

# **November 2026**

## **Morning Work**

**November 2026**

## **Morning Work**

**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.**

**11-2: National Author's Day Yesterday**

**11-3: Election Day**

**11-4: National Sandwich Day Yesterday**

**11-5: What a Pun!**

**11-6: A Biography All About You**

**11-9: Bones in Your Backyard**

**11-10: Veteran's Day Reading**

**11-11: Veteran's Day Word Jumble**

**11-12: Antarctic School**

**11-13: Create an Acronym**

**11-16: Firefighters**

**11-17: Jack and the Beanstalk**

**11-18: Mythological Creature Diary**

**11-19: National Camp Day**

**11-20: Don't Be an Oxymoron**

**11-23: Travel Notes**

**11-24: Thanksgiving History**

**11-25: Thanksgiving Word Search**

**11-26: National Cake Day**

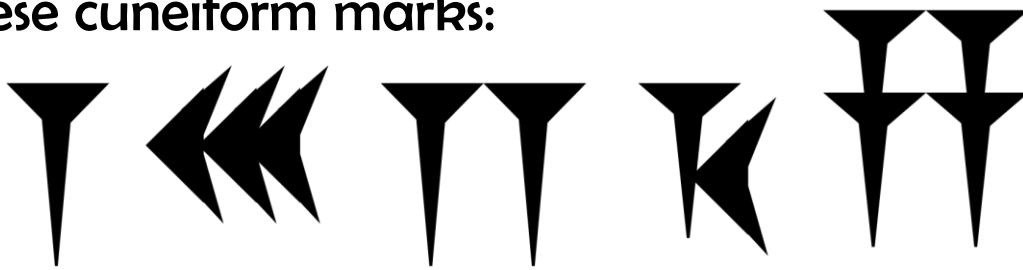
**11-27: Native American Heritage Day**

**11-30: Winter Bucket List**

Monday, November 2, 2026

## Yesterday Was National Author's Day!

Writing has been used since 3,000 BC by the ancient Mesopotamians. The first book ever written (as far as historians know) is the Epic of Gilgamesh, from Sumer, around 2,000 BC. They used a form of writing called cuneiform that was made by pressing into a clay tablet. Press your pencil sideways to try copying these cuneiform marks:



The Egyptians developed a form of writing called hieroglyphics which they wrote on papyrus scrolls. Try tracing these hieroglyphs.



For centuries, books were written by hand. Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press in Germany in 1440. The first book ever printed was a copy of the Bible. In 1801 Pellegrino Turri invented the first typewriter and in 1977 the first home computer was sold.

Circle how you would prefer to write a book:

cuneiform    hieroglyphs    by hand    typewriter    computer

On the back, draw a cover for your own book and give it a title.

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

## Today Is Election Day!

Today is voting day in the USA. Will anyone in your family vote today?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Election Day is always the first Tuesday in November  
...unless that lands on November 1<sup>st</sup>. In that case, Election Day is on  
November 8<sup>th</sup>. To vote, you must be an adult. In what year will you turn  
18? \_\_\_\_\_ If your birthday is in November or December, you will  
probably have to wait till the following year to vote. The president is  
elected every four years. The next presidential election years are 2028,  
2032, 2036, 2040, and 2044. In which year will you get to vote for the  
president for the first time? \_\_\_\_\_

To vote, you must also be an American citizen. A citizen is either born in  
the USA, born to American citizens living in another country, or applies  
for citizenship. A person who becomes a citizen is called a naturalized  
citizen. Naturalized citizens can run for any political office except  
president.

The first presidential election was held in 1788. First Vice President John  
Adams ran against writer of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas  
Jefferson. Because the laws were different then, the loser, Jefferson,  
became the Vice President of the winner, Adams. This is because the  
Founding Fathers originally did not think there would be any political  
parties. George Washington was elected unanimously for both of his  
terms. He warned against having political parties in his farewell address.  
Unlike most countries, the American president is not chosen by a  
popular vote. Each state has a certain number of electoral votes,  
depending on its population. Except for Maine and Nebraska, each  
state gives all of its votes to the candidate who gets the most votes  
within that state.

Look up how many electoral votes your state will have: \_\_\_\_\_

On the back draw a picture of yourself voting as an adult.

## Yesterday Was National Sandwich Day!

Did you know that the word sandwich comes from someone's name? Sandwiches are named after John Montagu, who was the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Sandwich in England. One day, while he was playing cards, he asked his cook to bring him something he could eat with one hand so he wouldn't have to pause during the game. The cook put some meat between two slices of bread. Plenty of people had probably eaten like this before him, but now it had a name and soon became much more popular.

What are your top three favorite sandwiches?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

What is the craziest sandwich you have ever eaten?

\_\_\_\_\_

If you were to have a sandwich named after you, what would go in it?

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

On the back draw a picture of your sandwich and label each item.

## What a Pun!

Do you like puns? \_\_\_\_\_ What is a pun? It is a joke that is based on words sounding like something else.

Many restaurants have food items on their menus with pun names, like a pasta dish called “Peas on Earth,” or a smoothie called “Berry Nice.”

Imagine you have to come up with pun names for new items on a menu. Think about what ingredients this particular item would have that would help with making pun names:

Pizza: \_\_\_\_\_

Tacos: \_\_\_\_\_

Donut: \_\_\_\_\_

Ice Cream: \_\_\_\_\_

Pasta: \_\_\_\_\_

Smoothie: \_\_\_\_\_

On the back draw a picture of one of the menu items.

Friday, November 6, 2026

## A Biography All About You

Have you ready any biographies of famous people? \_\_\_\_\_

Who? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some things people do that would cause someone to write a book about them? \_\_\_\_\_

Imagine someone was going to write a biography about you. What might you do one day in the future that would make people want to read about your life? (You can get creative...or even exaggerate to make it really interesting.)

What would the title of your biography be?

Do you think the book will be interesting? \_\_\_\_\_

How many copies do you think it will sell? \_\_\_\_\_

If it gets made into a movie, who do you think will play you? \_\_\_\_\_

On the back draw the cover of your biography.

Monday, November 9, 2026



## Bones in Your Backyard!

Imagine if you were digging in your backyard and found dinosaur bones. How would you feel about this discovery?

---

---

Who would you tell about it first? \_\_\_\_\_

What tools would you use to dig them out?

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

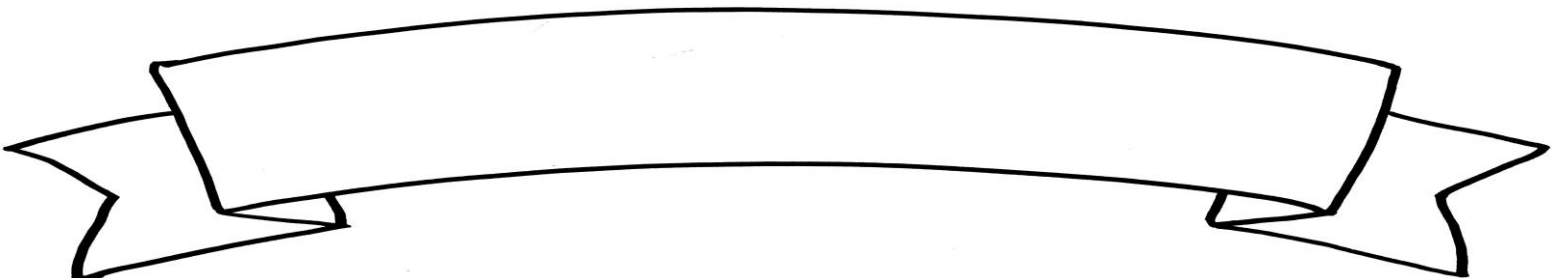
How long would it take to dig them out? \_\_\_\_\_

How many people would be needed? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of museum would they be displayed in?

- ☐ Art
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Natural History
- ☐ Historic Location

What would the banner say at their exhibit?



How many people would come to see them each day? \_\_\_\_

On the back draw a picture of the bones halfway covered.

# Tuesday, November 10, 2026

## Tomorrow Is Veteran's Day!



Veteran's Day honors all American veterans of all wars, but is especially meant to honor those who are currently living. Veterans Day began as a holiday to honor the soldiers who fought in World War I, which began in 1914, and which the USA joined in 1917. At the time this was called the "Great War." The word "Great" has a different meaning in history than in how it is used by most people today. Like the Great Depression and the Great Fire, the word "Great" means huge and memorable, not morally good. Many people at the time believed it would be the last war ever and also called it "the war to end all wars." The fighting stopped at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month (November). Another word for an end to fighting is armistice. After the war the anniversary of the armistice became known as Armistice Day. It became a federal holiday in 1938. After World War II, the "Great War" became known as World War I and Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

### Veterans Day Traditions

- ❖ Many places have two minutes of silence starting at exactly 11 am on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Many cities have Veterans Day parades.
- ❖ Arlington National Cemetery is a cemetery for soldiers killed in battle. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is dedicated to soldiers who die but cannot be identified. Since 1958, there has been an official ceremony to lay a wreath on this tomb every Veterans Day.
- ❖ In some countries a red poppy is worn.
- ❖ Some other countries that fought in WWI also call the day Remembrance Day.



Wednesday, November 11, 2026



## Today Is Veteran's Day!

World War, Armistice, Veterans, Arlington, Federal, Military,  
Memorial, American, Soldiers, Remembrance

ermcasiti

---

ryiltmai

---

grliaonnt

---

dwlaorrw

---

etevnsar

---

marencai

---

leerdfa

---

amoemlir

---

olsdrise

---

creanmmereb

---

Thursday, November 12, 2026



## Antarctic School

Imagine you went to school in Antarctica. How would your daily routine be different? Draw a picture of your Antarctic 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 Antarctica instead of here?

# Create an Acronym!

Do you know what an acronym is? It's an abbreviation of the name of an organization, or other group of words, that can be pronounced like a real word.

## Abbreviations that are Acronyms:

**NASA:**

National  
Aeronautics and  
Space  
Administration

**ASAP**

As  
Soon  
As  
Possible

## Regular Abbreviations:

- BBB
- FBI
- CIA
- LOL
- FYI

If you created an organization or club, what name could you give it that could be an acronym? Try writing each word on a line to help you visualize your acronym. You don't have to count small words unless it helps you.

(You don't need to use all of these lines.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Firefighters

Do you think you are brave? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the bravest person you know? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you know any firefighters? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you met firefighters on a field trip or other event?

\_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Many firefighters begin as volunteers. Volunteers might help at the station or represent it at a community event.

Have you ever volunteered at a community event?

\_\_\_\_\_ What was it?

Volunteers who have special emergency training may go on ride-alongs with the firefighters.

Have you ever been inside a fire truck?

\_\_\_\_\_ When and where was it?

Lastly, to become a firefighter, a person must get a degree in fire science and take entrance exams.

Do you think being a firefighter sounds scary? \_\_\_\_\_

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

Do you think being a firefighter sounds exciting? \_\_\_\_\_

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

On the back, draw a picture of a firefighter being brave.

## Jack and the Beanstalk

Do you know the story of Jack and the Beanstalk? A boy named Jack sells his family cow to buy food. But instead, he buys beans that he is told are magical. His mother is so upset she tosses the beans out the window and they grow overnight into a beanstalk that reaches the clouds. Jack climbs the beanstalk to a place where giants live.

What is the last food you ate? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the last chore your parents told you to do?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Look out the window. What do you see?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Now, imagine if you were supposed to do that chore, but instead bought a magical version of that food. Tell about what happens when it is tossed out the window.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

On the back, draw a picture of your story.

## Mythological Creature

Have you read stories about imaginary creatures that are partly one animal and partly another? \_\_\_\_\_

Which ones can you think of?

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Imagine one morning you woke up and discovered that you had turned into a mythological creature. What would you write in your diary that evening?

Dear Diary,

Today when I woke up, I found that I had the head of \_\_\_\_\_, the body of \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_.

I was so surprised! I immediately tried to \_\_\_\_\_.

It was difficult because \_\_\_\_\_.

I actually liked being able to \_\_\_\_\_.

But I didn't really like that I couldn't \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

Tomorrow, I hope that I look \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

On the back draw a picture of yourself.

Thursday, November 19, 2026



## Today Is National Camp Day!

Have you ever been camping? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, where did you go? \_\_\_\_\_

With whom did you go? \_\_\_\_\_

If no, would you like to go camping? \_\_\_\_\_

Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think is the most fun thing that could happen to you or any other person while camping? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think is the scariest thing that could happen to you or any other person while camping? \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you think the nicest place to camp would be?

- ☐ on top of a mountain
- ☐ beside a lake
- ☐ by the beach

On the back, draw a picture  
of yourself camping  
somewhere fun!

Which camping activities sound the most interesting?

- ☐ fishing
- ☐ hiking
- ☐ swimming
- ☐ making a campfire
- ☐ gazing at stars

Fun  
Fact: Modern  
tents are based  
on Native American  
Teepees!

## Don't Be an Oxymoron!

Do you know what an oxymoron is? \_\_\_\_\_

It's not an insult, even though it might sound like one. An oxymoron is a word or phrase that sounds like it contradicts itself. That doesn't mean that it does contradict itself, just that it sounds a bit odd.

Here are some oxymorons:

- Bittersweet
- Old news
- Plastic silverware
- Jumbo shrimp
- Awfully good
- Clearly misunderstood
- Crash landing
- Growing smaller
- Guest host
- Only choice
- Found missing
- Freezer burn
- Seriously funny
- Good grief

Make up your own oxymoron. Think about some words that sound like opposites, but could actually go together in some way.

OR choose one of the oxymorons above and explain why it sounds like a contradiction.

---

---

---

On the back draw a picture of what your oxymoron sounds like it is describing.

## Travel Notes

What is the furthest you have ever travelled from home?

---

What is the longest car ride you have ever been on?

---

What is the longest plane ride you have ever been on?

---

Have you ever travelled to another city in a train?

Where? 

---

Have you ever travelled to another city on a boat?

Where? 

---

Which was your favorite way to travel? 

---

Thanksgiving is coming up. This is the busiest travel season for Americans. Will you travel anywhere this November or December? 

---

Where? 

---

Will anyone come to visit you? 

---

Where

will they come from? 

---

What do you like more:

- ☐ traveling to visit other people
- ☐ having people stay in your home
- ☐ going somewhere new together

On the back draw a picture of your plans for the season.

## Thursday Is Thanksgiving!

Before 1492, only Native Americans lived in North America. Europeans were not aware it existed. When Christopher Columbus accidentally landed in the Caribbean on his (attempted) way to India, European nations, who had spent centuries competing with each other for resources, power, and religious influence, now saw an opportunity to gain natural resources, land for their overflowing populations, and fuel for their power struggles with each other.

In the early 1600s, all English people were required to belong to the state-run church: the Church of England. But a small group of people, known as Separatists because they wanted to separate from the Church of England, began meeting secretly in their homes. This was against the law. After years of struggle, they chose to immigrate to the land in North America that England had claimed. Later, these people would become known as the Pilgrims, because a pilgrim is a person who goes on a spiritual journey.

The Pilgrims sailed on the Mayflower in 1620. 102 passengers left England in September, 1620, and 102 arrived at what is now Massachusetts in November, 1620. One died along the way, and a baby was born: Oceanus. When they landed, the Pilgrims signed a document called the Mayflower Compact. It laid out a plan for how they would be governed. They named the new land Plymouth.

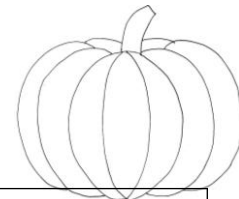
Their first winter in Plymouth was very difficult. Without proper homes, enough food, or the resources they were used to in Europe, half of the Pilgrims died.

In the spring the Pilgrims met two Native Americans, Squanto and Samoset, who helped them trade with the Wampanoag people, taught them how to fertilize the soil, and gave them tips on fishing and foraging the local plants. Thanks to their help, the Pilgrims were prepared for their second winter in Plymouth. To celebrate the end of their harvest, the fifty-three surviving Pilgrims held a great feast and were joined by about ninety of the Wampanoag people and their leader, Massasoit. This became known as the first Thanksgiving. There would be future conflict between these two groups, as well as between other Europeans and Native Americans, but for more than 50 years, the Pilgrims and Wampanoag had a successful alliance.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day celebration. For two hundred years, each state had celebrated on their own schedule, but during the Civil War, President Lincoln saw an opportunity for the holiday to provide America with a sense of unity. In 1924, Macy's began its Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Today, America is still a land that constantly receives people from other countries, who come for all different reasons.



Wednesday, November 25, 2026



## Tomorrow Is Thanksgiving!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | A | M | O | S | E | T | Q | W | E | R |
| Q | K | A | L | P | O | H | I | U | Y | T |
| U | J | Y | A | F | E | A | S | T | A | Q |
| A | H | F | U | A | R | N | W | S | P | G |
| N | G | L | T | M | T | K | E | I | L | A |
| T | N | O | U | I | Y | S | L | D | Y | O |
| O | I | W | M | L | U | G | E | F | M | N |
| F | K | E | N | Y | R | I | A | G | O | A |
| D | P | R | J | I | I | V | V | H | U | P |
| S | M | G | M | K | O | I | E | J | T | M |
| A | U | S | H | L | P | N | S | K | H | A |
| Z | P | X | C | V | B | G | N | M | L | W |

|              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| THANKSGIVING | PLYMOUTH |
| SQUANTO      | PUMPKIN  |
| WAMPANOAG    | FAMILY   |
| PILGRIMS     | SAMOSET  |
| MAYFLOWER    | LEAVES   |
| FEAST        | AUTUMN   |



## Today Is National Cake Day!

Most people love cake. Do you? \_\_\_\_\_ What is your favorite flavor? \_\_\_\_\_

Design your perfect cake.

### Style:

- ☐ Traditional cake is often made in layers with icing in between.
- ☐ Upside down cake is baked exactly the way it sounds.
- ☐ Cheesecake is really a cream cheese pie.
- ☐ Coffee cake is a fluffy pastry with a crumble top.
- ☐ Pound cake originally contained exactly one pound each of butter, flour, sugar, and eggs.
- ☐ Angel food cake has a light, spongy texture.
- ☐ Devils' food cake is very dense and chocolatey.
- ☐ Carrot cake is known as one of the healthiest cakes...for the obvious reason!

### Flavor:

- ☐ Chocolate
- ☐ Vanilla
- ☐ Strawberry
- ☐ Coconut
- ☐ Blueberry
- ☐ Lemon
- ☐ Pineapple

### Icing:

- ☐ Chocolate
- ☐ Vanilla
- ☐ Strawberry
- ☐ Cream cheese
- ☐ Caramel
- ☐ Raspberry
- ☐ Mint

### Toppings:

- ☐ Fresh fruit
- ☐ Chocolate chips
- ☐ Sprinkles
- ☐ Sugar pearls

On the back draw a picture of your cake.

## Today Is National Native American Heritage Day!

The first people to live in North America are known by many names. Together, they are often referred to as Native Americans. Although very different, they share a common bond of struggling to preserve their land and way of life as more and more Europeans began to move to North America, starting with Columbus in 1492. Today, Native Americans make up about 1% of the US population.

Many towns, mountains, rivers, valleys, and other locations have Native American names. Ask your teacher or family if there are any places around you that have Native American names:

Many modern American traditions and goods come from Native Americans. These include:

- Log cabins
- Tug-of-War
- Canoeing
- Chewing gum
- Kayaking
- Barbecues
- Lacrosse
- Hammocks

Circle the ones you enjoy.

Many common foods were unknown to Europeans before 1492. Native Americans had cultivated them for centuries. Which one is your favorite?

- ☐ Pumpkins
- ☐ Corn
- ☐ Potatoes
- ☐ Tomatoes
- ☐ Beans
- ☐ Chili peppers
- ☐ Maple syrup

Some of the most famous Native Americans are:

- Tisquantum (Squanto)
- Pocahontas
- Sacagawea
- Chief Joseph
- Tecumseh
- Crazy Horse
- Maria Tallchief
- Red Cloud
- Sitting Bull
- Jim Thorpe
- Geronimo
- Sequoyah

Find out which Native American group(s) lived in your area:

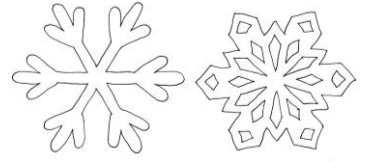
---

---

---

Monday, November 30, 2026

## Write Your Winter Bucket List!



Do you realize winter is right around the corner? Of course, winter doesn't technically begin until December 21<sup>st</sup>, but most Americans consider December 1<sup>st</sup>, or even the day after Thanksgiving, to be the unofficial first day of winter.

### Holidays and Special Events I Will Celebrate this Winter:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### My Favorite Foods to Eat in Winter:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### My Favorite Movies to Watch in Winter:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### This Winter I Want to Learn How to:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---