

# February 2026

## Morning Work

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Use these pages for a first activity of the day. Each one varies in style a bit to keep students on their toes and is designed to get in just a bit of thinking without overwhelming students with work.

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2-13: History of Presidents' Day

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Monday, February 2, 2026



## Sunday Is Groundhog Day!

Do you know why February 2<sup>nd</sup> is called Groundhog Day?

\_\_\_\_\_ There is an old superstition that says if a groundhog comes out of hibernation and sees its shadow, it will go right back to sleep for another six weeks while winter weather continues. But if a groundhog doesn't see its shadow, spring weather will come early. Do you think this sounds scientific?

\_\_\_\_\_ It's not! They're only right half of the time.

The tradition began in Germany hundreds of years ago where February 2<sup>nd</sup> is a holiday called Candlemas. People would watch the badger to see if it came out of hibernation. In other countries people would watch bears or foxes.

What other animals hibernate in winter?

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

When Germans immigrated to America, they mostly settled in Pennsylvania, which has the most famous Groundhog Day celebration in the country.

A groundhog is also called a woodchuck. Try creating a tongue-twister that uses groundhog instead.

How much \_\_\_\_\_ could a groundhog  
\_\_\_\_\_ if a groundhog could \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

On the back, color in the picture of the groundhog.

# Happy Groundhog Day!



## Tomorrow Is National Thank a Mail Carrier Day!

Do you enjoy getting things addressed to you in the mail?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Certainly, birthday cards and gifts are everyone's favorites. What else comes in the mail?

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Mail carriers work hard every day to bring letters and packages to our mailboxes. Here are some fun facts about the postal service:

- ❖ Colonial postal service began in 1692.
- ❖ Benjamin Franklin became the first postmaster of the United States Postal Service in 1775.
- ❖ The Pony Express was a famous network of express mail carriers in the Old West. But it actually only lasted for a year and a half.

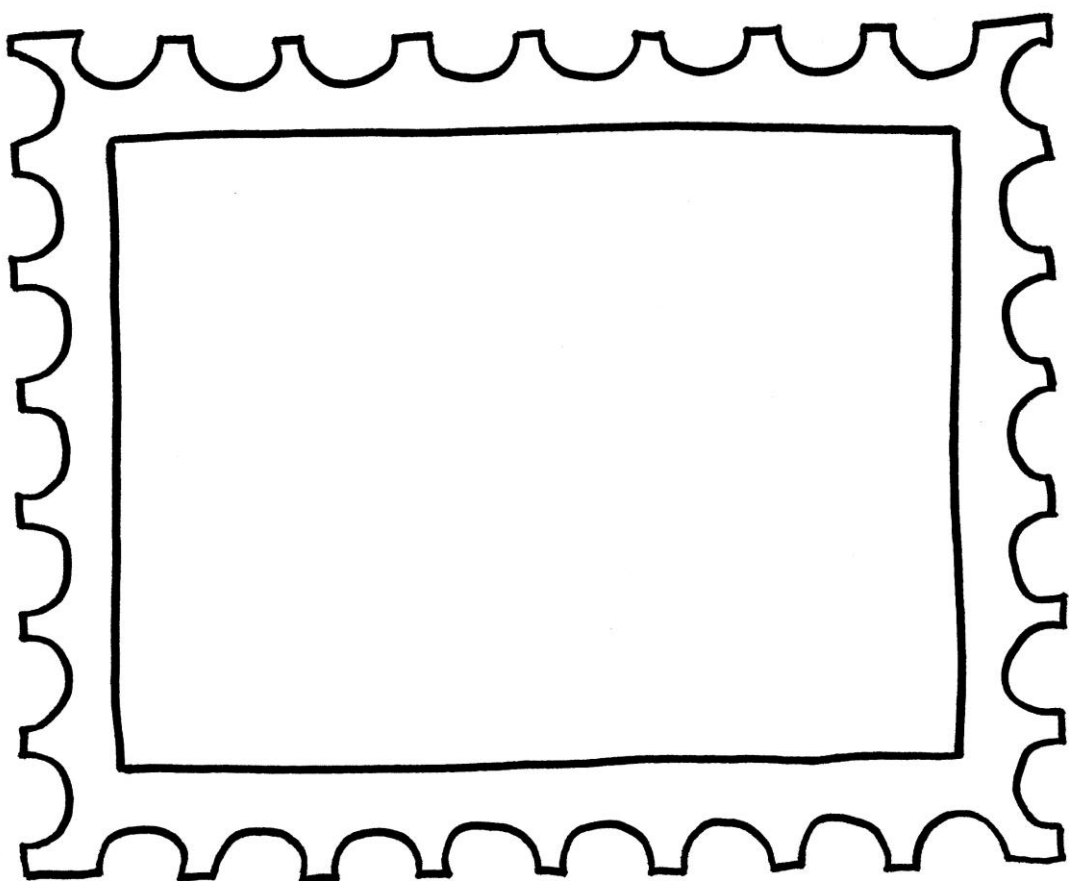
The Old New York City Post Office has engraved words above its entrance:

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

Many people think this is the post office's official motto, but it actually doesn't have one. The quote comes from a poem about ancient Persian letter carriers. Just the same, mail carriers have to put up with a lot of bad weather.

So, make a thank-you card for a mail carrier today! You can use the following template.

*Thank you!*



## Disappearing Items

Imagine if one day random things started disappearing into thin air? Write a short story about a day when these items disappeared.

What disappeared at breakfast?

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What disappeared on your way to school?

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What disappeared at snack time?

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What disappeared during math?

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What disappeared at lunch?

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What disappeared when you got home?

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What disappeared at dinner?

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On the back, draw a picture of the weirdest thing to disappear.

## A Balloon's Journey

Have you ever lost a balloon? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you feel? \_\_\_\_\_

Imagine if the balloon could think. What thoughts would it have as it floats away?

When you start to lose your grip, but you haven't noticed yet, and the balloon notices:

\_\_\_\_\_

When you see that you will not be able to get it back:

\_\_\_\_\_

When you are so far away, you and the balloon can no longer see each other:

\_\_\_\_\_

What things does the balloon see on its journey?

\_\_\_\_\_

Where does the balloon land?

\_\_\_\_\_

Does anyone find the balloon?

\_\_\_\_\_

On the back, draw a picture of your balloon's adventure.



## Tomorrow Is Periodic Table of Elements Day!

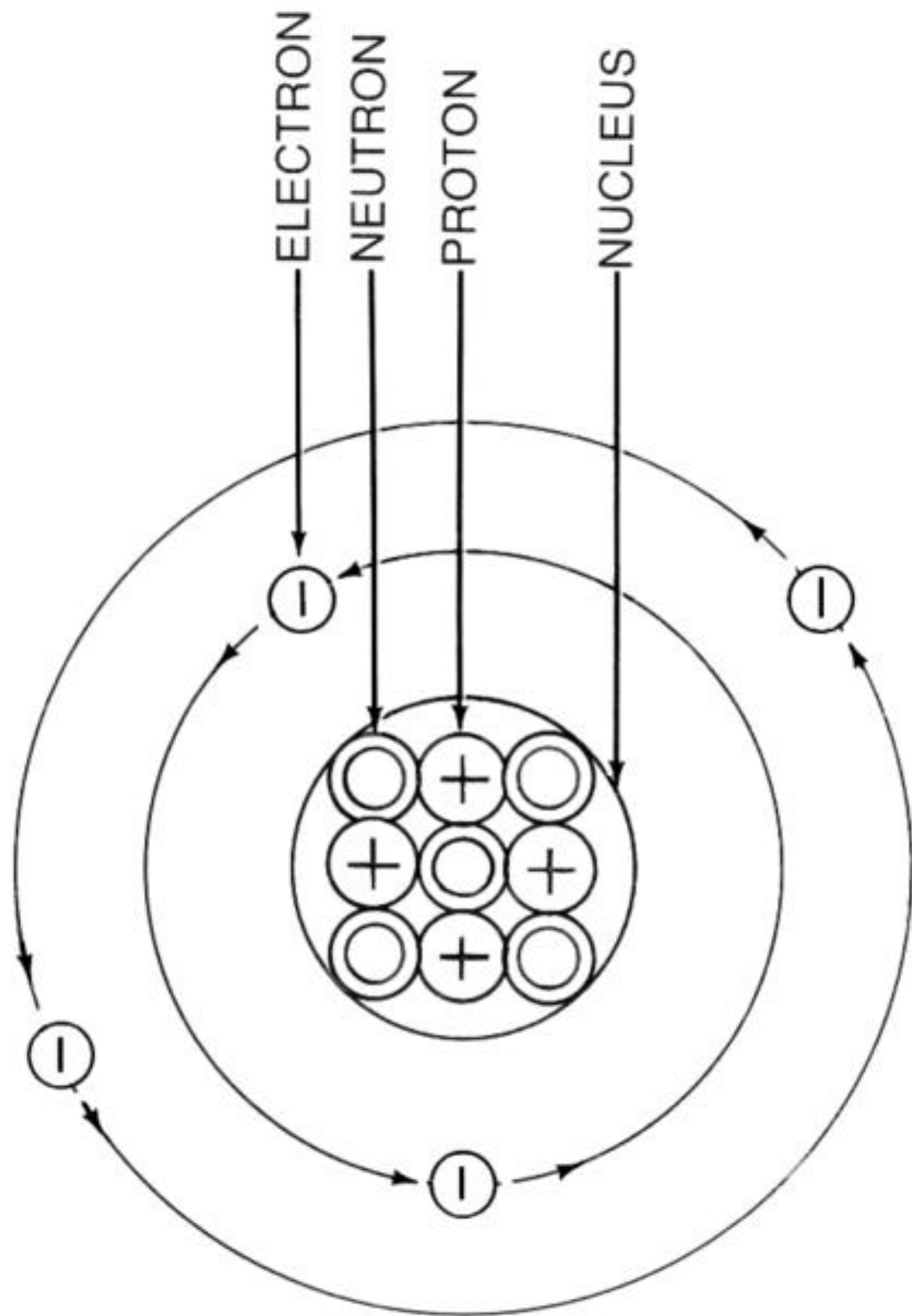
On February 7, 1863, the first table of elements was published by an English chemist named John Newlands. At that time only 56 elements had been discovered. They were in order of atomic mass. The table would be updated a few times before it began to look like our modern one.

In ancient times people believed there were four elements: Earth, Wind, Fire, Water.

The periodic table today has 118 elements. Every few years new elements are added. Here are some of the most well-known elements. Which ones have you heard of? What do you know about them?

- ☐ Copper \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Lead \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Gold \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Silver \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Iron \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Tin \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Mercury \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Zinc \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Platinum \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Sodium \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Calcium \_\_\_\_\_

On the back color in the picture of the atom.



## Today Is National Pizza Day!

Do you love pizza? \_\_\_\_\_ If you answered yes, you are in the majority. Pizza is one of the most popular dishes in America.

Since ancient times cultures all over the world have baked flatbreads and put toppings on them. But the pizza we know today began in Naples, Italy. The word *pizza* was first used in Italy in 997AD, and it comes from the word *to pinch*, because you pinch pizza with your hands to eat it. What other foods do you pinch to eat?

\_\_\_\_\_

But the pizza we eat today could not exist until Columbus sailed to the Americas and Europeans began bringing new foods back with them. Tomatoes come from Mexico and soon became popular in Italy. Do you know of any other foods that originally came from the Americas?

\_\_\_\_\_

In the 1890's Italian immigrants brought pizza to the USA. Starting in New York City, they spread out and took their pizza with them. Today, many Americans have pizza once a week.

To celebrate Pizza Day, design your dream pizza on the back. What type of crust will it have? Draw your toppings and label them. Go crazy and add as many as you like!

- ☐ Thin
- ☐ Thick
- ☐ Deep-dish

# My Toppings

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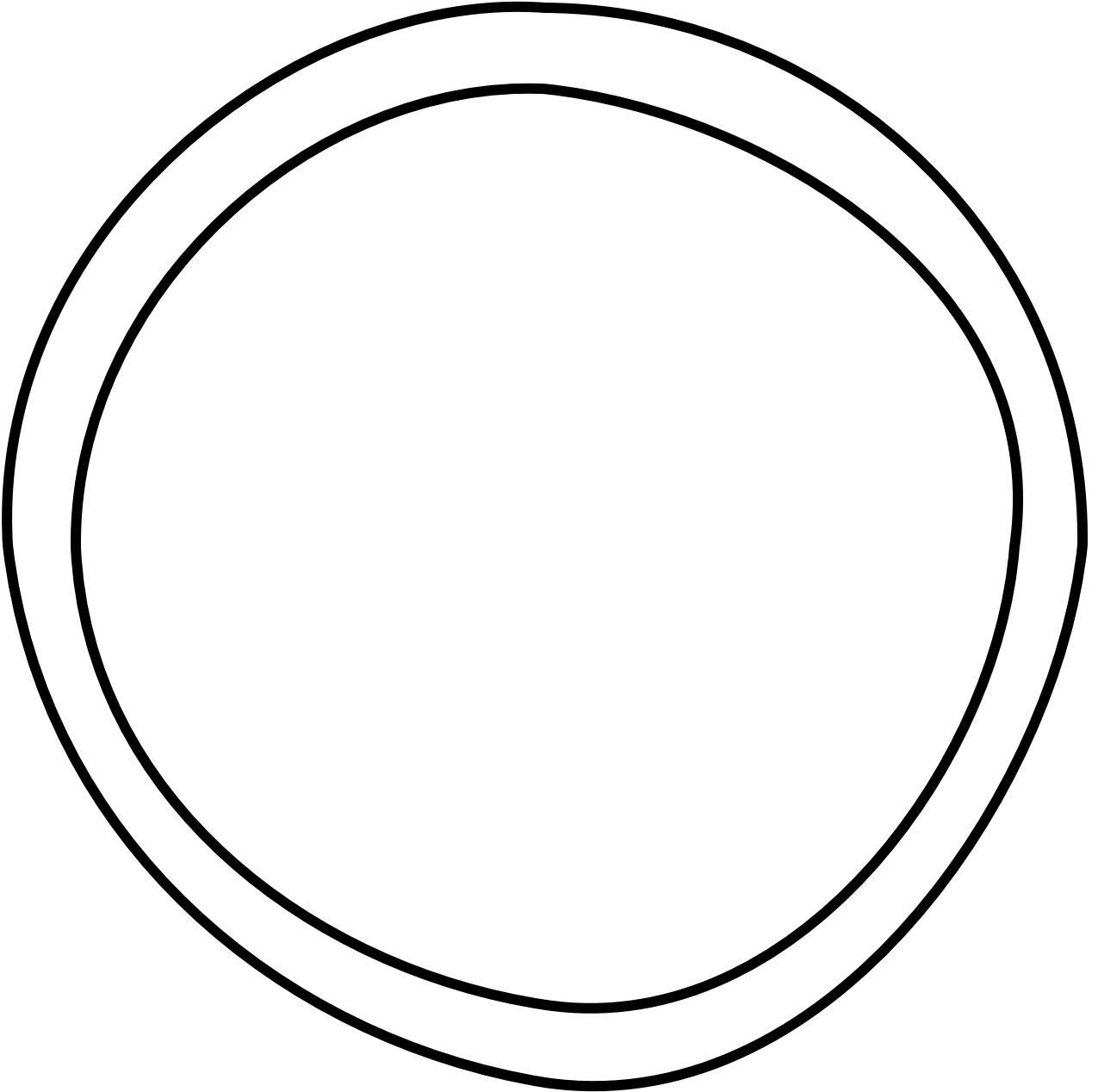
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Tuesday, February 10, 2026



## Your Home Is Upside Down!

Imagine you wake up one morning and discover that your home is upside down. What do you see around your room?

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You go into the bathroom and discover that:

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When you enter the kitchen, you're shocked to find:

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The most difficult thing about getting from one part of your upside-down house to another is:

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When your friends come over, how do you explain your whole home being upside down to them?

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On the back draw a picture of your upside-down home.

Wednesday, February 11, 2026



## Today Is National Inventors Day!

Inventors are people who want to make life better or easier by creating new things. Here are some of the most famous inventors in history and their inventions. But they're all jumbled up. Work with a partner or group to connect them!

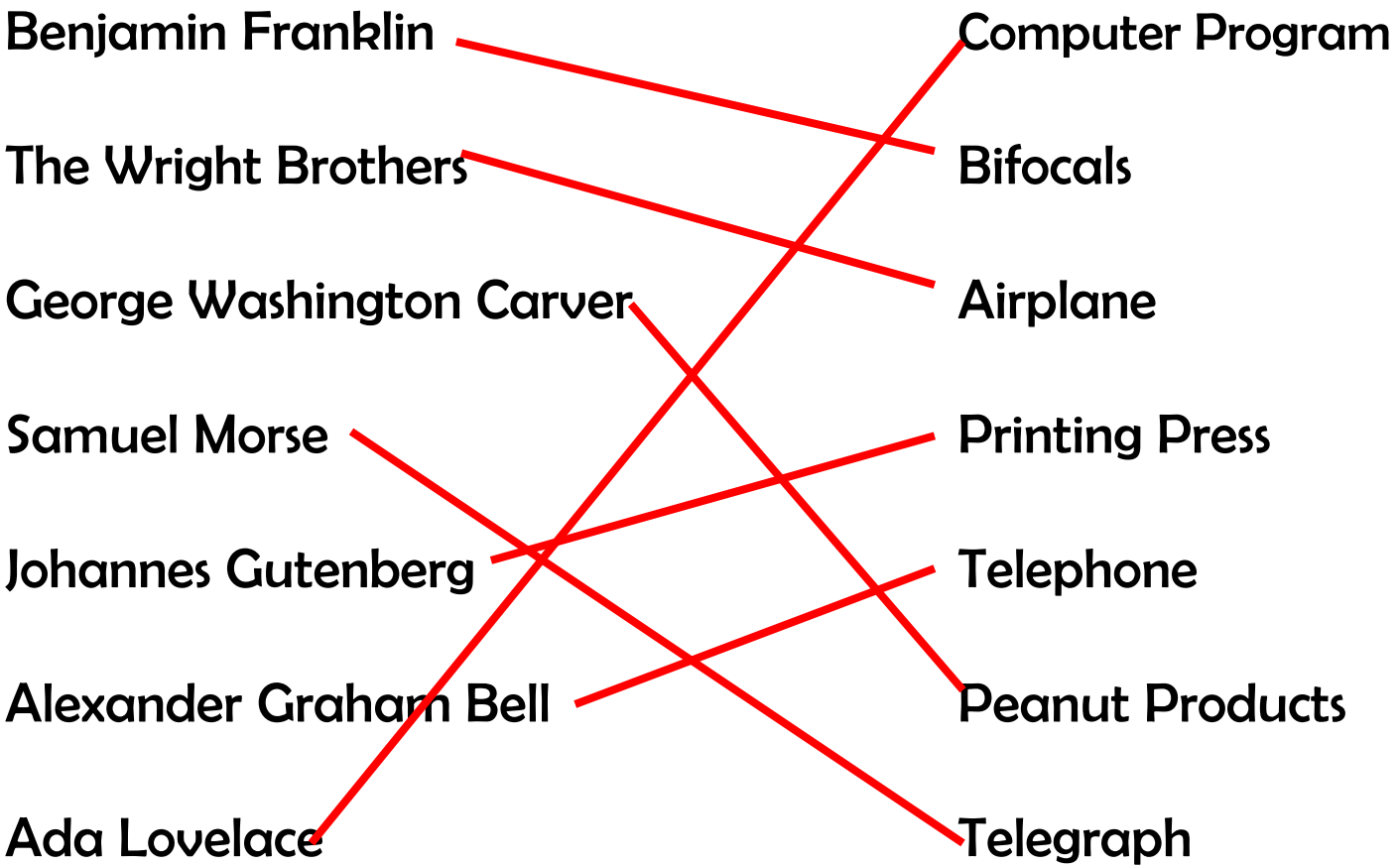
Benjamin Franklin	Computer Program
The Wright Brothers	Bifocals
George Washington Carver	Airplane
Samuel Morse	Printing Press
Johannes Gutenberg	Telephone
Alexander Graham Bell	Peanut Products
Ada Lovelace	Telegraph

Ask your teacher to help with any ones you don't know.  
Would you like to invent something? What would it do?

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On the back, draw a picture of your invention.



Thursday, February 12, 2026



## Saturday Is Valentines Day!

Valentine was born in 226 AD in Italy. At this time all of Italy and many of the areas around it were part of the Roman Empire. His Roman name was Valentinus. The Roman Empire required all its members to belong to the state religion. Valentine was a Christian priest, so he was arrested. While under house arrest, his jailer, Judge Asterius, was impressed by his faith and converted. Valentine was released from jail, but later imprisoned again for preaching Christianity. He was executed on February 14, 269 in Rome. The life of Valentine has very little to do with the holiday named after him on the anniversary of his death. Valentines Day became a holiday in Europe in 496AD. In the 1300s it became very fashionable to write poems of love, and to celebrate love in many kinds of public displays. Perhaps because spring is right around the corner, people began to use this day to write love letters and give gifts. Today, Valentine's Day celebrates the love of friends and family members as well.

One symbol of Valentines Day would have offended Valentinus very much. The image of cupid and the arrows through a heart comes from Roman mythology. Cupid was the name of the god of love. People believed his arrows could make the person whose heart was shot by them fall in love. He was often drawn as a baby with wings.

On the back, draw a picture of what you do on Valentines Day.



Thursday, February 12, 2026



Saturday Is Valentines Day!

**This year for Valentines Day I decided to make**

**\_\_\_\_\_ for everyone I know. I went to the craft**

Plural noun

**store and bought \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_**

number

color

Plural noun

**to \_\_\_\_\_ together. I must not have followed**

present-tense verb

**the directions very well. It was supposed to look like**

**a \_\_\_\_\_, but instead, it looked more like a**

noun

**\_\_\_\_\_. When I handed them out to all my**

noun

**\_\_\_\_\_, they asked me what they were for. I**

Group of people

**explained you are supposed to \_\_\_\_\_ them on**

present-tense verb

**a \_\_\_\_\_ and they will \_\_\_\_\_ pretty.**

area of a home

present-tense verb

**To be honest, they were kind of \_\_\_\_\_. They**

adjective

**did not \_\_\_\_\_ very \_\_\_\_\_.**

present-tense verb

adverb

Friday, February 13, 2026



## Monday Is Presidents Day!

Do you know what the difference is between President's Day and Presidents' Day? The first one has an apostrophe before the s, which means it is the day of one president. The second one has an apostrophe after the s, which means it is the day of more than one president. And there's a story behind that apostrophe!

The first American president, George Washington, was born February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1732. After he died in 1799, his birthday began to be celebrated each year as an unofficial holiday. In 1885 it became a federal holiday. In 1971 the Uniform Monday Holiday Act moved Washington's birthday to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of February.

Abraham Lincoln was born February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1809. He led the country during the Civil War, preserving the Union, and pushing for the end of slavery. After the war and his death in 1865, he was considered a hero in the North, and by former slaves in the South, but was strongly disliked by former slaveowners and many of their descendants for several generations. Because of this, his birthday became an official state holiday in most northern states, but was not in southern states.

Over time, many states decided to rename Washington's Birthday, "Presidents' Day," in order to celebrate the two birthdays on one holiday. Officially, the Federal government still calls this holiday Washington's Birthday. Over time, most people came to think of Presidents' Day as a celebration of all past presidents.

On the back, draw a picture of yourself as president.

Monday, February 16, 2026



Today Is Presidents Day!

President, Rushmore, White House, Oval Office, First Lady,  
Pennsylvania Ave, Washington D.C., America

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Tuesday, February 17, 2026



## Today Is Lunar New Year!

When does the year begin? \_\_\_\_\_ In ancient times, different countries had their own date for beginning the year. The Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, is in September or October. The Aztec New Year is always on March 12. The Lunar New Year is in January or February. It is sometimes called Chinese New Year, because Chinese immigrants were the first to introduce it to the USA. But many other Asian countries also celebrate the New Year on this day. Have you ever attended a Lunar New Year's celebration? \_\_\_\_\_

In ancient China, a calendar was developed that assigns a different animal every twelve years.

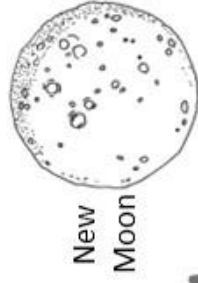
Rat	Ox	Tiger	Rabbit	Dragon	Snake
Horse	Goat	Monkey	Rooster	Dog	Pig

Which animal is your favorite? Circle it.

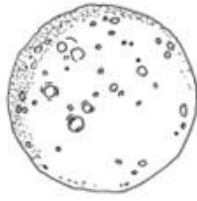
Celebrations often involve paper lanterns and firecrackers. People wear and decorate with the color red. The Lunar New Year is always on a new moon, which is when the moon does not reflect the sun's light onto the earth. It is the darkest night each month.

On the back, color in the phases of the moon.

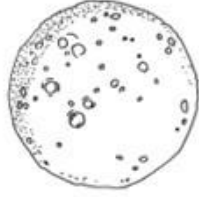
Name: \_\_\_\_\_



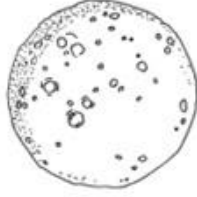
New  
Moon



Waning  
Crescent



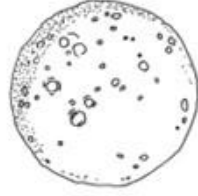
Third  
Quarter



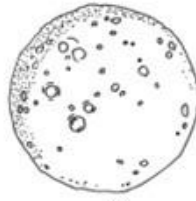
Waning  
Gibbous



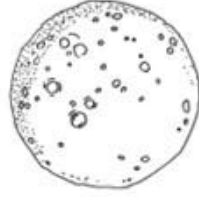
# Lunar Cycle



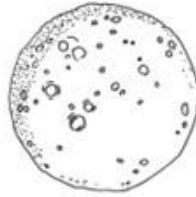
Full  
Moon



Waxing  
Crescent



First  
Quarter



Waxing  
Gibbous

## Yesterday Was Random Acts of Kindness Day!

Do you know what the word random means? \_\_\_\_\_

It means something unexpected and out of order. A random act of kindness is a kind action that has no particular reason for being done. It's just kindness for the sake of kindness.

Random Acts of Kindness Day began in 1995 as a way to promote kind actions. To celebrate, think about how you can show unexpected kindness to:

Family Member:

Classmate:

Neighbor:

Animal:

Local Nature:

School Employee:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Thursday, February 19, 2026

Imagine you went to school in a jungle. How would your daily routine be different? Draw a picture of your jungle school on the back of this paper.

Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

Morning Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Math: \_\_\_\_\_

Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Science: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Studies: \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch: \_\_\_\_\_

Recess: \_\_\_\_\_

Dismissal: \_\_\_\_\_

Homework: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to go to school in a jungle instead of here?

## Make Your Own Constellation

Do you like to look for constellations in the sky? A constellation is a group of stars that appear to form a picture in the sky. Sometimes these stars are nowhere near each other. But from our view, they appear close.

Some of the most famous constellations are:

Ursa Major The Great Bear

The Big Dipper

The Little Dipper

Orion The Hunter

Cassiopeia The Queen

In ancient times people would create stories to go with each constellation. Being able to recognize constellations was very important for travel.

On the back close your eyes and using one hand to make sure you are touching the paper, make 5 to 8 random dots (don't slam your pencil on the paper, but color in big, dark dots). Remember not to look while you are doing this. Open your eyes and try to create an image by tracing lines between the dots. Give your constellation a name. Make up a story about it.



# My Constellation

**The Story Behind It:**

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Monday, April 23, 2026



## Your Weekend as a Frog

Tell all about your real activities this weekend...but imagine you had turned into a frog for the weekend.

Friday Night: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Morning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Afternoon: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Evening: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Morning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Afternoon: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Evening: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

On the back, draw a picture of frog-you's favorite part of this weekend.

## A World Without...

Imagine if shoes had never been invented. How would life be different if everyone went around barefoot?

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Imagine if lightbulbs had never been invented. How would life be different if everyone still used candles?

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Imagine if telling time had never been invented. How would life be different if there were no clocks or watches?

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Imagine if \_\_\_\_\_  
had never been invented. How would life be different?

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On the back draw a picture of one of these situations.

## Habitats

Do you live in a desert? \_\_\_\_\_ What about a rainforest? \_\_\_\_\_ Chances are, you live in a town or city that makes it hard to tell what kind of habitat you live in.

Here are the main ones:

**Tropical Rainforest:** Hot, rainy places with thick vegetation

**Grassland:** Places with tall grass and few trees

**Tundra:** Cold, arctic regions with permanently frozen ground

**Desert:** Places that get little to no rain (or snow)

**Mountain:** Places with high elevation

**Wetland:** Land that is partly covered by water

In which habitat would you most want to live?

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Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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If you could make the place where you live more like a different habitat, what feature would you add to it?

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What feature would you take away?

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On the back, draw a picture of your favorite habitat.

## Today Is National Letter to an Elder Day!

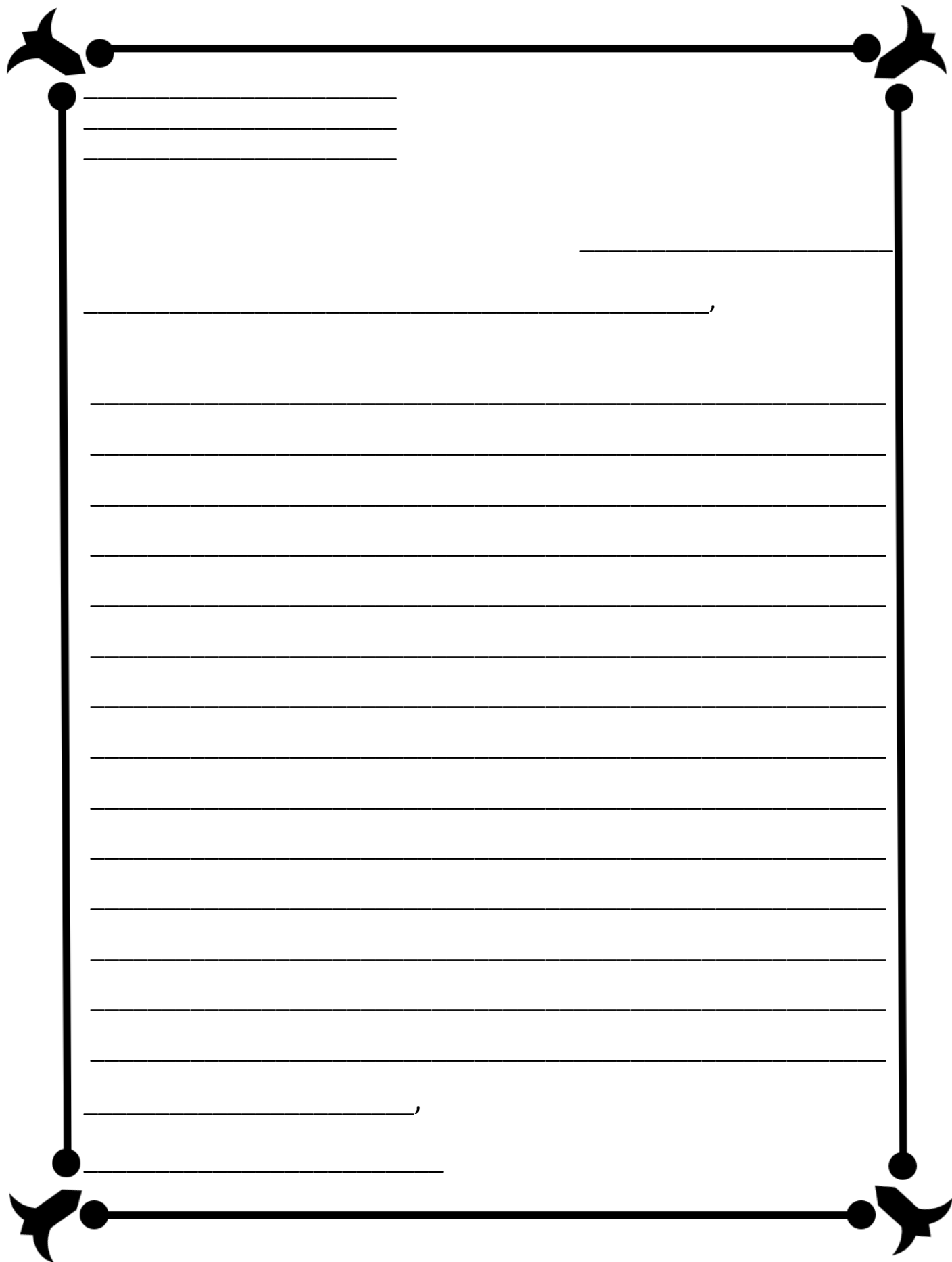
Do you think children can create a holiday? One boy began Letter to an Elder Day. He volunteered at a senior center and learned that many people did not receive letters and felt lonely. He started a campaign for writing letters to elders in senior care.

Not sure what to put in your letter? Fill out this template, then copy the information onto a letter, with any changes you can think of. Ask an adult to mail it.

Hi! / Hello! / Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old. I like to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_.  
I recently learned how to \_\_\_\_\_.  
I have a \_\_\_\_\_ year-old (type of pet) \_\_\_\_\_ named \_\_\_\_\_.  
A funny thing that happened recently is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

I wanted to write to you to tell you that I hope you are well. I can imagine you have many incredible stories, too. I wish you all the best and hope you have a fun day of feeling great and enjoying your favorite activities.

From, / Love, / Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_



## Today Is International Polar Bear Day!

Do you like polar bears? \_\_\_\_\_ What do you love about them the most? \_\_\_\_\_

Here are some fun facts about polar bears:

- ❖ Polar bears are born in late fall or early winter.
- ❖ Mother polar bears live off their body fat and don't eat or drink for eight months!
- ❖ Polar bear cubs grow 20 times their birthweight during their first 12 weeks.
- ❖ Polar bears are fully grown by the time they are two years old.
- ❖ Polar bears can grow up to 9 feet tall and weight 1400 pounds!
- ❖ Polar bears live on the Arctic sea ice in Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Russia, and Norway.

If you were a scientist studying polar bears, what do you think you would wear? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
What tools do you think you would use? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
How would you stay safe from the polar bears while getting as close to them as possible? \_\_\_\_\_

On the back, draw a picture of a polar bear.