

THE ENRICHMENT PROJECT

Badge Program

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Monthly Observances: February

February is much more than Valentine's Day. Why not take a break from the traditional and try a new observance in February.

Monthly observances can give you everything from ideas for activities to service projects.

MONTHLY OBSERVANCES: FEBRUARY

Steps

1. February printable.

Download the Enrichment Project printable of February monthly observances in the United States. These are observances that occur all month long. For February, these include:

- Creative Romance Month
- National African American History Month
- National Blah Buster Month
- National Embroidery Month
- National Hot Breakfast Month
- Responsible Pet Owners Month
- Youth Leadership Month

Review the printable to find what monthly themes you can incorporate into your own activities.

2. Your own list.

Start your own list of February monthly observances, including ideas to help celebrate them. Expand on the list provided or create your own from scratch to meet the needs of your audience or group.

3. Theme.

Any monthly observance can be a theme for your meeting or event. February has a lot of themes available beyond "love" and "friendship." Look through the provided PDF or your self-created list and find one that interests you. How can you build a theme around your chosen observance?

START PLANNING

4. Meetings, parties and events.

You can plan a meeting, party or event based on a monthly celebration theme. You might want to do one or more activities based on your observance. You may choose to focus an entire event around it. Don't limit yourself to the stated themes. For example, National Blah Buster Month could feature a lot of cool new things to try.



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5. **Create and design.**

Use the February observances as a way to focus your creative energy. When you're stuck for an idea, these can give you a jumping off point to start brainstorming. Some things you might create include:

- Art
- Blog posts
- Club activities
- Crafts
- Ebooks
- Games
- Gifts
- Podcasts
- Printables
- STEM
- Videos

6. **Education.**

Teaching and leading activities about February observances gives your curriculum a new look. You can find many supplements and printables educational professionals share online. Find support for your chosen observance.

7. **Sharing.**

Sharing your ideas with others not only encourages participation but may bring greater variety into your activities. You can share:

- Cultural observations
- Hobbies
- Interests
- Recipes
- Religious observances

Explore ways to share with others in your community or group.

8. **Service.**

You can plan service around a monthly observance. For example, for Responsible Pet Owners Month you might look for ways to help people in your community become more aware about their responsibilities or find owners for shelter animals. Look through the observances and find one or more that allow you to bring service into your monthly activities.

9. **Communicate.**

Use monthly observations in your communications. You can share your thoughts and ideas to move people to action. From blog posts to emails to newsletters, keep your communication fresh by incorporating these observances in your writing.

10. **Brainstorm.**

Brainstorm ways to incorporate observances into your own community or group. This might be a one-time event or a series for a group, club or community.

CONTINUE THE SEARCH

11. **Explore offerings online.**

Pick a monthly observance (or more) and start your online research. What is available online that you can download and use? Be sure to keep track of where you get the information so you can refer back to this resource.



12. Search for even more!

How have other people celebrated the month theme you chose? Talk to them to find out what they did. Ask about what worked, what didn't and what they might change to make it better.

Can you incorporate their ideas into your own project? If not, what adjustments can you make?

Supplements

01_February_MonthCelebration.pdf

Printable sheet of monthly observances

NOTE: If you have additional observances you'd like added, please let me know.

Sites to Explore

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:February_observances

www.butlerwebs.com/holidays/default.htm

giftedkids.about.com/od/Monthly-Special-Days-Calendars/a/Month-Long-Observances-In-February.htm

www.nsc.org/news_resources/Resources/Pages/NSCSafetyCalendar.aspx

library.thinkquest.org/2886/feb.htm

www.pohly.com/dates_feb.html

123child.com/act/feb.html

www.brownielocks.com

www.theultimateholidaysite.com

www.thenibble.com/fun/more/facts/food-holidays.asp

www.gone-ta-pott.com

www.holidaysforeveryday.com

www.tfdutch.com/foodh.htm

www.welcoa.org/observances/February.php

Check out Larajla's Enrichment Project to start your own adventure.