

2020 - 2021
School Year
Calendar

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY IN STEM!



AUGUST

On August 14th, we celebrate National Navajo Code Talkers Day. During World War II, recruits from the Navajo Nation created the Navajo code language for the U.S. military. This was used to communicate secret messages and helped the U.S. win key battles. The Navajo Nation is located in the Southwestern United States and extends into Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. Navajo Nation land is home to more than 250,000 people.

TRY THIS!

First Book provides thousands of books and resources focused on diverse cultures. Learn more about Indigenous cultures and people in the United States in the [Native American Characters and Cultures](#) section of the First Book Marketplace.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

NASA stands for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. In its 62-year history, 355 individual astronauts have flown on the space shuttle, including 306 men (86%) and 49 women (14%) from 16 different countries.

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/native-american-interest

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					Dr. José M. Hernández (b), a Mexican American NASA astronaut and electrical engineer, flew to the International Space Station in 2009 and spent over 14 days in space.	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
International Day of the World's Indigenous People is a day to protect and promote the rights of the world's Indigenous people and share in their mission for acceptance and recognition.	Frances "Poppy" Northcutt (b) was NASA's first female mission control engineer. In this role, she ensured the Apollo 13 astronauts returned safely from their trip to the moon. On the moon, "Crater Poppy" is named after her.		Dr. E. Margaret Burbidge (b) was an astrophysicist, who made pathbreaking findings about the state of the cosmos. She was the first woman to serve as director of the Royal Observatory and received the National Medal of Science in 1985.	In 2014, Dr. Maryam Mirzakhani (m), an Iranian mathematician, won the Fields Medal – the most prestigious award in mathematics – for her innovative contributions towards geometry.	National Navajo Code Talkers Day See sidebar for details.	Bon Festival (13th - 15th) is a Japanese Buddhist custom that honors the spirits of one's ancestors and has been celebrated for over 500 years.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Dr. Margaret Hamilton (b) is a computer scientist and one of the scientists who coined the term, "software engineering." She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her work on the Apollo 11 space flight.		Islamic New Year (19th - 20th) is celebrated on the first day of the Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar. Islam is the world's second-largest religious group with over 1.8 billion followers.*			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Dr. Katherine Johnson (b) was one of the first African American women to work as a NASA scientist. Her story is told in the book and film, <i>Hidden Figures</i> . She is a recipient of many awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom.		Capt. Ola M. Rexroat (b) was the only Indigenous woman to serve as a member of the Women's Airforce Service Pilots during WWII. The airfield operations building at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota was named after her.	
30	31					

*Note: Islamic holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

SEPTEMBER

This month, we celebrate National Aerospace Week (September 14 - 18). Since 2010, the third week of September celebrates the aerospace and defense industry in the U.S. The industry includes companies that make airplanes, satellites, spaceships (yes, spaceships!), tanks, and more. Make time this month to learn more about the interesting STEM fields related to aerospace.

TRY THIS!

Visit First Book's [Space](#) section to help students learn more about the exciting field of aerospace and the universe beyond our planet.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

Christina Koch, an astronaut and native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, spent 328 consecutive days in space. From March 14, 2019 to February 6, 2020 she lived in the International Space Station (ISS). The ISS is about the length of a football field and travels around Earth at a speed of 17,500 miles per hour (that's 5 miles per second!).

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/space

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Registration opens for the American Rocketry Challenge! Middle and high school students can design, build and launch model rockets and gain experience solving engineering problems. Learn more at rocketcontest.org .	2	3	4	5
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH (September 15 - October 15)	KINSHIP CARE MONTH					
6 Cornelius Coffey (b) was an African American aviator. In the 1930s, he and his wife, Willa Brown, founded the first flight school for Black Americans in the U.S. He trained many Black pilots, including many of the Tuskegee airmen.	Labor Day 7	8	9	10 Dr. Christine Darden (b) was the first African American woman to be promoted to the Senior Executive Service at NASA's Langley Research Center. She is one of the researchers featured in the book and film, <i>Hidden Figures</i> .	11	12 Dr. Mae Jemison (m) is an engineer, physician, and former NASA astronaut. She became the first Black woman to travel into space in 1992 aboard the Space Shuttle <i>Endeavour</i> .
13 Welcoming Week (12th - 20th) Ensure all students & families, no matter their birth place, background or demographic, feel valued in your classroom/program community.	14 National Aerospace Week (14th - 18th) See sidebar for details.	15	16 Mexican Independence Day honors priest Miguel Hidalgo, who in 1810 encouraged people to revolt against the Spanish regime. Mexico's independence from Spain was secured in 1821.	17	18 Rosh Hashanah (18th - 20th) The Jewish New Year begins at sundown on September 18th. It marks the first of the Jewish High Holidays.*	19
20 Dorothy Vaughan (b) was an African American mathematician who made many contributions to America's space exploration. Her career is profiled in the book, <i>Hidden Figures</i> , and the Vaughan Crater on the moon is named after her.	21 International Week of the Deaf (20th - 26th) Launched in 1958, this week highlights the cultural contributions of members of the deaf community and promotes human rights.	22 National Voter Registration Day This day encourages U.S. voter registration across all communities and promotes awareness of upcoming local, state and national elections.	23	24	25 In 1934, Leah Hing (b) became the first Chinese American woman to earn her pilot's license.	26
27	28	29	30			ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

*Note: Jewish holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

For this calendar and more free resources, visit www.fbmarketplace.org/free-resources.



OCTOBER

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the rich, diverse culture and accomplishments of Hispanic and Latinx individuals. All year long, “introduce” kids to contemporary artistic pioneers like Lin-Manuel Miranda, Puerto Rican creator of hit Broadway musicals *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*, and inspiring innovators like Diana Trujillo, a Colombian aerospace engineer who leads the Mars Curiosity and Perseverance rovers, car-sized robots designed to explore the planet Mars!

TRY THIS!

Visit First Book’s [Latinx Characters and Cultures](#) section for a mix of Spanish and Latinx resources that reflect and celebrate Latinx culture and heritage.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

The process to become a pilot is quite straightforward. First, you must decide what type of aircraft you want to fly. You can choose from airplanes, helicopters, hot air balloons and more. Next, you’ll need to get a physical to ensure you’re healthy. Then, you enroll in a flight school or hire an instructor to teach you how to fly. What’s next is practice, practice, practice!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 In 1847, astronomer Maria Mitchell, (m) discovered the comet, 1847 VI. She won a gold medal prize for her discovery, which was presented by the King of Denmark in 1848. The comet was renamed, “Miss Mitchell’s Comet.”	2 Dr. Robert Henry Lawrence Jr. (b) was a U.S. Airforce Officer and in June 1967, he became the first African American astronaut. He earned many awards in his brief career and one of the Northrop Grumman’s NG-13 Cygnus spacecrafts is named in his honor.	3
LGBT HISTORY MONTH	LEARNING DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH	NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH	HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH (September 15 - October 15)			
4 In 1942, Beverly Loraine Greene (b) became the first Black woman in the U.S. to be licensed as an architect.	5 Teach Central America Week (5th - 11th) Today, more than 4 million Central Americans reside in the U.S. This week celebrates the region.	6	7	8	9 Born in 1895, Cpl. Eugene Jacques Bullard (b) became the world’s first Black fighter pilot. Born in the U.S. but unable to serve in the military because of his skin color, he became a famous pilot in France during World War I.	10 World Mental Health Day is a day to recognize the importance of our mental health and learn more about how we can protect, preserve and treat mental health illnesses.
11 National Coming Out Day supports members of the LGBTQ community in sharing their sexuality with their friends, family and the world, promoting openness and equality.	12 Indigenous Peoples’ Day	13 Ada Lovelace Day celebrates women in STEM by honoring the 19th century mathematician, who is known as the first computer programmer.	14	15	16 World Food Day celebrates the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945. It calls attention to food insecurity, world hunger and sustainable harvesting.	17
18	19	20 Mix It Up At Lunch Day is an international campaign that encourages students to move out of their comfort zone and connect with someone new over lunch.	21 Nicole Stott (m) is an engineer and retired NASA astronaut. While aboard the International Space Station in October 2009, she participated in the first live tweetup from outer space.	22	23	24 United Nations Day is devoted to raising awareness of the goals and achievements of the U.N.
25	26	27	28 Eid Milad Un Nabi (28th - 29th) is the Muslim holiday marking the birth of Muhammad. It is celebrated from sundown to sundown.*	29	30	31 Halloween

*Note: Islamic holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

¹www.fbmarketplace.org/latino-culture



NOVEMBER

This month, we celebrate STEM/STEAM Day! This day is designed to inspire kids and adults to explore and pursue their interests in science, technology, engineering, art and math. With careers in STEM/STEAM expected to grow 70% faster than other occupations, this is a great month to read and learn about amazing pioneers in these fields.

TRY THIS!

Check out First Book's [STEM Activities](#) section to give students hands-on experiences through coding robots, portable science labs, building blocks and more!¹

DID YOU KNOW?

How many careers can you name that focus on STEM/STEAM? There are literally hundreds that require science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Consider the video game developer, accountant, astronaut, psychologist, financial analyst, engineer, veterinarian, pilot, computer programmer, marine biologist and so many more. How many careers or jobs can your students name?

¹www.fbmarketplace.org/stem-activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Día de los Muertos/ Day of the Dead (31st - November 2nd) is a Mexican holiday that honors friends and family members who have died, remembering them with celebrations and prayers.	2 Dr. Jeffery A. Hoffman (b) is NASA's first Jewish astronaut. He has made five flights as a Space Shuttle astronaut and has logged more than 21.5 million miles in space!	3	4 Dr. Patricia Bath (b) was a Black American ophthalmologist, inventor and humanitarian. She was an early pioneer of laser cataract surgery and the first Black woman doctor to receive a patent for a medical purpose.	5	6	7 In 1981, Dr. Alexa Canady (b) became the first American woman and first Black person to become a neurosurgeon. She specialized in pediatric neurosurgery and served as chief of neurosurgery at the Children's Hospital in Michigan for 14 years.
8 STEM/STEAM Day See sidebar for details.	9 Hedy Lamarr (b) was an Austrian American actress and inventor. In addition to having a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, she is also known as the "Mother of WiFi" for her World War II invention that pre-dated Bluetooth technology.	10	11 Veterans Day Hon. Coral Wong Pietsch (b) is the first Asian American woman to reach the rank of general in the U.S. Army. In the military justice branch, she is the first female Army Judge Advocates General (JAG).	12	13 World Kindness Day is a day to celebrate kindness and promote good deeds among individuals and organizations.	14 Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights that celebrates the triumph of light over dark and knowledge over ignorance.*
15	16 Col. Walter L. Watson, Jr. (USAF) (m) was the first and only African American to qualify as a crew member in the SR-71, a super-secret aircraft that routinely cruised at altitudes in excess of 80,000 feet and speeds over MACH 3 (2,100 MPH).	17	18 Dr. Lonnie Bunch (b) is the founding director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture and serves as the 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. He is the first African American to hold this role.	19	20	21 Maj. Marisol Chalas (m) is the first Latina National Guard Black Hawk helicopter pilot. She became first in her class at Fort Rucker Army Aviation School and earned many awards, including the American by Choice award.
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30				AMERICAN INDIAN & ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH	

*Note: Hindu holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

DECEMBER

In 1948, a few years after the end of World War II, the UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This month, help students understand the global scale of human rights – from freedom of speech to freedom of thought and equal protection under the law – that each human being, no matter where they live, should enjoy.

TRY THIS!

Visit First Book's [Global Stories](#) section for books featuring characters, settings, and stories from around the world, including Vietnam, Cuba, France, Nigeria, Mexico and many more.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

What does a mathematician do? Math is everywhere, and mathematicians are people of all ages who enjoy the challenge of solving problems with math. Mathematicians can see the beauty in patterns and shapes and they work in many industries. The fields of astronomy (the study of the stars), space exploration, medicine, robotics, climate study, animated films and more require an understanding and use of math.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 World AIDS Day is an international day dedicated to raising awareness of the prevention, care and treatment of HIV and AIDS, and mourning those who have died of the disease.	2	3	4	5 In 1945, Lt. Col. Charity Adams Earley (b) became commander of the first and only African American women unit of the Army during World War II.
6 Dr. Gladys Mae West (m) is a Black American mathematician known for her contributions toward the mathematical modeling of the earth's shape. Her work is included in the Global Positioning System (GPS) that we use today.	7	8	9 Grace Hopper (b) was a pioneer in computer science & a U.S. Navy rear admiral. She helped create COBOL, one of the most widely used computer languages. She was awarded 40 honorary degrees from universities across the world during her life.	10 Human Rights Day See sidebar for details. Hanukkah* (10th - 18th)	11 Annie Jump Cannon (b) was an American astronomer known for her work with stars. With her colleague, she is credited with refining the first system of organizing and classifying stars based on their temperatures and light patterns.	12 Katherine Sui Fun Cheung (b) was a Chinese immigrant who became the first licensed female Asian American aviator licensed to fly internationally. The Smithsonian Museum recognizes her as the "First Asian American Aviatix."
13	14	15	16	17	18 Ralph William Braun (b) is an inventor who was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy as a child. At the age of 22, he built his first motorized wheelchair. He was the founder and CEO of The Braun Corporation.	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas is an annual Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.	26 Kwanzaa, (26th - January 1st) is derived from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza" which means "first fruits" in Swahili. It is a seven-day celebration of African heritage, culture, and unity.
27	28 Nichelle Nichols (b) is a Black American actress who played Lieutenant Uhura in <i>Star Trek</i> . She became a recruiter for NASA, inspiring many people of color to pursue careers in science.	29	30	31 Allen K. Ono (b) was the first Asian and Japanese American lieutenant general in the U.S. Army.		

*Hanukkah is the 8-day Jewish "festival of lights," celebrating the liberation from the Greeks by sharing food, games, gifts, and lighting the menorah. Jewish holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/global-stories

For this calendar and more free resources, visit www.fbmarketplace.org/free-resources.



JANUARY

Happy New Year! This month, we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as a day of service. Observed on the third Monday of January, this day is a time to reflect on how each of us can be leaders in our schools and communities.

TRY THIS!

Visit the [Leadership](#) section of the First Book Marketplace for great books about leaders throughout history. Inspire your students to realize their own abilities with stories of social justice, perseverance, and action from around the world.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

What is a planetary geologist? Do you ever wonder what the moon is made of? What about the planet Mars? A planetary geologist studies how moons, planets, asteroids and other things in space were formed. They analyze pictures and sometimes samples from recent space shuttle flights to learn about the history, climate and landscape of celestial bodies.

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/leadership

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					New Year's Day 1 Lt. Col. Olga E. Custodio (m) is a former U.S. Army officer who became the first Latina military pilot. After retiring from the military, she also became the first Latina commercial airline captain in the U.S.	2
3	World Braille Day ⁴ This celebrates the birthday of Louis Braille, inventor of the Braille system. It also raises awareness about the importance of Braille as a means of communication for blind and partially-sighted people.	5 Dr. Adriana Ocampo (b) is a planetary geologist. Her work studying craters on the earth has led to her being named one of the 50 most important women in science by <i>Discover</i> magazine. An asteroid was even named after her!	6	7 Col. Frederick Drew Gregory (b) is a pilot, engineer and former NASA astronaut. In the late 1980s, he became the first African American man to command a space shuttle mission.	8	9
10 In 1941, Della H. Raney (b), a nurse, became the first African American accepted into the Army Nurse Corps during World War II. She later became the first Black female nurse promoted to captain and major in the U.S. Army.	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 World Religion Day encourages interfaith understanding and asks people worldwide to recognize that all religions have common spiritual goals.	18 MLK Jr. Day of Service See sidebar for details.	19	20	21 Major Kurt Chew-Een Lee (b) is the first U.S. Marine Corps officer of Asian descent. He received many honors and awards for his fighting spirit and bravery in the Korean War and in Vietnam.	22 In 1938, Willa Brown (b) was the first African American woman to earn her pilot's license in the U.S. She co-founded the Cornelius Coffey School of Aeronautics, a flight training academy for Black pilots.	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY

Celebrate Black History Month and National Inventors' Day in February. Take time to learn about amazing inventors and help students see that creativity has many backgrounds. Dr. Patricia Bath pioneered laser cataract surgery on the eye; Dr. Charles Drew invented a way to store blood plasma; and Stephanie Kwolek invented Kevlar, a heat resistant synthetic fiber that is five times stronger than steel. What discoveries will you and your students find this month?

TRY THIS!

Explore the [Biographies & Memoirs](#) section of the First Book Marketplace to learn more about individuals and their incredible contributions to society.¹ These books offer insight into the life, times, struggles and triumphs of many who have greatly contributed to our society.

DID YOU KNOW?

What does an engineer do?
Engineers use science, technology, and math to solve problems. They build skyscrapers, design planes and spaceships and even develop how new medicines can heal our bodies. Some of the most popular areas of engineering are chemical, mechanical, electrical, civil, computer, and biomedical engineering.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Jessica Cox (b) is a Filipino American who has the distinction of being the first person to pilot a plane with only her feet. She earned her license in 2008 and became the first armless pilot. She also earned a Guinness World Record.	3	4	5	6 Christina Hammock Koch (m) is a NASA astronaut who in February 2020 set a record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman, with a total of 328 days in space. She was part of the first all-woman space walk in 2019.
7	8 Rebecca Lee Crumpler (b) was the first African American woman to become a doctor of medicine in 1864. She published a medical advice book for women and children in 1883 that is one of the first medical publications by an African American.	9 Dr. Peggy Whitson (b) is a former NASA chief astronaut. She has spent a total of 665 days in space – more than any other astronaut – and at age 57 was the oldest female astronaut in space, ever.	10	11 National Inventors' Day See sidebar for details.	12 Lunar New Year is celebrated across many East Asian and Southeast Asian countries and communities. According to tradition, 2021 is the year of the Ox.	13
14	President's Day 15 Nirvana Day is the Buddhist holiday that celebrates the day Buddha achieved nirvana – the final goal of Buddhism – upon the death of his physical body.	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Stayce Harris (m) became the first African American female lieutenant general of the U.S. Air Force in 2016.	25	26 Dr. Ahmed Hassan Zewail (b) was an Egyptian chemist known as the "Father of Femtochemistry." He won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1999 and became the first Egyptian to win a Nobel Prize in a scientific field.	27
28						

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/biography

For this calendar and more free resources, visit www.fbmarketplace.org/free-resources.



MARCH

This month, we celebrate Women's History. Take time to study, celebrate, and honor women who have played pivotal roles in the history, culture, and society of the U.S. Whether in the area of racial and social justice, innovation in STEM, or politics and business, women are instrumental in the evolution of our nation. Puerto Rican Ana Roqué de Duprey wrote *The Botany of the Antilles*, archiving flora in the Caribbean around 1900. Dive into the stories of other women in STEM this month!

TRY THIS!

Visit First Book's [Empowering Stories about Women and Girls](#) section for great titles including biographies, mysteries, coming of age stories and more that center women and girls.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

The study of medicine is incredibly broad. We say someone is a "doctor," but did you know there are hundreds of specialties within medicine? Some of the most common are dermatologists who treat the hair, skin, and nails; family physicians who give routine check-ups; and neurosurgeons who perform brain surgery. Interested in medicine? What specialty would you study?

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH			Garret Morgan (b) was an African American inventor, entrepreneur and community leader. He is most famous for inventing the traffic signal and the first modern gas mask.		
7	International Women's Day celebrates the social, economic, and cultural accomplishments of women and girls around the world. This is a global opportunity to honor and support women fighting for equal education, rights, and opportunities.	8	9	10	11	12
13						
14	Susan La Flesche Picotte (m) was born on the Omaha Reservation in Nebraska in 1865. She is acknowledged as the first Indigenous woman to receive a medical degree. In her career she served over 1,300 patients.	15	16	17	18	19
			Dr. Kalpana Chawla (b) was an American astronaut, engineer, and the first woman of Indian origin to go into space. She died in the 2003 Space Shuttle <i>Columbia</i> disaster and is regarded as a national hero in India.			Dr. Mario José Molina-Pasquel Henríquez (b) is a Mexican chemist. He played a pivotal role in the discovery of the Antarctic ozone hole and was a co-recipient of the 1995 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.
20						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Barrington Irving (m) is a Jamaican-born American pilot who held the record for the youngest person to pilot a plane around the world solo. He did so in 2007 at the age of 23. He holds a Guinness World Record for his achievement.				Passover (27th - April 4th) is a sacred Jewish holiday that celebrates Jewish liberation from slavery in ancient Egypt.*
28	29	30	31			
			International Day of Transgender Visibility celebrates transgender people and raises awareness of the contributions they make to society and the discrimination they face.			MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

*Note: Jewish holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/empowering-stories-about-women-and-girls

For this calendar and more free resources, visit www.fbmarketplace.org/free-resources.



APRIL

On April 22, we celebrate Earth Day. Launched in 1970, Earth Day is a time for all of humanity to acknowledge the importance of our planet and take action to address pollution, climate change and more. The first Earth Day was inspired by the now iconic photo, Earthrise, taken by astronaut William Anders during a lunar orbit in 1968. This Earth Day, take time with your students to honor our collective home – planet Earth.

TRY THIS!

Visit First Book's Ecology and the Environment section for great books about the environment and inspiring stories of kids and adults who work to ensure our planet is a healthy one.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

What is an astrophysicist?
An astrophysicist tries to understand the universe, and everything in it – from planets, to stars, galaxies and other objects – by applying the laws of physics. From exploring how the universe began and how it evolved, to searching for life on other planets, astrophysicists seek to understand how we fit into the universe.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Aprille Ericsson-Jackson (b) is the first Black woman to receive a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Howard University. She's also the first Black woman to receive a Ph.D. in engineering at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.	2	3
NATIONAL POETRY MONTH						
4 Easter is a Christian holiday that celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*	5 Dr. Franklin Ramón Chang Díaz (b) is a Costa Rican American engineer and NASA astronaut. He has flown seven space flights and is the first Latinx American to fly into space.	6 National Library Week (4th - 10th) celebrates the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians.	7	8 Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah) honors the millions of Jewish people who died in the Holocaust and the acts of heroic Jewish resistance.	9 Dr. Serena M. Aunon (b) was a flight engineer at the International Space Station. She contributed to hundreds of experiments in biology and biotechnology, and the investigations led to new cancer treatment methods.	10
11	12 Ramadan (April 12 - May 11) is a month-long Islamic holiday that celebrates the first revelation of the Quran in which strict fasting is observed from sunrise to sunset.*	13 Songkran (13th - 15th) marks the Thai New Year and is celebrated by a three-day water festival.	14 Today is the birthday of Francis B. Wai (b), a captain in the U.S. Army and the only Chinese American to receive a Medal of Honor for his valor in 1944 during war with Japan.	15 Norma Merrick Sklarek (b) was the first African American to become a licensed architect in New York (1954) and California (1962). She is famous for designing the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo and Terminal 1 of the Los Angeles Airport.	16 In 1947 Marie Maynard Daly (b) became the first Black woman to earn a Ph.D. in chemistry in the U.S. She was a pioneer in studying the effects of cholesterol and sugar on the heart.	17 Jerrie Mock (m) became the first woman to fly solo around the world, completing her flight in 1964 in Columbus, Ohio. Her plane, the "Spirit of Columbus," is on display at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Chantilly, VA.
18 Dr. Albert Einstein (m) was a theoretical physicist who developed the theory of relativity and the famous mass-energy equivalency formula, $E=MC^2$. He received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1921.	19	20 In 2000, Shawna Rochelle Kimbrell (b), a lieutenant colonel in the United States Air Force, became the first African American female fighter pilot in the history of that service.	21	22 Earth Day See sidebar for details.	23	24 Dr. Nancy Grace Roman (m) is an American astronomer known as "The Mother of Hubble" for her significant role in planning the Hubble Space Telescope. The telescope was launched in 1990 and continues to orbit the earth today.
25	26	27	28	29	30 Michelle Howard (b), made history in 1999 by becoming the first African American woman to command a U.S. Navy ship, the <i>USS Rushmore</i> . She later became the first female four-star admiral in the Navy.	

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/ecology-and-the-environment

*Note: These Christian and Muslim holidays do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing these faiths may be absent on these holidays.

MAY

May includes the month-long celebrations of Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage and Jewish American Heritage. It also includes the continuing observance of Ramadan, a month of fasting observed by Muslims to commemorate the first revelation of the Quran to the prophet Muhammad. Our heritage and spiritual beliefs have a profound influence on the way we live, see and interact with the world. This month, explore these cultures with great books from First Book.

TRY THIS!

Share stories of diverse cultural heritage through First Book's [Stories for All Project™](#).¹ With thousands of inclusive, representative titles, you'll find engaging stories that offer windows into different cultures and mirrors to reflect your own experience.

DID YOU KNOW?

It takes about three days to travel from the Earth to the Moon on a spaceship. The Moon is about 240,000 miles from Earth. If you were to travel by car, going 60 mph, it would take you just under six months to make the trip!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH		JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH				1
2	3	4 Teacher Appreciation Day honors and celebrates the lasting contributions teachers make in the lives of students and society.	5	6 National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day links positive mental health to a child's healthy development.	7	8 Moses McKissack III (b) and his brother, Calvin, founded the first Black-owned architectural firm in 1905. The firm helped construct the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture.
9	10 Dr. Ellen Ochoa (b) is a retired NASA astronaut who, in 1993, became the first Latinx woman to go into space aboard the Space Shuttle <i>Discovery</i> and was the first Latinx director of the Johnson Space Center.	11	12 National School Nurse Day celebrates the more than 45,000 school nurses in the U.S.	13 Eid al-Fitr (12th - 13th) is one of the most significant Muslim holidays, marking the end of Ramadan.*	14 Dr. Natalie Batalha (b) is a research astronomer who was co-investigator and scientist on the Kepler Mission, the first space mission capable of finding earth-size planets around other stars.	15 American Rocketry Challenge National Finals Visit rocketcontest.org to see which middle and high school teams made it to the final round of the competition.
16 Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson (m) is an African American marine biologist, policy expert and conservation strategist. She works to address climate change and ocean conservation policy in coastal cities.	17 Joseph Michael "Joe" Acabá (b) is an American educator, hydrogeologist, and NASA astronaut. In May 2004 he became the first person of Puerto Rican heritage to be named as a NASA astronaut.	18	19	20	21 In 1957 U.S. Army astronomer Frank Kameny (b) was dismissed from his position because of his sexual orientation. He appealed the firing, and his case was one of the first known civil rights claims based on sexual orientation.	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	Memorial Day 31					

*Note: Islamic holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

¹www.fbmarketplace.org/see-all-stories-for-all-project

JUNE

June is Pride Month, when we celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) individuals. It began as a way to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in New York, where thousands stood up against systemic abuse towards LGBTQ people. Today, it has evolved into a month of honoring the LGBTQ community through parades, workshops and celebrations. Pride Month is a time of self and social acceptance and activism for equality.

TRY THIS!

Empathy, kindness and compassion are key to building strong friendships and getting to know people with life experiences different from your own. Visit the [Respect & Empathy](#) section for great titles and diverse stories to help students develop these key character traits.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

What is the speed of light? The speed of light is 186,282 miles per second. In theory, nothing can travel faster than light. If you could travel at the speed of light, you could go around the Earth 7.5 times in one second. The sun is so far away from the Earth that its light takes 8.3 minutes to reach our planet!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH			Mark Polansky (b) is a Korean American and Jewish NASA astronaut who flew on three space shuttle missions between 2001 - 2009.	Dr. Charles Drew (b) was an African American surgeon who pioneered ways to store blood plasma. He organized the first large-scale blood bank in the U.S. and continued to manage two of the largest blood banks during WWII.		World Environment Day Is an important U.N. observance. It encourages people to take care of the earth and raise awareness about its need for protection.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Dr. Lori Arviso Alvord (m) is the first Diné (Navajo) woman to be certified in surgery in 1994. Known for combining western medicine with traditional healing, she was also a 2013 nominee for U.S. Surgeon General.	Anne McClain (b) is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, an engineer and a NASA astronaut. She's the second known LGBT astronaut in NASA's history and has spent over 200 days in space.	Robert Robinson Taylor (b) was the first African American to graduate from MIT and the first African American accredited academically trained architect when he graduated in 1892. He designed many buildings at Tuskegee Institute and other HBCUs.				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Puerto Rican Day honors all people of Puerto Rican birth or heritage and is marked by parades in many major U.S. cities.		Bessie Coleman (m), born in 1892, was an early American aviator. She earned her pilot's license on this day in 1921 and was the first woman of African American and Indigenous descent to do so.	Dr. Taylor Gun-Jin Wang (b) is a Chinese American scientist and the first person of Chinese descent to go into space in 1985. He logged over 2.9 million miles on the space shuttle and holds 20 U.S. patents.		On this day in 1983, Dr. Sally Ride (m) became the youngest person and first American woman to travel into space. In her career, she made two shuttle flights and is also known for being the first LGBTQ woman in space.	Juneteenth commemorates the day that enslaved African Americans in Texas were told of their freedom in 1865 – two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
World Refugee Day There are more than 26 million refugees in the world, and this day brings awareness to their plight and the effort to protect their human rights.	Dr. Yehudit Abrams (m) is a scientist and inventor of MoniHer, the first at-home hand held monitor that detects early breast cancer. The 2018 invention won a \$360,000 prize from the WeWork Creator Awards.			Col. Ellison Onizuka (b) was an American astronaut and engineer from Hawaii. He was the first Asian American and first person of Japanese ancestry to go into space. He died aboard the Space Shuttle <i>Challenger</i> in 1989.	Rita Rapp (b) was a space food pioneer who led the Apollo Food System. She worked to ensure that the food astronauts ate in space was delicious even at 230,000 miles in the air. She was famous for her sugar cookies.	
27	28	29	30			
Col. Sidney Gutierrez (b) is a Latinx engineer, pilot and retired NASA astronaut. During his career, he took two flights into space and logged over 480 hours in space.	Dr. Judith Resnik (m) was a NASA astronaut who died during the launch of the <i>Challenger</i> Space Shuttle in 1986. She was the second American and first Jewish woman in space. She spent about 145 hours in orbit during her career.					

¹www.fbmarketplace.org/respect-and-empathy

For this calendar and more free resources, visit www.fbmarketplace.org/free-resources.



JULY

On July 26, we celebrate National Disability Independence Day, which commemorates the 1990 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This act provides individuals who have physical and intellectual disabilities with protection from employment discrimination, equal opportunity to access buildings and public transportation, and more. This month, help students learn the importance of inclusion and valuing the contributions of all people of all abilities.

TRY THIS!

Boost compassion, empathy and more with stories from our [Special Needs & Abilities](#) section.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

Jessica Cox has the distinction of being the first person to pilot a plane with only her feet. A Filipino American, she earned her license in 2008 and became the first armless pilot. Her perseverance led to a Guinness World Record. She is also the first armless black belt in the American Taekwondo Association.

¹ www.fbmarketplace.org/special-needs-and-abilities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Dr. Fred Begay (b) was a Navajo and Ute nuclear physicist. He was born in Towaoc, Colorado, on the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation in 1932. His work focused on using lasers, electrons, and ion beams for alternative energy sources.	3
Independence Day 4	5	6 Dalai Lama's Birthday Dalai Lamas are spiritual leaders and important monks in Tibetan Buddhism. The current Dalai Lama (b) received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989.	7	8	9 Dr. Daniel Hale Williams (m) was a pioneering African American heart surgeon who became the first physician to successfully perform open-heart surgery in 1893. He opened the first interracial hospital in the U.S. in 1891.	10
11 Naadam (11th - 15th), a 3-day festival marking Mongolia's independence from China, blends traditional arts and sports with competitions in archery, horse racing and wrestling.	12 Maj. Michelle Curran (m) is the only female Thunderbird pilot in the U.S. Airforce's Demonstration Team. The squadron boasts some of the world's most elite fliers. There have only been 5 female Thunderbirds in history.	13	14 Col. Louis Gonzaga Mendez, Jr. (b) was a U.S. Army officer who parachuted behind enemy lines in Normandy, France, during WWII. He helped the Allied Forces win the war. The town's square was renamed, "La Place du Colonel Mendez."	15 Dr. Fred F. Ohr (b) was a Korean American World War II fighter pilot who destroyed six aircrafts in the air and 17 on the ground. He is the recipient of many military awards. After the war, he became a dental surgeon.	16	17 Sylvia Acevedo (m) served for 4 years as CEO of the Girl Scouts of America. Previously a rocket scientist at NASA, she has introduced Girl Scout badges for coding, robotics, engineering and cybersecurity.
18 The Day of Arafat (18th - 19th), the Muslim holiday of repentance and forgiveness, is marked by fasting.*	19 Eid al-Adha (19th - 20th), the Muslim day of sacrifice and one of the most significant Muslim holidays, is usually marked with a large meal.*	20	21	22	23	24 Agnes Driscoll (b) was a cryptanalyst during WWI and WWII. Her ability to decode messages sent between the Japanese gave U.S. military commanders insight that would help win the war.
25 The Naval ship <i>USS Chung-Hoon</i> was named after Gordon Chung-Hoon (b), an admiral in the U.S. Navy who became the first Asian American flag officer during WWII.	26 National Disability Independence Day See sidebar for details.	27	28	29 Maj. Gen. Charles Bolden Jr. (m) is a former NASA astronaut who became the first African American to lead NASA on a permanent basis in 2009.	30	31 Stephanie Kwolek (b) was an American chemist. In 1965, she invented Kevlar, a heat resistant and strong, synthetic fiber that is five times stronger than steel. She was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1995.

*Note: Islamic holidays follow the lunar calendar and therefore do not fall on the same dates each year. Students practicing this faith may be absent on these holidays.

MAKE YOUR OWN GALAXY!

SCIENCE EXPERIMENT #1

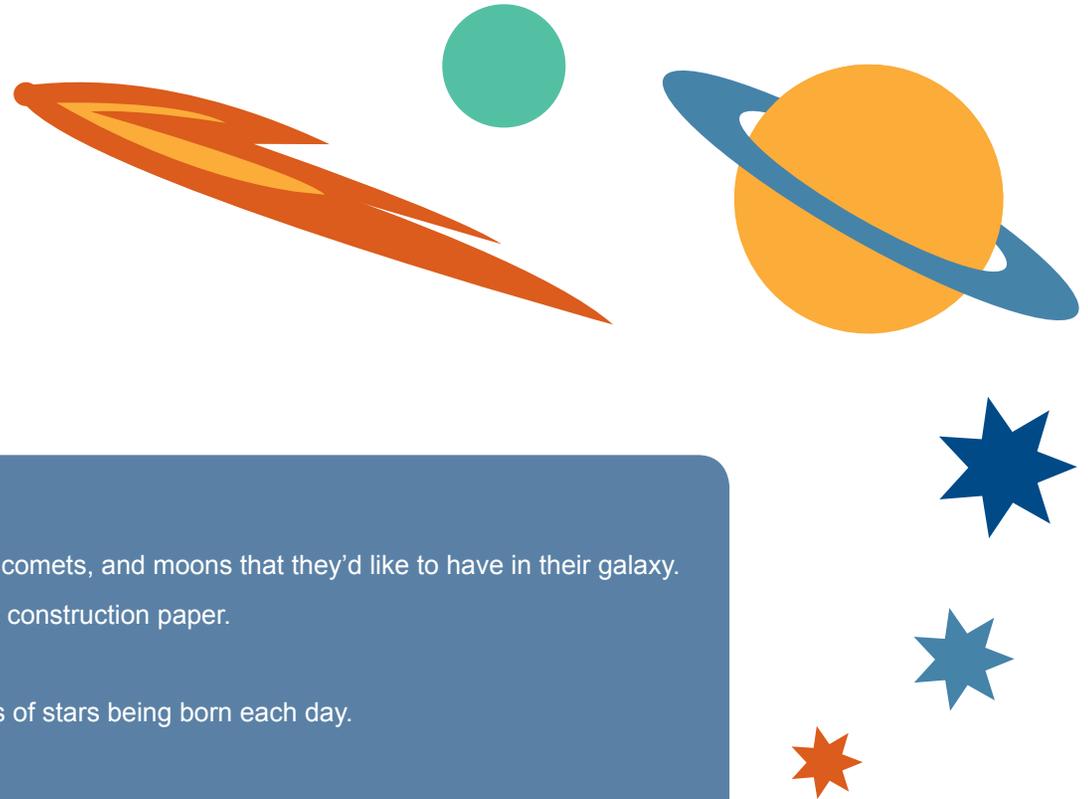
A galaxy is a huge collection of gas, dust and billions of stars and their own solar systems all held together by gravity. The Earth's galaxy is called the Milky Way. Scientists estimate that there are more than 100 billion galaxies in the universe. In this activity, students will make and name their own galaxy.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Black construction paper (11x17 if possible)
- Colored construction paper
- Markers, crayons and/or colored pencils
- Glitter (optional)
- Glue stick
- Scissors

DO THIS:

1. Using the colored paper, ask students to design the stars, planets, comets, and moons that they'd like to have in their galaxy.
2. Have students cut out their designs and arrange them on the black construction paper.
3. Ask students to glue the designs down with a glue stick.
4. Invite students to add glitter to their design to represent the millions of stars being born each day.
5. Finally, ask students to give their galaxy a name.
6. Display the galaxies where friends and families can admire them!



ENERGY ON THE MOVE

SCIENCE EXPERIMENT #2

Heat makes molecules move fast, and in this activity, students will observe what happens when food coloring moves through hot and cold water.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Hot tap water
- Ice water
- 2 clear plastic cups
- Food coloring (yellow & blue)

DO THIS:

1. Pour ice water (without the ice) in one of the plastic cups – about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
2. Fill the other plastic cup with the hot tap water – about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
3. Put one drop of yellow and one drop of blue food coloring on the surface of the hot and cold water.
4. Ask students what they notice about the way the food coloring is moving in the cold water vs. hot water.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

The food coloring in the hot water will move faster, and will mix to become more green than the food coloring in the cold water.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Heat is a form of energy, and the heat from the hot water makes the water molecules move faster than the molecules in the cold water. The fast moving molecules in the hot water bump into the food coloring molecules more often and with more force and move them faster than the molecules in the cold water.



EGG DROP CHALLENGE

SCIENCE EXPERIMENT #3

Students will learn about inertia and hopefully stay dry in this fun activity.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

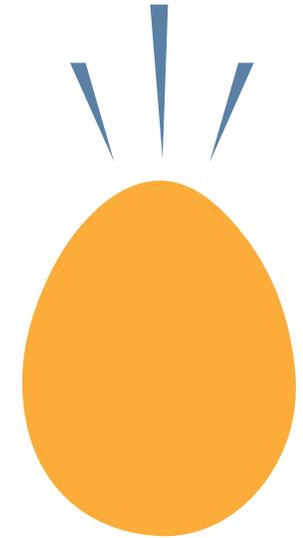
- 1 plastic cup of water (about $\frac{1}{2}$ full) with a mouth wide enough to fit the egg
- 1 10" piece of cardboard or a small tray with a smooth bottom
- 1 cardboard tube (a paper towel or toilet paper tubes)
- 1 egg (uncooked adds more drama!)

DO THIS:

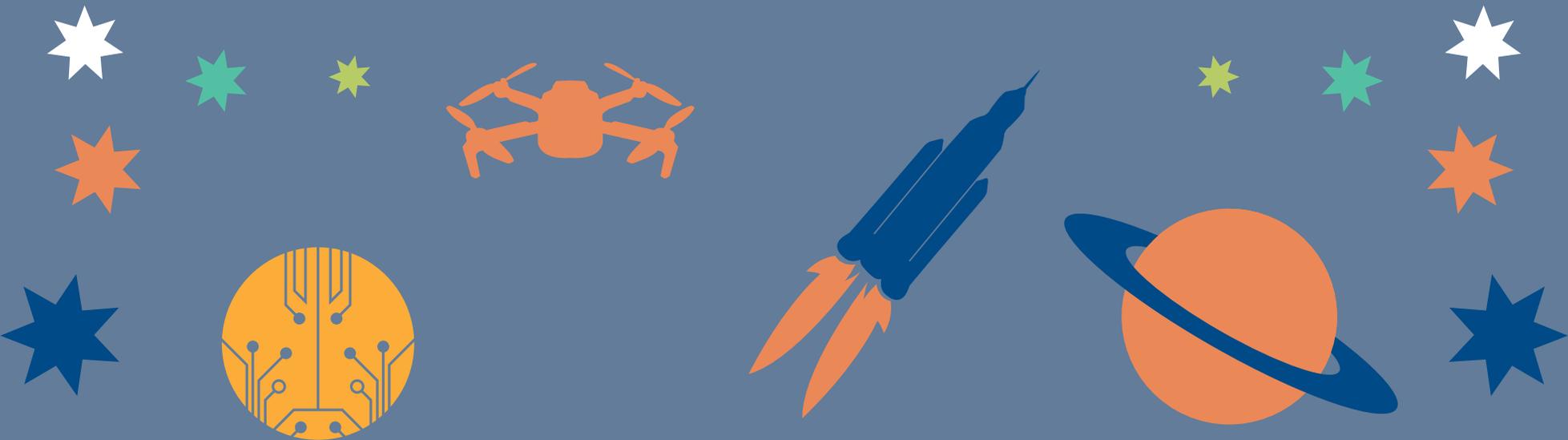
1. Place the plastic cup on a table or stand.
2. Place the cardboard or small tray on top of the plastic cup of water.
3. Place the tube vertically on top of the cardboard or small tray.
4. Place the egg horizontally on top of the tube.
5. When ready, strike the tray hard enough with your palm to send the tray flying forward, but not so hard that you hit the glass of water. If all goes well, the tray and the tube will go flying, but the egg will drop into the water.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Inertia describes how much energy is needed to move or stop an item from moving. Since the tray and the cardboard tube are lightweight, not much energy is required to move them. The egg is heavier and will drop into the water.



See a video of this activity [here](#).



For more resources to support
you and your students, please visit:
www.fbmarketplace.org/free-resources

