



Grammar School Special Days, Projects, and Field Trips

Pre-kindergarten

- **Blue Box:** Each Friday, students bring in an item related the current phonogram or other classroom theme and present it to the class.
- **Thanksgiving Feast:** Our class celebrates God's blessings with a small feast together, family style. We thank God for some of His many specific blessings.
- **Christmas:** Students color a small piece of a large manger scene celebrating Christ's incarnation. The class also has a simple Christmas party with games and crafts.
- **Valentine's Day:** Students learn that God's love for us enables us to give ourselves to others. This is demonstrated through their own hard work of making of cards for each classmate and by respecting them as they learn to recognize each students' name.
- **Mother's Day:** Students make a gift and card for their mothers.
- **Father's Day:** Students make a book noting the provision and protection of their fathers.
- **100 Day:** As the students count 100 days of attending class, we have a small party to commemorate this achievement. This is usually the second-to-last day of school.
- **End of Year Summer Party:** The last day of school is celebrated with a summer-themed party including games, snacks and crafts.
- **Third Grade Buddies:** Students pair up all year with a specific third-grader for Friday's recess time.
- **Pumpkins:** The students learn and explore this marvelous creation through poems, hands-on activities, a small book of its life cycle as well as a paper model of the basic anatomy of a pumpkin.
- **Opposites Day:** Students get creative in their dress for the day and present what they have worn 'oppositely'.
- **Things That Go!:** Students enjoy reading stories and making painted paper construction vehicles.
- **Insects:** Students learn about the specific characteristics of these small creatures while developing fine motor skills in coloring, labeling, drawing and watercolor.
- **Plant Emphasis:** Students explore the parts of a seed, plant a seed, and learn the stages of plant growth. They watch and measure their own plant's growth.
- **Other themes** include: colors and shapes; seasons (fall, winter, spring); opposites; snowmen; animals; books.
- **Imagine! Children's Museum, Everett:** Students cap off their delight in Things That Go! with a morning trip to this museum. They play with trains, drive a bus, and work in an airplane. The museum also offers many other hands-on fun.



Kindergarten

- **Letter of the week activities:** The students will do activities that include Math, Science, Language Arts, and Bible Verse Memorization that start with the letter of the week. For example: For *C and D weeks*, each student makes a Days of Creation booklet to coordinate with our class study of Genesis. During *M week*, the students do math activities using M and M's. The students sort, count, and graph the different colored M and M's. Each Letter Activity reinforces the Kindergarten Curricular Concepts as well as fine and gross motor developmental skills.
- **Thanksgiving:** The parents are invited to a Thanksgiving Snacking Brunch in our classroom. The students do recitations and sing for the parents.
- **Christmas Party:** The students recite and sing for the parents. They decorate cookies and play Christmas themed games with the parents.
- **Christmas:** The kindergarteners create artwork for their parents. This directed art project contains the five elements used in art: circles, straight lines, dots, angle lines, and curved lines. This project reinforces fine motor drawing, imitating God's creation in our backyard.
- **Valentine's Day:** We discuss 1 Corinthians 13 and examine how the Bible defines love. The students will make decorations for the room and a card for their parents.
- **Day 100:** The students celebrate the 100th Day of School by doing a variety of math, language arts and large motor skill, activities that relate to the number 100. The students bring in a collection of 100 items.
- **Stone Soup:** After reading the book *Stone Soup*, the students will contribute ingredients (including a stone) to make stone soup for the class to eat.
- **Mother's Day:** The students make a detailed card and paint a Flower Display as a gift in honor of their mother.
- **Go, Dog. Go! Party:** The students read the book "*Go, Dog. Go!*", then have a party which includes all of the ideas from the book e.g. car races, party hats to match the hats in the book, a hot dog lunch, etc.
- **Sixth Grade Buddies:** The students are paired up with a 6th grade big buddy for the year. Activities include an ice cream social, making cards, reading and drinking root beer floats for R week, art projects, and eating lunch together.
- **Remlinger Farm:** Tour farm and discuss Pioneer Life and the season of Fall. The students do Pumpkin Math activities (counting, measuring, circumference, ordinal position, sorting, graphing) with the pumpkins taken home from the farm.
- **Community Helper Field Trip:** Tour a fire station, post office and grocery store. Possible guest speakers: police officer, pastor, doctor, etc. if they are parents of current students. Picnic Lunch is enjoyed at a community park.
- **The Seattle Children's Theatre** or other play in the Seattle area.



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First grade

- **Spider Day:** A day of nothing but spiders: spider math, spider books, spider collection sharing, spider snacks.
- **Teddy Bear Day:** celebrating *Little Bear's Visit*
- **A Surprise Birthday Party:** Shhhh it's a surprise! We celebrate *A Birthday for Frances* with a surprise birthday party with decorations, place settings, and food just like the book!
- ***Nate the Great* surprise pancake breakfast:** We read *Nate the Great and the Lost List* as a class and answer comprehension questions. We have a pancake breakfast because that is Nate's favorite meal.
- **100 Day:** Kindergarten and first grade celebrate the 100th day of school together. We have 8 different stations that students move through using the number 100.
- **Christmas gift for parents**
- **Mother's Day Gift**
- **End of the Year Party:** USA Patriotic Party; students wear red, white, and blue. We spend the day doing States-themed events to celebrate the first-graders learning all of the states of America.
- **Father's Day Gift**



Second grade

- **Oxbow Farm:** This field trip makes a real-life application of the 2nd grade Plant Kingdom science study.
- **Seattle Children's Theater:** If there is an appropriate play
- **Pioneer Farms:** This spring field trip takes place after we have finished reading *Little House in the Big Woods* and are mostly finished with *Farmer Boy*. The students have the opportunity to see log cabins that are similar to ones that pioneers may have lived in, sit in an old schoolhouse, and help with chores that were a part of everyday life for pioneers. During this field trip students will be able to experience and see several things that they have read about during 2nd grade literature.
- **Salt Dough Maps:** The students create and label a map of Ancient Egypt based on the geography of the land.
- **Store:** We play 'Store' several times throughout the year. At the beginning of the year the game centers around understanding the value of each coin and each bill. The students also have the fun of making up their own merchandise to sell, setting the prices, and becoming salespeople trying to sell their products.
- **Shabby Stuffed Animal Day:** This day comes towards the end of our *Velveteen Rabbit* unit. We have read about a very well-loved rabbit, and this day is just a day where students can bring a favorite stuffed animal to school (the shabbier the better!). The stuffed animal participates in school work throughout the day and takes a trip out to the playground at recess.
- **Little House Treats:** There are so many tasty foods that are mentioned as we read *Little House in the Big Woods* and *Farmer Boy*. Hasty pudding, fried corn hash with maple syrup, bacon, rye n' injun bread, pumpkin pie, vinegar pie, maple sugar, and many other delicious foods are eagerly sampled by second graders.
- **Little House Day:** This is our end of year party each year. We start the day off with a *Farmer Boy* breakfast, choosing several of the delicious foods talked about in the book. The rest of the day the students participate in many activities and games that children during the little house years may have played: jump rope competitions, hop scotch, jacks and marbles, hauling water, making yarn or rag dolls, sewing on buttons, sack races, three-legged races, and many other delightful activities.
- **Christmas Projects and Mother's/Father's Day Projects:** Students create gifts for their parents on these days.



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Third grade

- **Narnia Project and Tea:** Third graders celebrate the culmination of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by making a project for an oral presentation and having a Narnia Tea.
- **Christmas Party & Book Exchange:** Students celebrate the birth of Christ with a party including Christmas treats, games, and a book exchange.
- **Pompeii Day:** Students gain a deeper appreciation for the effect of the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius through a volcano experiment, Mt. St. Helen's video, art craft, special lunch, and Lava Flow drinks.
- **Greco-Roman Feast/ Olympic Games:** Year-end party with Olympic-themed games and a Greco-Roman feast.
- **Seattle Aquarium:** Third graders learn about marine life via hands-on tide pool exhibits. Students are allowed to touch various tide pool creatures as well as participate in a class focusing on the marine life in Puget Sound.
- **BC Planetarium:** Students experience the planets up close and personal thanks to the fourth largest planetarium in the nation. The program features "The Sky Tonight" which pinpoints particular constellations that are visible based on the date on the calendar.
- **Stage Play:** chosen based upon themes matching history or literature units.



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Fourth grade

- **Insect collection:** During our study of insects in science class, each student collects eight insects, pins them to a board for display, and brings them to class, where they present their collections and we try to identify the insects using our classroom field guides.
- **Literature poster project:** Students design a “movie-style” poster featuring the literature book *Rolf and the Viking Bow*, with the goal of reflecting the book’s plot, characters, and themes.
- **Heraldry shield:** After reading the King Arthur legends in literature class and studying the feudal system in history class, each student decorates a coat-of-arms following medieval design traditions, choosing personal symbols and a motto.
- **Sea creature mobile:** Students choose a sea creature which lives in a Pacific Northwest ocean ecosystem, collect eight facts about it through at-home research, and create a mobile displaying those facts; the mobiles are then presented and displayed in the classroom.
- **Auction project:** The students are involved in creating a class project to be sold at Providence’s annual benefit auction.
- **Mother’s Day gifts:** The students design and make special gifts, cards, and letters in class to be presented to their mothers at a grammar-school-wide Mother’s Day celebration.
- **Medieval feast:** This year-end party is a full-day event featuring a medieval-style feast and medieval-themed games and crafts, including crafting a leather pouch for the boys and lessons in basic embroidery for the girls.
- **Pacific Science Center:** We visit the insect collection exhibition during our study of insects in science class, taking a look at the honeybee hive and experiencing live insects in the butterfly house.
- **Camlann Medieval Village:** We visit this living history museum where students learn much about everyday life in the medieval era, including details about architecture, food, clothing, music, weaponry, and much more!
- **St. James Cathedral:** This tour of St. James Cathedral allows students to experience first-hand the traditional elements of cathedral design, their rich and detailed symbolism, and the way they reflect the medieval mind.



Fifth Grade

- **Columbus Day Party:** The party honors Columbus Day, Admiral of the Sea, who on his first trip in 1492 discovered an island in the Bahamas and named it San Salvador. The students participate in a variety of games.
- **In-house Colonial Tea served at lunch time on Colonial Day:** Students wear their tradesman/craftsman costumes to present their Colonial Trade presentations. Students are served a hearty Colonial Tea in school with cloth napkins, candles, with homemade corn cakes (johnny cakes), apple butter, applesauce, butter, jam, rolls, ham, sausage, chicken pudding, spiced nuts, gingerbread cookies, Queen cakes etc.
- **Hobbit Day:** The end of the year class party centers around *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien. The students participate in a scavenger hunt, eat a variety of Hobbit and dwarf loved foods, come in their costumes of their favorite character and dabble in elven language, riddles, and crafts.
- **Auction Class Project, Christmas project, Mother's Day project, and Father's Day project**
- **Colonial Trade/Craftsman projects:** Students research a particular trade or craft during the Colonial period such as Wigmaker, Silversmith, Blacksmith, Chandler, Tanner, Printer etc. Each student presents in costume with props and poster/picture board on The Colonial Day with the Colonial Tea.
- **Thirteen Colony Poster Project:** Students are assigned partners and work on either the New England Colonies, the Middle Colonies, or the Southern Colonies. Each group presents their poster boards and presents their colonies using pictures, diagrams, maps, and facts to promote the colonies as well as props and handmade food or items for display or demonstration.
- **Aztec Masks:** After studying the Spanish Explorers and their conquest, students will each make an Aztec mask to be on display in the classroom for the rest of the year. This could be combined with the special Spanish Conquest Party with tacos.
- **First homes in the New World:** Students will participate in a group craft project to make models of the Native American longhouses, log cabins, and the Jamestown Fort that would have been built in 1607.
- **Science Nutrition Project:** After Nutrition Unit, students will plan a lunch meal to represent all the food groups.
- Students will participate in a special writing project and make a **class Limerick book**.
- **Center for Wooden Boats:** Students learn basic principles of how a sailboat works and sailboat design. Students design and build their own working model sailboat and sail it on Lake Union Park's boat pond and also paddle for an hour on Lake Union in an Umiak canoe.
- **Colonial Tea:** A hearty Colonial Tea is served in the Great Hall with special tea service, chicken pudding, sausage, ham, hearty rolls, applesauce, apple butter, Queen cakes, spiced nuts and more!
- **Olympia Capitol Tour:** Students take a Civic Education Tour. This tour is an introduction to our representative democracy and the three branches of government and includes information on the Legislative Building's function, operation, symbolism, and history. Also included is a visit to the Temple of Justice, the home of the state Supreme Court, where students participate in a mock court hearing. The tour includes visits to the Rotunda, the State Reception Room, legislative galleries, and offices of elected officials.
- **Schooner, Adventuress:** The 5th Grade class embarks on an annual sailing trip aboard the adventuress. The trip includes three hours of sailing on Puget Sound. Not only will they sail and learn life aboard ship (singing shanties, hoisting sails, tying rope lines, etc.) they also study a bit about marine sciences and stewardship.
- **Optional Field Trip:** play at Everett Theatre if available for class



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Sixth grade

- **Gold Rush Day:** Students dress up as '49ers, travel from Boston to California, and pan for gold.
- **Civil War Day:** Students dress in Civil War era costumes and play games from the era as a culmination of our study of the Civil War.
- **Immigration Feast:** Each student brings a dish representing his or her heritage, and we enjoy a feast together.
- **Motion and Simple Machines Field Trip:** Students visit a local park to use the equipment to visualize and understand the laws of motion.
- **A Christmas Carol at ACT Theater:** Students take a trip to Seattle to see a professional production of the timeless Christmas story in "theatre in the round."
- **Seattle's Flight Museum:** Students visit the Museum of Flight in Seattle and experience a docent led tour of the Wing of Courage featuring World War I and II planes and history as well as visit the space exhibit.
- **Zoo Exhibit:** The students research the scientific name, phylum, and basic facts about an animal. The students then build a miniature zoo exhibit representing the facts they have researched.
- **Civil War Newspaper:** The students will work with the high school journalism class to research a battle, event, or significant person from the Civil War, write an article, and work in groups to produce a newspaper that might have come out during the war.
- **World War II from the Eyes of Innocents:** The students research the lives and roles of children in WWII. They share their research with each other and from the pool of material, each student writes a short, historical fiction story about a child during this era.
- **Science Fair Project:** The students ask a question about a topic that interests them and follow the steps of the scientific method to design an experiment and answer their own question.
- **Christmas project:** The students design a gift for their parents each year.
- **Mother's Day Project:** The students create a small gift for their mothers.