

# Happy Father's Day!


Activities for Grades K–2

Compliments of Teacher Created Materials and Wintergreen Learning Materials

# Father's Day



## Background Information



While there are no records of festivals to honor fathers, the ancient Romans did have *Parentalia*, which lasted for more than a week in February. The festival honored departed parents and relatives to “appease the souls of your fathers,” according to Ovid, an ancient Roman poet. Families would gather in a sort of reunion. Graves were decorated with offerings such as wine and honey left for the departed on the last day of the festival.

Like Mother’s Day, Father’s Day originated in the early years of the 20th century in the United States. The first record of a day for fathers is July 5, 1908, when a Father’s Day church service was held in West Virginia. Sonora Dodd thought of having a Father’s Day while listening to a sermon on Mother’s Day in 1909. Her father, William Jackson Smart, had raised six children after the death of his wife. Mrs. Dodd fostered the idea in Spokane, Washington, and the first citywide observation was held on the third Sunday in June in 1910. Mrs. Dodd suggested wearing a white rose for a dead father and a red rose for a living father.

Interest in Father’s Day increased as word spread about the Spokane event. However, unlike Mother’s Day, it was many years before the day became formalized. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge recommended that it be “noted” in the states. He would not issue a formal proclamation, even though Mother’s Day had been formalized in 1913 by President Woodrow Wilson. Resolutions were introduced into Congress, but it wasn’t until 1972 when President Richard Nixon signed a Congressional resolution that the day caught up to Mother’s Day.

Fathers are given cards and gifts, with clothes, electronics, tools, and sporting goods being the most popular. Uncles, grandfathers, and men who fill the role of a father are often honored as well.

## Around the World

Father’s Day is celebrated in many countries around the world, many on the same day as in the United States. In Australia, South Africa, and the United Kingdom, organized groups often gather to celebrate, with children urged to honor their dads.

## Recommended Books

Browne, Anthony. 2001. *My Dad*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Bunting, Eve. 1993. *A Perfect Father’s Day*. New York: Sandpiper.

Gikow, Louise A. 2004. *A Day with Daddy*. New York: Children’s Press.



## Ways to Say Dad

**Directions:** Use the ways to say *dad* in the Word Bank to help you unscramble the words below.

### Word Bank

dad  
dada

daddy  
father

papa  
pop

1. add

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

2. rafthe

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

3. adddy

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

4. adda

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

5. ppo

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

6. apap

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Animal Dads

**Directions:** Use the Word Bank to solve the animal dad riddles below.

### Word Bank

frog

lion

penguin

1.



This dad likes to nap. But he also watches his cubs.

What is he?

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

2.



This dad swallows the eggs for six weeks. Then he spits them out when the babies are ready to be born!

What is he?

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

3.



This dad keeps the egg warm for months. He does not even eat!

What is he?

\_\_\_\_\_

-----

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A Poem for Father

**Directions:** Write an acrostic poem about your father using words that describe him.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| F |  |
| A |  |
| T |  |
| H |  |
| E |  |
| R |  |

Father's Day





Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Father's Day Search

**Directions:** Find and circle the words for father in the Word Bank hidden in the puzzle.

## Word Bank

dad  
daddy

father  
grandfather  
papa

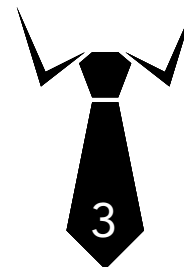
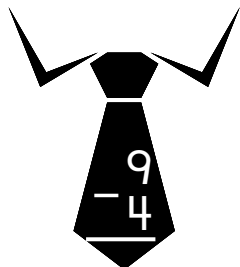
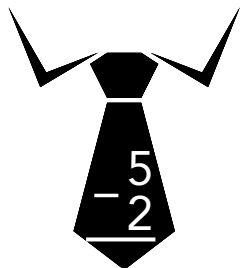
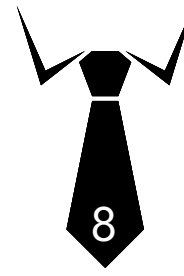
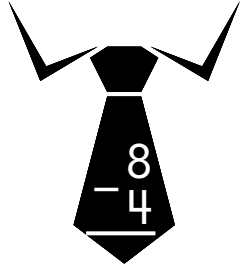
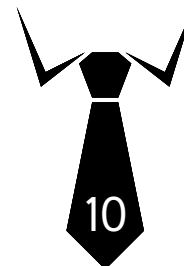
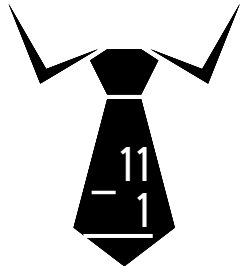
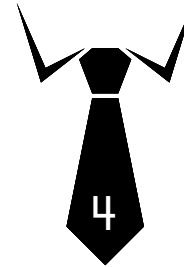
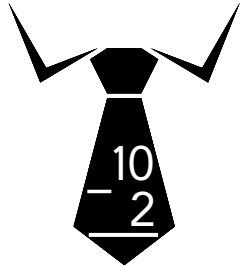
pop  
poppa

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| p | o | d | a | n | a | d | a | t | e | s |
| g | r | a | n | d | f | a | t | h | e | r |
| m | o | d | p | o | a | d | k | a | l | m |
| p | o | p | p | a | t | d | d | i | d | n |
| o | s | t | a | f | h | y | o | y | t | b |
| p | u | v | p | d | e | e | u | m | v | l |
| c | i | l | a | d | r | d | a | f | h | e |



## Connect the Ties

**Directions:** Match each subtraction problem on the left to its answer on the right.





Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## All Sorts of Dads

**Directions:** Give each student one line to read. Have everyone read the last line together.

**Reader 1:** Some dads give hugs.

**Reader 2:** Or pats on the back.

**Reader 3:** Some fix your dinner.

**Reader 4:** Some make your snack.

**Reader 5:** Some dads read you stories.

**Reader 6:** When you go to bed.

**Reader 7:** Some bring you water.

**Reader 8:** And kiss you on your head.

**Reader 9:** Some dads get cranky.

**Reader 10:** Dads don't get much rest.

**Reader 11:** But that doesn't matter.

**Reader 12:** My Dad's the best!

**Reader 13:** Here's to all dads.

**Reader 14:** We want to say,

**Reader 15:** Have a Happy and

**Everyone:** Restful Father's Day!.







# Pencil Holder for Dad

**Directions:** Make a special pencil holder for your dad.

## Materials

- paper cup
- wrapping paper or construction paper
- tape
- decorative stickers
- markers or crayons



## Steps

1. Lay the paper on a flat surface. Mark it so that it is the height of the cup. Roll the cup along the paper to see how much you will need to go around it.
2. Cut out the paper so that it will wrap around the cup.
3. Decorate the paper. If your dad loves a sport, you may want to use that sport for your theme. Tape the paper to the cup.
4. Put a few pencils in the cup.
5. Give as a gift for Father's Day.