

## See Clearly...Read

# A Sad Anniversary and Cereal Stories

Sept. 22 is the first day of fall, a season full of changes—and football. National Breakfast Month, National Dog Week, Grandparents Day and Johnny Appleseed's birthday are all celebrated in September. This month also marks the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.



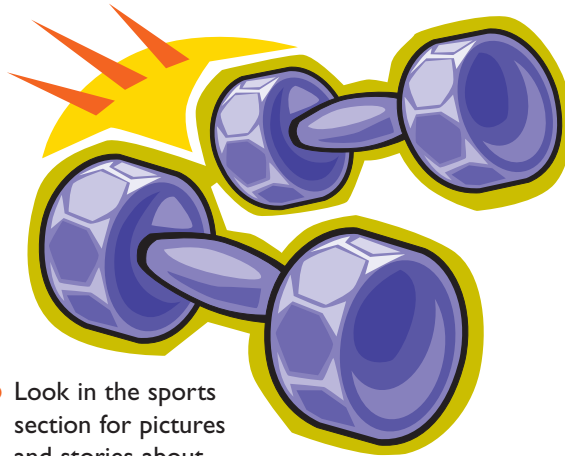
- Look for news and feature stories about the one-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon. Talk about what is different in America this year and what is unchanged. How did this event affect you?
- Use grocery ads to find good breakfast foods and cut them out. Create a week of breakfast menus. Paste the pictures or words for each day's breakfast on a paper plate.
- Find a recipe in the newspaper for an apple dish. Read the recipe and decide what ingredients to buy. Use ads to figure out how much it will cost to make your apple treat.
- Look in the TV schedule to find out when your favorite football team is playing. Look for a story about the game in the next day's newspaper. How does the article compare to what you saw?
- Pretend you are a newspaper reporter. Think of 10-15 questions and interview a grandparent. Write a story based on your interview. Add pictures or drawings to make it more interesting.
- Look for information in the newspaper about plants, animal behavior, weather, clothing and activities that show how the season is changing.
- Look in the classified ads for a dog you would like to own and tell why.



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# Staying Safe and Fit

**D**ays are getting colder and shorter. Topics noted this month include fire prevention, fitness, Columbus discovering America, the founding of the United Nations and the Statue of Liberty's birthday.



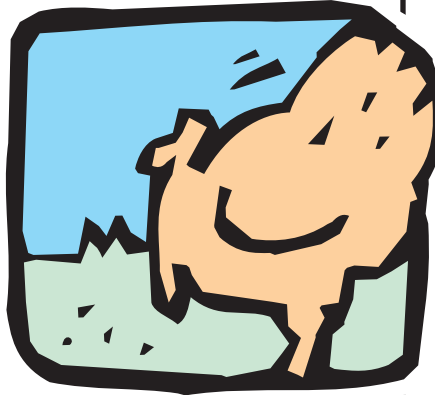
- Look in the sports section for pictures and stories about children working and playing. What do you do to exercise? What activities do you like best? Look for information that will help you stay strong and healthy.
- Columbus opened a new world when he landed in the Americas. Since then, the United States has become a rich, multicultural country. Clip items from the newspaper to create a booklet of stories, people, names, foods, products and entertainment that tell about our cultural diversity.
- Look for news about the United Nations. Keep track of the countries in which it is active and find them on a world map. Look for more information about those countries on the Internet or in the library.
- Did you know that a picture of the Statue of Liberty is on a million-dollar bill? What would you do if you had a million dollars? Look through the newspaper to find ideas on how you would spend, save or invest your fortune.
- Find a picture of something in the newspaper that can be used to prevent or fight fires. Draw a picture of yourself using that item. Paste the picture on your drawing.



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# Turkey and 'Peanuts'

**G**et a better view of the world by celebrating Aviation Month and Geography Awareness Week. Circle Nov. 15 and 26 – Pack Mom a Lunch Day and Charles Schultz's birthday. Then there's Thanksgiving.



- Look through the newspaper to find objects that fly. How many different kinds of aircraft can you find? What jobs are done by each aircraft?
- Make a scrapbook about your community. Find as many things as you can in the newspaper that tell about it, such as a special place to visit or the local weather. Cut and paste your discoveries on sheets of paper. Staple your pages together. Create a colorful cover for your scrapbook.
- Choose a favorite comic-strip character and describe the character as completely as possible. Tell why you picked this character. Could he, she or it fit into another strip? Tell why or why not.
- Decorate a paper bag for Mom's lunch. Look through the newspaper for pictures or words to put in the bag – for example, you could spell out LOVE with letters cut from headlines.
- Find items in the newspaper in which you are thankful—freedom of speech, a special person or a favorite place to visit. Talk about your choices on Thanksgiving Day.



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# Giving and Mint Chocolate Chip

**W**inter officially begins this month, one that is full of special celebrations and gift-giving—Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa, National Safe Toy and Gift Month and surprise, Ice Cream Day!



- When you are finished reading the comics pages, make them into wrapping paper. Use markers and crayons to draw holiday pictures on it.
- Look through the ads to find holiday toy gift ideas. Find a toy that would be safe for a child under three. Find a toy or game that should be used only by middle-school or high-school students.
- Kwanzaa is an African American holiday that emphasizes working together for the benefit of all. Find examples of people doing something positive for your community. Talk about these stories with your family. What can you do to improve your neighborhood, school or town?
- Have an ice cream party! Look through the ads to find the best buy on ice cream, toppings and cones. Add up the prices to find out how much it will cost to bring this bit of summer to a winter day.
- Winter brings shorter and colder days. Look in the newspaper for ways to bring light to your home. Then look for words that remind you of light and warmth.

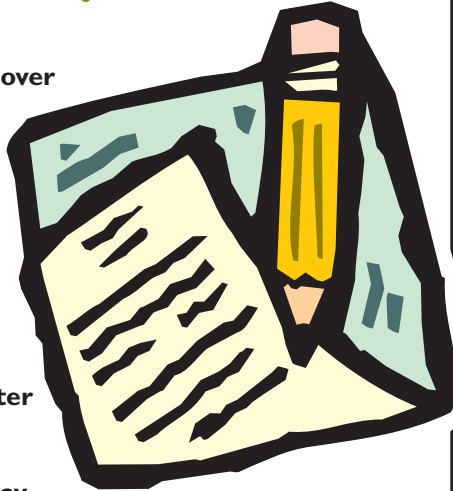
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Newspaper  
Association  
of America  
Foundation

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# Practicing Writing and Honoring Dr. King

**P**eople all over the world celebrate the end of an old year and beginning of a new one. National Soup Month is here, along with Letter Writing Week, National Handwriting Day and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.



- What would you like to do when you grow up? Look for pictures or words in the newspaper that tell something about your dreams and talk about them.
- Write your dreams for the future in your best handwriting. Post your dreams on the refrigerator or in your room as a reminder.
- Soups have lots of ingredients. What would you put in a pot of soup? Cut out words and pictures for food items you would use in your own special soup. Put them in a small bowl.
- Decide on 12 ways you would like to improve in 2003. Cut strips from the newspaper and write a resolution on each one. Roll each strip tightly around a pencil, slide it off and tie it with string. Store all 12 in box. On the first day of each month, pull out a scroll and read it. This will be your resolution for the month.
- There are always stories about local, national and international problems in the newspaper. Talk about your dreams for a better world. What would make things better?
- Write about your dreams for a better world in a letter to the editor. Use your letter to encourage people to share your dreams.

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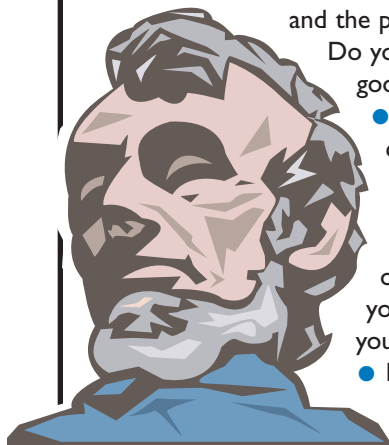
# P. Phil and Hail to the Chiefs

**W**hat a treat to have so many celebrations in the middle of winter – Black History Month, Friendship Week, Groundhog Day, and, of course, President’s Day and Valentine’s Day.



- What will renowned groundhog Punxsutawney Phil predict this year? Review the weather map in your newspaper. Make a chart with a column for each day of the week. Put a symbol or write out your forecast in each column. Check the weather report every day and compare it to your prediction.
- Make a collage about a friend. Look in the newspaper to find words, pictures, comics or ads that describe him or her and paste them on a colored sheet of paper. Surprise your friend with this special creation.
- Look through the newspaper for several days and find stories and pictures about President George W. Bush. Talk about what he is doing and the places he is traveling.

Do you think he is doing a good job?



- Think of someone you care about. Cut out words from the newspaper that describe that person. Paste the words on a big red heart. Give your newspaper heart to your special person.
- Look in the newspaper for African American newsmakers. In what area is each making

news? What are they doing? Who would you like to learn more about? What other African Americans have been newsmakers?



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# Eating Well and March Madness

**S**pring, National Nutrition Month, Newspaper In Education Week, the NCAA basketball tournament and, of course, St. Patrick's Day all arrive in March.



- Look for ads that show that spring is near. Create specific categories for the ads—clothing, garden, home improvement and food. Look through a day's newspaper and put each ad into one of your categories. Which category has the most ads?
- Did you know there were more Irish signers of the Declaration of Independence than any other nationality? How does your community celebrate St. Patrick's Day? Read the stories or find listings for parades, dinners or other special events that mark this day.



- Identify the kinds of foods advertised in the newspaper. Which are advertised most frequently and in the most eye-catching way? Explain why.

● Sports is big business, even college basketball. Think of at least five ways in which an event like the Final Four affects the economy.



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# Play in Your Garden and Play Ball!



**M**ost celebrations in April are about being outdoors—National Gardening Month, Earth Day and opening day of baseball season. National Volunteer Week also comes in April.

- Look for advertisements that include pictures of trees, bushes, plants, garden tools and decorations. Cut them out and paste them on a large sheet of paper to create your own garden and tool shed.
- Newspapers can be recycled and used for many things after they have been read. Make a list of 10 things you can do with the newspaper.
- Find these items in the sports section: a close score, the name of a winner and loser, a mention of a baseball rule, and an action baseball picture.
- Read local news stories and find at least one problem or person that could be helped by volunteers. What could they do? Why is it important for people to give time to the community?



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## Let Your Mom Sleep In

**H**ere are some ideas to help you celebrate National Better Sleep Month, Transportation Week, Penny Day, Law Day and Mother's Day.



- People and products are moved by airplanes, trains, ships, trucks, buses and cars. Find at least five different date-lines (the place where a news story was written). What would be the best way to get there? Explain why.
- It might be a new mattress or warm milk—find pictures, stories or ads for things that can help a person get a good night's sleep.
- President Lincoln's face is on the penny. Line up pennies around the outside of the front page of your newspaper. How many pennies did it take? Can you find anything in the newspaper that you could buy for just one penny? How about 100 pennies? 500 pennies?
- Trace both hands on a newspaper and cut them out. Draw a heart in the center of each one and color it red. Cut string the same width as your arms spread open. Tape a hand to each end of the string. Put it in an envelope for your mom labeled, "This is how much I love you!"
- Look in the newspaper for examples of laws being enforced, broken, proposed or changed. Think of one or two laws that affect you. Do you think they should be changed?



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# Be Nice to Dad and Smile



**S**ummer  
officially  
arrives in

June and so does Smile  
Day, Camping Week,  
National Safety Month and Father's Day.

- Look through the newspaper for ideas of things to do with your dad. Make a list of possibilities and together, decide what you will do on his special day.
- Think about rules that help keep you and your family safe. Find examples in the newspaper of safety rules that were broken, such as a situation where someone did not wear a seat belt. What happened?
- Look in the classified ads to find all the supplies you would need to take a camping trip. Look through the newspaper to find a place where you would like to camp out. How long will it take to get there?
- Make a list of 10 things you will need to buy this summer. Put them in order in what you think will be most expensive to the least expensive. Find your items and their cost in the newspaper and note them on your list. How well did you rank your purchases?
- Look for pictures of people smiling. Tell your own story about why they are smiling.

