

## February Brainwork

*"A good book is the best of friends, the same today and forever." Martin Farquhar Tupper (1810 – 1889)*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b><u>Fluency &amp; Flexibility</u></b> February is "Potato Lovers Month". Think of unusual ways in which to use the truck load of potatoes that has just been dumped in your front yard.</p>	<p>February is "African-American History Month". Which famous person in history would you most like to meet? Why? What would you discuss with him/her?</p>	<p>February is "Children's Dental Health Month". Design a new toothbrush which will appeal to very young children so they will want to brush their teeth.</p>	<p>February is "Random Acts of Kindness" month. Make a goal to do at least one random act of kindness each day this month. Keep a record of your kindnesses.</p>	<p><b><u>Gobble Day</u></b> Feb. 2 is usually recognized as "Groundhog Day". However, this year it's "Gobble Day" instead. First find out what a "gobble" is, then make a plan for celebrating the day.</p>
<p>Feb. 4, 1913 – birthday of civil rights leader Rosa Parks who said "Each person must live their life as a model for others." How will you live your life so as to be a model for others?</p>	<p>Feb. 5 – "National Weatherperson's Day" in honor of scientist &amp; physician John Jeffries, born in Boston in 1744, who was one of the first weather observers. Illustrate these weather idioms: "take the world by storm"; "full of hot air"; "throw caution to the wind"</p>	<p><b><u>Originality</u></b> Sometimes when you are hungry, your stomach growls. Draw a picture of the "monster" that lives in your tummy and makes that sound.</p>	<p><b><u>Analogies</u></b> How is the wind like: Friendship Power Laughter Sadness</p>	<p><b><u>Invent</u></b> Feb. 11, 1847 – birthday of inventor Thomas Edison who invented over 1,200 items including the light bulb and phonograph. Select 5 items from your desk and combine them to invent something new.</p>
<p><b><u>Analogies</u></b> How is learning something new like being caught in a blizzard?</p>	<p><b><u>Plus, Minus, Interesting</u></b> What would it be like to be the president's son or daughter and live in the White House? Complete a PMI chart.</p>	<p>The first public school in America, the Boston Latin School, est. on Feb. 13, 1635, is still in existence. Four years of Latin are required. Find the meaning of these Latin roots: "dict"; "ped"; "ject"; "sect" and list words which contain each root.</p>	<p>February 14 is "Read to Your Child Day". Which book would you most like to have read to you? Why?</p>	<p><b><u>Point of View</u></b> Feb. 16, 1923 – archaeologist Howard Carter first saw the sarcophagus of King Tutankhamen. Consider this event from two points of view – Carter's and King Tut's.</p>
<p><b><u>Encapsulation</u></b> In honor of Presidents' Day, choose 3 presidents whom you find interesting. Create a bumper sticker that each man might have used on his carriage or car.</p>	<p><b><u>Decisions &amp; Outcomes</u></b> Feb. 18, 1930 – discovery of Pluto which was considered the 9<sup>th</sup> planet until 2006. What has been the outcome of astronomers' decision to downgrade Pluto?</p>	<p><b><u>Presidential Trivia – Which President:</u></b> * worked at Baskin Robbins? * spoke 6 languages? * had 15 children? * read every book in his hometown library? * was an auto mechanic &amp; a teacher? * was fined \$20 for speeding with his horse and carriage?</p>	<p><b><u>Evaluate</u></b> Feb. 22, 1732 – birthday of our first president, George Washington. Make a list of 5 qualities that you think are the most important for a president to have. To what extent did Washington display those qualities?</p>	<p>Feb. 23, 1633 – birthday of Samuel Pepys, famous British diarist. What famous person's diary would you most like to sneak at peak at? Why?</p>
<p><b><u>Point of View</u></b> Which utensil thinks it's the most useful - a knife, a fork or a spoon? Why? Imagine a conversation it might have with the others.</p>	<p><b><u>Evaluate</u></b> Rank in order of "coldness": frigid frosty arctic glacial</p>	<p><b><u>Guess the candy riddles:</u></b> "Explosion of a sun" "Several small laughs" "Oily digits" "A trio of cavaliers" Make up some of your own.</p>	<p><b><u>Analogies</u></b> In what ways is knowledge like drifting snow?</p>	<p><b><u>Evaluate</u></b> "The answer for all our national problems – the answer for all the problems of the world – comes to a single word. That word is education." Lyndon B. Johnson Do you agree or disagree?</p>

*Exercise your verbal-linguistic muscles: fabiform – farouche – fissioned – fluminous – frangible*