



## Happy February!

Hello there! Even though February may be stuck in the icy cold depths of winter... there's a lot to LOVE about month #2! (For one thing, it's "Library Lovers' Month!") Plus...once again... we've chosen ten "National Days" to highlight. Hopefully, you'll be inspired, and you'll gain some good ideas for your library! You'll also find a recipe, some book suggestions, and... oh well... it's probably best if you just grab your favorite warm beverage and jump in to read!

Take care,

Julie, Laura, and Sonya



### Places to Visit – **The Rabbit hOle Museum**



If children's literature truly holds a special place in your heart... you may want to plan a trip to this immersive, museum experience in North Kansas City, Missouri. Book lovers of all ages will enjoy exploring multi-sensory exhibits where story book settings and characters rule. The Rabbit hOle also features a print shop, story lab, a bookstore, a makerspace, and much more! (Oh, and author visits, too! In fact, Dav Pilkey will be visiting the museum on February 15!) <https://www.rabbitholekc.org/overview>



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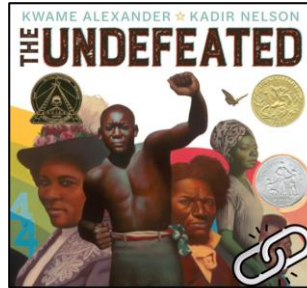
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## 10 "National Days" for February 2025

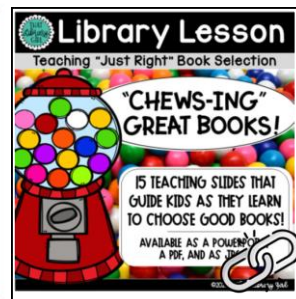

**1<sup>st</sup>** Freedom Day



This national day celebrates freedom from slavery! Click the book cover for a review from NPR, and the YouTube link below to hear author Kwame Alexander reading to a group of students!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHIWt18PNk>

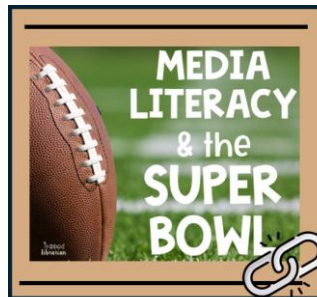

**7<sup>th</sup>** Bubble Gum Day



Well, isn't this the perfect day to help your students learn to "CHEWS" great books? With this lesson, you'll introduce literature concepts like genre, series, author's purpose, blurb, and more! The lesson also touches on library organization and using an OPAC.

[Click here to go to That Library Girl](#)

**9<sup>th</sup>** Super Bowl Day



It's game time! Help your students build critical thinking skills as they examine five persuasive advertising techniques while analyzing fun commercials from the Super Bowl! Click the graphic to go to TPT... or read a blog post below.

[Read this blog from The Trapped Librarian](#)

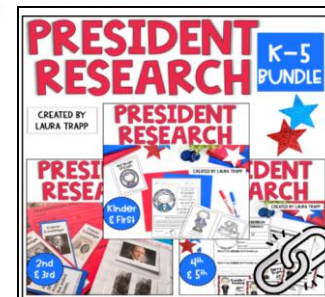
**11<sup>th</sup>** Safer Internet Day



"Connect Safely" is the nonprofit group behind Safer Internet Day. Their goal is to create a better internet where everyone is empowered to use technology wisely. Find school resources and grant information for K-12 educators at

<https://safer.connectsafely.org/>

**17<sup>th</sup>** Presidents' Day



Interested in President research? Scaffold learning across K-5 as you guide students through the research process and help them uncover cool facts about some of our country's leaders. Click the graphic to learn more!

[From The Trapped Librarian](#)

## 10 "National Days" for February 2025, cont.

20<sup>th</sup>

### Clean Out Your Bookcase Day



### Book Swap Kit



This national day creates the perfect opportunity to host a school "Book Swap!" My new kit contains all the notes, signs, forms, tickets, and more that you'll need to plan it, recruit volunteers, and make your students very happy!

[From That Library Girl](#)

20<sup>th</sup>

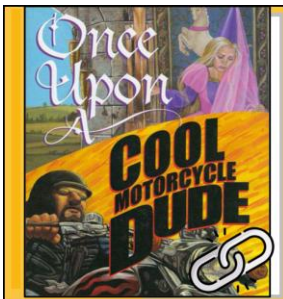
### Comfy Day



On National "Comfy Day," we challenge you to share your favorite librarian t-shirt anywhere on social media with the hashtag [#comfylibrarian!](#) Don't have a tee you love? Well, check out our story on page 5 about a fellow librarian and her cool t-shirt side hustle. Then, use her generous discount code on your first order, too!

26<sup>th</sup>

### Tell a Fairy Tale Day



When you assign a boy and a girl the task of writing a fairy tale together, you might EXPECT a beautiful princess and adorable ponies... but a motorcycle dude and a smelly giant?! Hm...) After reading the resulting story, enjoy some fun fairy tale STEM ideas from "Carly and Adam!"

<https://carlyandadam.com/thecarlyandadam/fairy-tale-stem-activities-and-challenges>

27<sup>th</sup>

### Retro Day



### Library Display

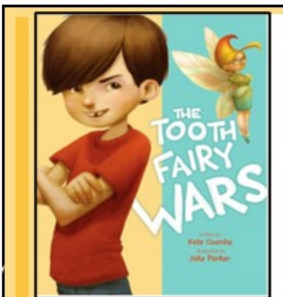


If you've got some old tech equipment lying around collecting dust, why not pull it out and put it on display? This resource provides labels to help you set up a "Museum of Retro Technology" in your library!

[From That Library Girl](#)

28<sup>th</sup>

### Tooth Fairy Day



When Nathan decides NOT to give up his tooth -- thank you very much -- the tooth fairy is NOT happy. Which one will win this battle of wills?!

IDEA: Read *The Tooth Fairy War* by Kate Coombs. Then, have students work in pairs or small groups to create their own plans for tricking the Tooth Fairy!

## TWO VALENTINE FREEBIES



### Book-Themed Valentines

*Share the LOVE with your students!*

Be ready for those kiddos on Valentine's Day! Simply print these cute valentines on cardstock and share the love. These would also be perfect to give to the students to share with their own friends and family.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LJL2MmskkOXsXNRhAt4spJMH0ZoX0Hd/view>

From The Library Patch



### Jar of Words

*Valentine Hearts Estimation Jar*

This is a fun addition to your February activities. It's quick and easy to make this guessing jar with some Valentine candy hearts. This freebie contains labels for your jar and estimation slips for your students. Count your candy hearts before adding them to a recycled jar, add the label, and print the estimation slips on colorful paper. Use this activity during "I Love to Read" month in your elementary library or classroom.

[From The Trapped Librarian](#)

## Keen Bee Studio -- If you give a librarian a t-shirt press...

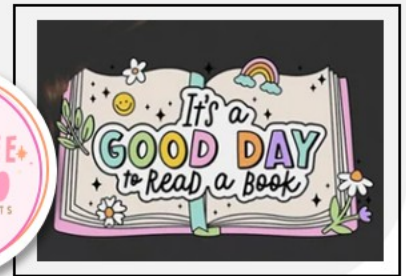
Ten years ago, middle school librarian, Kristi Leveridge, couldn't find a librarian t-shirt that she liked... so she made one...and then another... and then another! Today, she is the owner, designer, and maker behind a successful side business called "Keen Bee Studio." Each of her t-shirts is handmade with care in her little backyard shop in Denton, Texas.

You can follow Kristi on Instagram (@[keenbeestudio](https://www.instagram.com/keenbeestudio)) to see her new designs, but be sure to visit one of her shops to see them all. (She's currently a top 1% Etsy seller!) Kristi was also so sweet to offer our newsletter readers a discount code on first orders!

(CODE: [KEENBEE TEXAS4](https://www.etsy.com/shop/KeenBeeStudio)) Thank you, Keen Bee Studio!

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/KeenBeeStudio>

[www.keenbeestudio.com](https://www.keenbeestudio.com)



## Comfort Food - "Tik Tok Chicken Cobbler" (adapted by That Library Girl)

- ½ C. butter, melted
- 4 C. rotisserie chicken meat, pulled into small, bite-sized pieces
- 1 can "Veg-All" mixed vegetables, drained well
- 1 package Red Lobster Cheddar Bay biscuit mix
- 2 C. milk (½ whole and ½ fat free)
- 1 can Campbell's Cream of Chicken and Mushroom soup
- 1-2 C. chicken bone broth
- 1-2 C. shredded cheese, optional



- 1) Gather the ingredients. Preheat oven to 375°F and prep a 9X13-inch baking dish with cooking spray. Pour melted butter into the baking dish to completely cover the bottom.
- 2) Add chicken pieces in a single (but packed) layer, on top of the butter. Then top evenly with the mixed veggies.
- 3) In a medium bowl, whisk together biscuit mix, its seasoning packet, and milk until well blended. Pour and spread the mixture lightly and evenly over the top of the chicken and veggies – but do not stir.
- 4) Next, whisk together soup and bone broth until smooth. Pour this over the biscuit mixture, evenly, but again – do not stir. Next sprinkle the top with shredded cheese, if desired.
- 5) Bake in the preheated oven, uncovered, until golden brown. (It should be only slightly jiggly in the middle – so, about 45 minutes.) Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Source: I watched a few Tik Tok videos...and then kind of made my own version from what I had in the pantry!

## FEBRUARY RESOURCE IDEAS FOR BUSY LIBRARIANS

### VALENTINE STORYTIME

*For K-2*

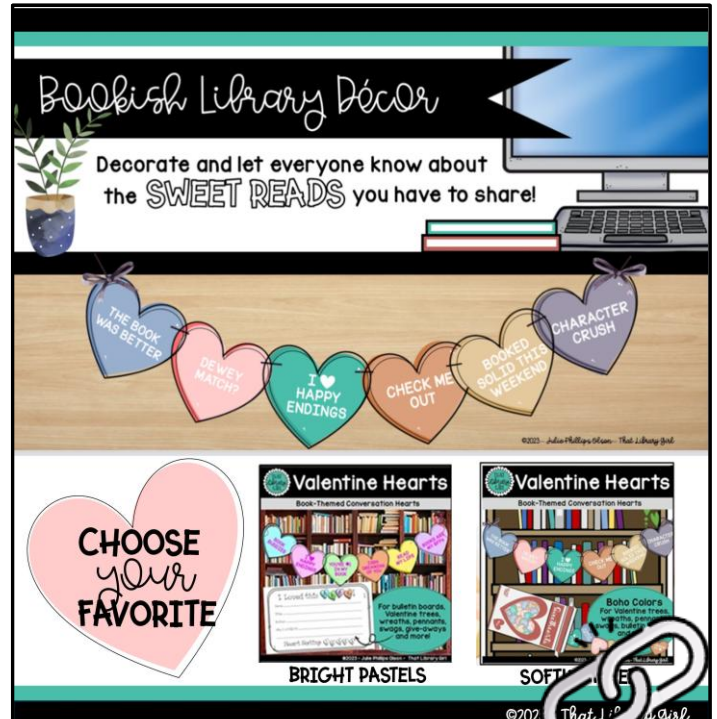
Integrate music and movement into your read aloud lessons in February with your youngest classes and you're ALL guaranteed to have fun learning! Lots of great activities to use throughout the month.

[From The Trapped Librarian](#)



### LIBRARY CONVERSATION HEARTS BULLETIN BOARD PIECES

[From That Library Girl](#)



## MORE TPT RESOURCE IDEAS FOR BUSY LIBRARIANS



### I LOVE TO READ MONTH *Bulletin Board + Activity Kit*

Make your February lessons and activities fun and memorable while you encourage your students to celebrate a love of reading! Interactive bulletin board and fun activities will keep your library buzzing with excitement all month long.

[From The Trapped Librarian](#)

### A UNIQUE BIOGRAPHY REPORT *Lift-a-Flap Research Report*

Looking for a simple, well-organized biography research report that your kids can't wait to work on? Here it is! This lift-a-flap style biography will have students excited to research and explore interesting facts about their assigned person. Once their research is done, students will assemble an engaging and interactive biography report! One that they will be super excited to show off!!

[From The Library Patch](#)



## POLAR BEAR RESEARCH AND LIBRARY ANTONYMS



### POLAR BEAR RESEARCH REPORT *For Young Learners*

This comprehensive, kid-friendly resource includes twelve printable pages, is perfect for classrooms or libraries, and meets the requirement of shared research as outlined in the state Common Core standards.

The included bibliography directs learners to trusted sources, encouraging further research and deepening their understanding of these majestic animals.

[From The Library Patch](#)

### POLAR OPPOSITES by Erik Brooks *...and finding Library Antonyms*

This is a quick little story about a pair of unlikely besties and the warm friendship they share -- despite ALL of their differences! ❤️

Pair it with my TPT lesson (for 2nd-4th graders) for a project that involves browsing the shelves for "library antonyms" on book covers -- and making photos of the result. It was one of the favorite lessons in my library for many years!

[From That Library Girl](#)



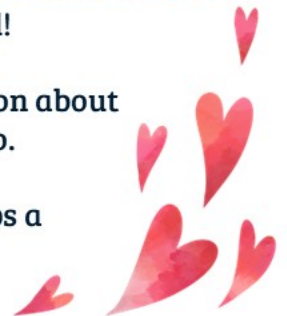


## GET READY FOR GUEST READERS



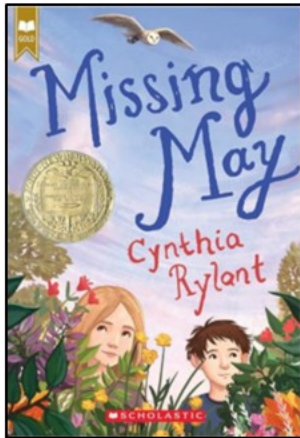
With **Library Lover's Month** in February and **Read Across America** coming up quickly in March, it's time to recruit some guest readers for your school! Here are a few tips to get you started:

- ♥ **Be my guest!** – They say, “If you don’t ask, you don’t get! So... ask! There are probably many good candidates right under your nose, and you may be surprised by the responses you receive! Obviously, parents and other family members are top tier choices, but give other community members a try as well. Local nurses, firefighters, and even members of your local college basketball team could yield a host of amazing readers! Local high school students and unlikely members of your own school staff – a custodian or school secretary -- are other possible choices.
  
- ♥ **Space exploration** – Does your story time area need a little “glow up?” Start out by giving your space a good cleaning and decluttering. Check out your “librarian chair,” too. Is it safe and sturdy enough for the person who will be sitting in it? (You probably don’t want a 7 ft. basketball player sitting in a child-sized chair.) So... is it comfortable enough for that particular adult? Could just adding a throw pillow make a difference?  
  
Next up, take a minute to think about your current seating arrangement and any classroom management issues. Are any adjustments needed to make sure that all of your students can see the guest reader and the book’s illustrations well?  
  
Finally, ensure adequate lighting for both your guest reader and your audience by repositioning the story time chair, planning to open the blinds, or by bringing in a lamp as needed.
  
- ♥ **Book selection** - If your guest reader doesn’t already have a book in mind, set him or her up for success by pre-selecting a few books that are appropriate for the allotted time span, the group’s age and attention span, and their interests. If possible, drop a few of your top choices by for your guest reader to preview.
  
- ♥ **Communication** – It’s also a nice touch to share a little information about the audience that your guest reader will be entertaining. As you do, express your hope that the guest will feel relaxed and just enjoy the experience of sharing a love of reading with your students.
  
- ♥ **Pre-reading activities** – Plan to briefly introduce your guest reader to the class, highlighting his or her connection to your school, the story, or just a bit about them personally, so your students can make an easy connection. Also, let them know that you are excited to listen as well!
  
- ♥ **Post-reading activities** – Encourage your guest reader to facilitate a brief discussion about the story and allow time for a few questions, if he or she feels comfortable doing so.
  
- ♥ **The End!** - Be sure to follow-up your guest reader visit with a kind note and perhaps a special bookmark or a small treat to express your appreciation!



## The Trapped Librarian is Currently Reading...

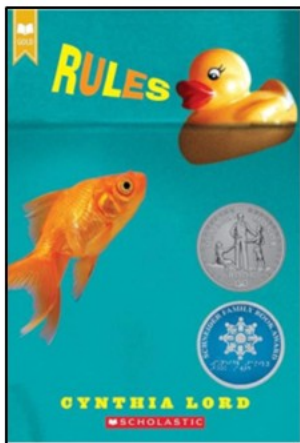
Hello, friends! Lately, I've been reading the same books as my 5th grade granddaughter. She has been reading Newbery winners and honor books for a challenge at school. These older titles have been favorites of hers so far!



### ***MISSING MAY BY CYNTHIA RYLANT***

It's not the same without May, the wonderful woman who was Summer's aunt and mother figure. She and her Uncle Ob seem to have forgotten everything but the sadness that they just can't shake off. They need May – in whatever form they can have her – a whisper? A message? They need a sign from May...a sign that can help them figure out how to go on without her.

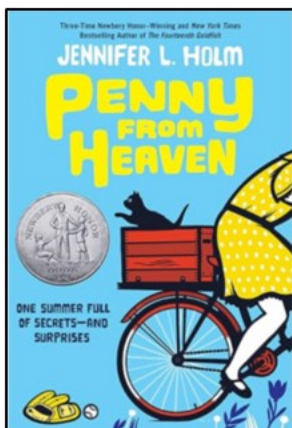
© 2004 | Published by Scholastic | Recommended for grades 4-7



### ***RULES BY CYNTHIA LORD***

It's not that she doesn't love her little brother. She definitely does. So much so that she spends her days making list of rules to help him get through life. Autism makes David's life especially challenging, so 12-year-old Catherine does her best to help him. Her parents do their best to try to help David, too. So much so that she wonders if they've forgotten all about her.

© 2008 | Published by Scholastic | Recommended for grades 4-7



### ***PENNY FROM HEAVEN BY JENNIFER L. HOLM***

It's 1953 and 11-year-old Penny has been thinking a lot about Heaven because her father recently passed away. If Penny had to describe Heaven, she'd speak of a summer filled with ice cream, swimming, and baseball. But her summer is actually filled with wondering... how did my father die? Why does Nonny cry whenever his name is mentioned? And why do so many members of my family refuse to speak to each other?

© 2007 | Published by Yearling | Recommended for grades 3-7

## That Library Girl Just Finished Reading...



*THE LOVE REPORT: BOOK 1 / BY BeKa (AUTHOR) AND MYA (ILLUSTRATOR)*

In this graphic novel, middle-schoolers (and BFFs) Lola and Grace, are totally confused about romance. What makes some couples so perfect and SO happy? Why do others (like their parents) crash and burn? They decide to seek some answers through careful observation and analysis. Over time, they write down the crazy – and sometimes heartbreaking -- things they learn... and the result becomes *The Love Report!*

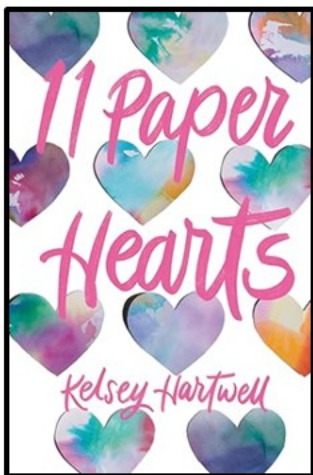
©2023 | Published by Hippo Park (Recommended for grades 5-9 )



*PLAYING CUPID: A WISH NOVEL / BY JENNY MEYERHOFF*

Although Clara Martinez guards her own heart very carefully, she has an uncanny ability to spot when two people would make a great match. Naturally, when her school assigns a huge project to create a business, Clara launches “CUPID CLARA,” her very own matchmaking business. Soon, even with several successful matches under her belt, she loses focus due to a failing grade, her parents’ unsettling custody agreement, and now...a confusing secret admirer! ([Adapted as a Hallmark Channel movie in 2021!](#))

©2017 | Published by Scholastic (Recommended for grades 3-7 )



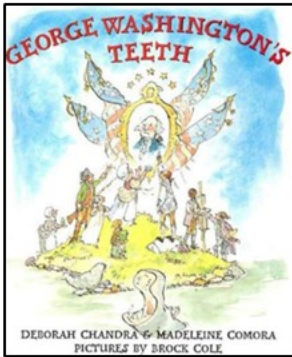
*11 PAPER HEARTS / BY KELSEY HARTWELL*

Ella’s life was perfect – a circle of close friends, a busy social life, and an amazing boyfriend. Then, she had the car accident on her way home from the Valentine’s dance. When Ella woke up in the hospital, she had lost the past 11 weeks to amnesia. She couldn’t remember the accident – or why she had broken up with her boyfriend. Now, one year later, Ella receives a series of paper hearts from a secret admirer. Will following these 11 clues guide her to the answers she’s been seeking?

©2021 | Published by Underlined (Recommended for grades 7-9 )

## Presidential Read-Alouds

Hi! This is Sonya from The Library Patch. Surprise your students with these presidential picture books! They tell hidden stories about three of our most favorite presidents.

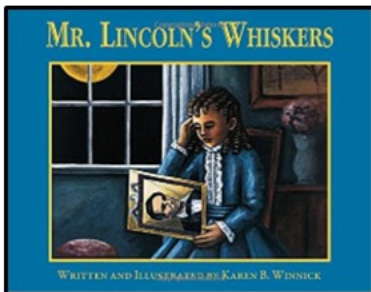


### ***GEORGE WASHINGTON'S TEETH*** ***BY DEBORAH CHANDRA AND MADELEINE COMORA***

From battling toothaches while fighting the British, to having rotten teeth removed, Washington suffered with tooth problems all his life. Yet, contrary to popular belief, he never had a set of wooden teeth. Read the facts below!

(c)2007 | Published by Square Fish } Recommended for ages 5-9.

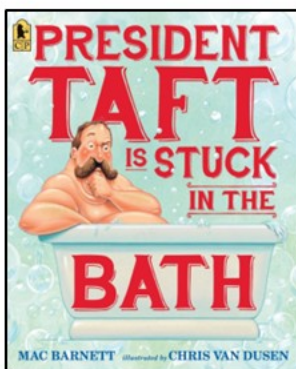
[https://www-tc.pbs.org/parents/bookfinder/bookclub/PKGO\\_bc01\\_gwsteeth.pdf](https://www-tc.pbs.org/parents/bookfinder/bookclub/PKGO_bc01_gwsteeth.pdf)



### ***MR. LINCOLN'S WHISKERS*** BY KAREN WINNICK

Abraham Lincoln was the first President of the United States to wear a beard. He got this hairy idea from a letter, written by an 11-year-old girl named Grace, who thought his face was too thin!

(c)1999 | Published by Astra Young Readers | Recommended for K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade



### ***PRESIDENT TAFT IS STUCK IN THE BATH*** BY MAC BARNETT

George Washington crossed the Delaware in the dead of night. Abraham Lincoln saved the Union. And... President William Howard Taft, a man of great stature . . . well, he got stuck in a bathtub. Now how did he get unstuck?

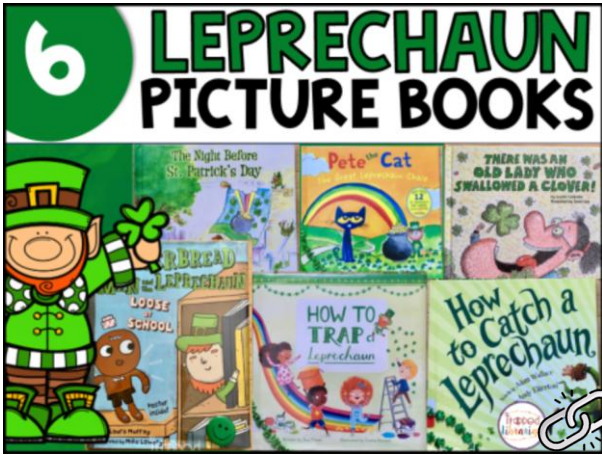
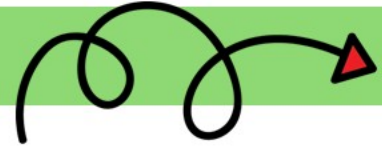
(c)2016 | Published by Candlewick | Recommended for PreK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade

February can still bring us some snowy days! Pair your favorite snow day story with a website where students can create virtual snowflakes. After you teach your students how to use this site, they will beg their classroom teachers to use it during free time!

<https://dangries.com/rectangleworld/PaperSnowflake/>



## LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH!



### 6 LEPRECHAUN PICTURE BOOKS

Hello, it's Laura! March brings springtime fun to your elementary library, and I like to make sure I have plenty of leprechaun picture books on hand! Whether you're planning a fun [leprechaun storytime](#) or you just want to have plenty of St. Patrick's Day books on hand for your students, I've got some titles that are not to be missed!

**BLOG POST:** <https://bit.ly/4fXGoXd>

### BASKETBALL SCOOT BUNDLE

Here's a fun way to celebrate the March Madness basketball vibe – and still cover some important library skills! My basketball-themed SCOOT games help students practice **ABC order** (in K-1st, and 2nd-3rd) or **text features** (4th-6th) ... all while reading basketball-themed book blurbs as a team and discussing which ones might tempt them to read! [See all the details at That Library Girl.](#)



### MONTHLY BOOKMARKS FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR

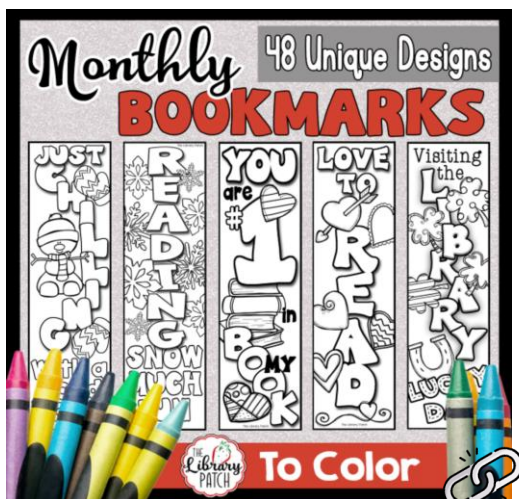
Each bookmark has a fun design that your kiddos will beg to color. The March bookmarks include these sayings ...

- Books Are My Treasure
- Irish I Was Reading
- Visiting the Library ~ Lucky Day
- and Reading is Magical.

Purchase once and print on cardstock. So many bookmarks!

So many uses!

[From The Library Patch](#)



## 8 Ways to Spread the Warmth of Kindness at Work



Say "Good Morning!"



Start a fresh pot.



Tidy up a mess you didn't make.



Clean up after yourself.

Thank You

Show gratitude.



Engage with someone who is lunching alone.



Make a new staff member feel welcome.



Share your snack.

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