

March Brainwork

“Teaching the answers without first raising the questions takes most of the meaning out of learning.” Francis Slater, London School of Education

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday																																				
<p><u>Fluency</u> March is “National Noodle Month”. Use your “noodle” and make a long list of ways you can improve your study habits.</p>	<p><u>Plus, Minus, Interesting</u> Would you rather be an explorer or an inventor? Why? Choose one and create a PMI chart.</p>	<p>The first week of March is “Return the Borrowed Books Week”. Do you agree with the quote from Shakespeare’s <i>Hamlet</i>, “Neither a borrower nor a lender be”?</p>	<p><u>Originality</u> According to the old joke, the chicken crossed the road to get to the other side. What do you think was the real reason the chicken crossed the road?</p>	<p>In the Roman calendar, March, named after Mars, the god of war, was the first month of the year. March into March by listing things you plan to accomplish this month.</p>																																				
<p><u>Visualize</u> The second week in March is “Autograph Collecting Week”. Visualize yourself 20 years from now. Why will people be collecting your autograph?</p>	<p><u>Inventive Thinking</u> March 5, 1868 – first stapler patented by C.H. Gould in England. How could a stapler be improved? Rearrange the parts? Combine it with something else?</p>	<p>March is “National Peanut Butter Month”. Peanut butter was developed in 1890 as a health food by a St. Louis physician. Would you rather be the peanut butter or the jelly on the sandwich? Why?</p>	<p>March 7, 1933 – “birthday” of the game <i>Monopoly</i>. Create an “opoly” game to go with a place you are studying in social studies.</p>	<p><u>Fluency & Flexibility</u> Make a long list of things that are in some way connected with “green”. Think of foods, places, people, book titles, phrases, etc.</p>																																				
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<p><u>Fluency & Flexibility</u> March 17, 1845 – first patent issued to Stephen Perry for rubber bands. Make a long list of unusual uses for a rubber band.</p>	<p>In March 1931 Congress declared “The Star-Spangled Banner” as our national anthem. Some people want to change it because it is difficult to sing. What do you think? What song should be the national anthem instead?</p>	<p><u>Analogies</u> Spring arrives on March 20! “Thinking is like the first flower of spring because...”</p>	<p><u>Vocabulary Builder</u> Which would you most prefer to be given a “chiliad” of: books, dollars, pizzas, cars. Make a choice then look up the meaning of the word.</p>	<p>March 24, 1874 – birthday of magician Harry Houdini. Write about a time that was “magical” to you. Include details so that someone else will feel the “magic”, too.</p>																																				
<p><u>Decisions & Outcomes</u> March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Think of a situation in which you could decide to be a lion or a lamb. What would be the outcomes of each decision?</p>	<p>March 26 is “Make Up Your Own Holiday Day”. What will you celebrate? Give at least 5 thoughtful reasons why your holiday should be added to the calendar.</p>	<p><u>Personification</u> Which letter of the alphabet do you think is the loudest? Why? How would you convince that letter to be quiet?</p>	<p><u>Persuasion</u> In March 1872 Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming was created. Should tax dollars be spent by the government to create and support national parks? Write a persuasive paragraph for or against.</p>	<p><u>Plus, Minus, Interesting</u> March 30, 1858 – first pencil with an attached eraser was patented by Hyman Lipman of Philadelphia. Create a PMI chart for “regular” pencils and mechanical pencils.</p>																																				

Unusual “M” words: margaric – manducate – macropodine – mellifluous