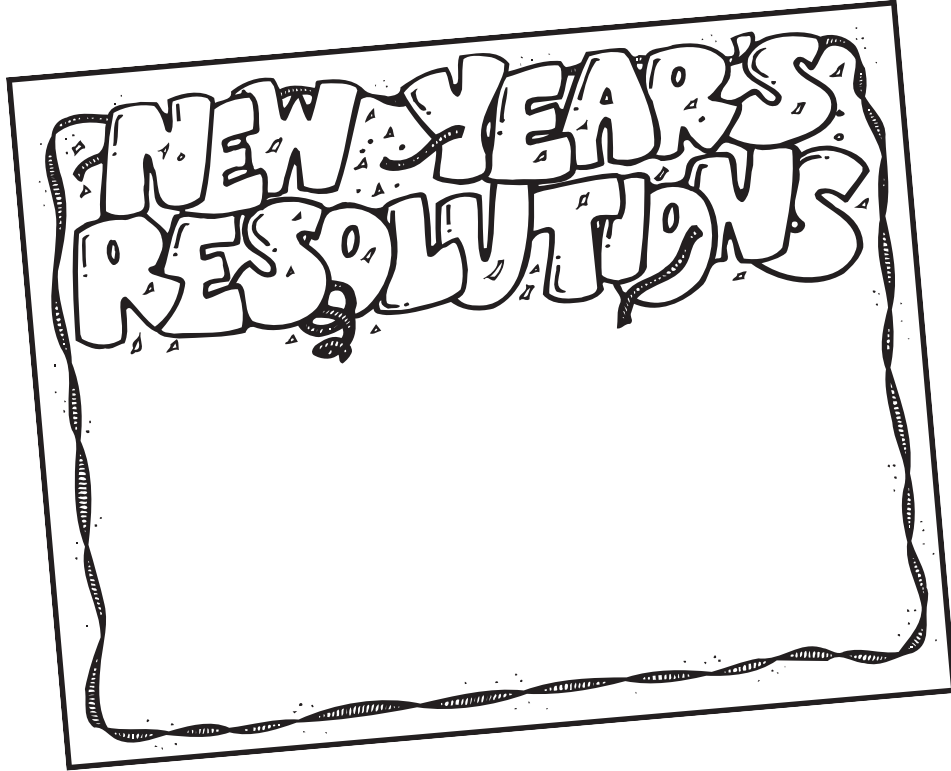


New Year's Day



Setting the Stage continued

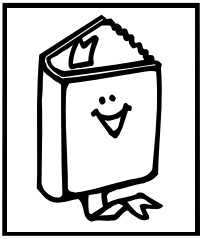
- Add colorful (blown-up) balloons with streamers or curling ribbon dangling from each one to the top of a bulletin board. Add the caption: "Celebrate the New Year!" Underneath, display student New Year's resolutions. See reproducible for New Year's resolutions on page 12 and "Writing Experience" on page 12.



Historical Background

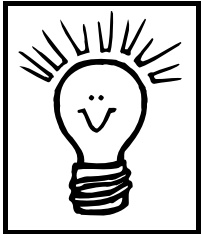
New Year's Day is a public holiday in the United States and other countries. January 1 is the first day of the first month in the Gregorian calendar year.





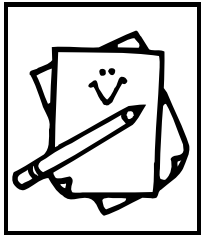
Literary Exploration

Class Clown by Johanna Hurwitz
Happy New Year! by Emily Kelley
New Year's Poems by Myra Cohn Livingston
We Celebrate New Year by Bobbie Kalman



Language Experience

- Brainstorm together New Year's Day customs and traditions that students have with their families.



Writing Experience

- Let students write their New Year's resolutions. Younger children might need help in understanding what goals are and deciding how they can make improvements in certain areas of their life. Display resolutions on a bulletin board.
- Students will enjoy guessing what family members and friends might wish or hope for in the New Year. Some students might want to write what they think a famous person's New Year's goals or hopes might be.
- Challenge students to reflect on highlights of the past year and write about them. See reproducible on page 13.



New Year's Day



New Year's Day



New Year's Day