



# February is Black History Month

Black History Month reflects on, celebrates and honors the African-American experience from the times of slavery through the present day. Everywhere you look, black culture, talent, and expression have played an enormous role in shaping America's past and present.

Time for Kids is a wonderful web site with information on: Black History Then and Now (interactive) and The Fight for Rights History Challenge, check it out at [www.timeforkids.com/TFK/bhm](http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/bhm)



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Wells-Barnett



Carver

## March is Women's History Month

Every March, the country celebrates the accomplishments of women in American History. Even though these accomplishments go back a long way, most schools didn't start focusing on women pioneers and their achievements until recently. Today, most colleges offer classes in women's history and most schools teach kids about the many contributions women have made to our country's history.

Time for Kids has more info.

Happy Birthday  
Dr. Seuss  
Monday March 3

*Grab your hat and  
read with the cat.*

*Share your love of  
reading on  
Read Across American  
Day  
March 3<sup>rd</sup>!*

Visit  
[www.nea.org/readacro  
ss.index.html](http://www.nea.org/readacro<br/>ss.index.html)  
*For more ideas*

## Staff Calendar

### Office Closures

February 8, Friday for Terra Nova testing

### Katrina Out of the Office

February 18, March 4, & 7

Mon & Thurs mornings at Nine Star

The first and third Thursday out of the office  
at 3:00pm for Girl Scouts

Wednesday's in Wasilla Office

### Beth Out of the Office

Feb 20-25

**Sue is available Tues, Thurs, & Fri by  
appointment**

## Reminders

- **March 17** Next work samples due
- **April 17** Last day to submit reimbursements & order curriculum
- **May 15** Graduates must be finished with classes & finals
- **Arrive by 3pm** when taking BYU finals in the office

## Promote reading for all children

**The successful parent employs a variety of strategies to encourage a child to read, and to keep reading.**

**Here are proven techniques you can use to teach your child that reading is valuable and enjoyable:**

- Set a good example as a reader - let kids see you reading every day.
- Get a subscription in his or her name to an age-appropriate magazine for your child. When relatives and others ask for gift ideas, suggest magazine subscriptions, books, or a bookstore gift certificate.
- Make reading fun - a time that you and your children look forward to spending together.
- Check out *The Read-Aloud Handbook* by Jim Trelease (New York: Penguin Books, 1995). It's loaded with fun tips and reading recommendations.
- Keep lots of books, magazines, and newspapers around the house. Visit the library often and shop for books at garage and yard sales, swap meets, and used bookstores.
- Don't fret if "Captain Underpants" has captivated your child rather than *Robinson Crusoe*. The important thing: she/he is reading! Encourage it and she/he is likely to move on to more sophisticated titles as she/he gets older.

### Upcoming Testing

#### **April**

Mandated Alaska Standards Based Assessments (SBA) & High School Graduation Qualifying Exam (HSGQE)

#### **April 1, 2, & 3**

Testing is for all students 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> grade and 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade students still needing to pass a portion of the HSGQE.

#### **April 11**

#### **4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade students**

will test an additional day,

taking the new science portion of the SBA's

Practice tests can be downloaded from the State of Alaska, Early Education and Development website:

<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/assessment/>  
choose the "item sampler/practice test"  
that corresponds to your students grade level