

FUNky Frogs Calendar

Bulletin Board

RESOURCE GUIDE



Putting It Together

- Laminate the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board for durability.
- Display the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board on a wall or a bulletin board.
- Refer to the diagram above for a picture of the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board.

Title Ideas

- Jumping Month by Month
- The Foggy Frog Report
- Hop through the Holidays
- Leap into a New Year
- "Ribbit" Right through the Year
- Let's Have a Frog-tastic Year!

Activities by Subject

Classroom Management

Question of the Day Each day, on a sheet of chart paper, write a new question for students to answer, such as, “Have you ever been to the zoo?” Discuss the results with students. Then, graph the results on graph paper or use self-stick notes or a write-on/wipe-away marker to quickly graph answers. Have students keep journals to write their answers to each question of the day.

Monthly Planners At the start of every month, provide students with blank calendar grids. Help students write the correct months and dates. Encourage students to decorate their calendars and place them in special take-home folders. Throughout the month, remind students to write upcoming events and assignments on the appropriate calendar days. Use a write-on/wipe-away marker on the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board to model what students should write on their calendars. Keep families up-to-date and informed by sending the folders home each night with the calendars, notes, homework assignments, etc.

Daily Stars Set a class goal to earn stars for good behavior. When the class behaves or finishes a task, use a write-on/wipe-away marker to draw stars on that day’s calendar cover-up. If you have to remind the class to stay on task, lower the noise level, etc., remove the star. If the class earns four stars by the end of the week, reward them with free time, certificates, stickers, snacks, etc. *Caution: Before beginning any food activity, ask families’ permission and inquire about students’ food allergies and religious or other food restrictions.*

Language Arts

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow The *Yesterday was . . . , Tomorrow will be . . . , and Today is . . .* labels are perfect for reinforcing days of the week. Each day, choose a student to attach the correct day-of-the-week cards to complete the sentences. As a class, read the sentences aloud and use the calendar to check to see if they are correct.

Book of the Day Record titles and authors of books that students have read over the course of the month on the calendar. Or, have students record their information on personal copies of a reproducible blank calendar grid.

Matching Abbreviations Help students learn the abbreviations for the months of the year and the days of the week. Write the names and abbreviations of the months on opposite sides of index cards. Do the same for the days of the week. Place both sets of cards in a pocket chart or at a center. Have students individually match the months and the days to the correct abbreviations. Students may check their answers by turning over the cards.

Math

Number Manipulatives Use the numbered calendar cover-ups in the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board to help reinforce basic counting skills. Ask students to put the numbers in order to practice skip counting or sort them by odd and even numbers.

Story Problems Have students practice math skills with calendar story problems. Write problems on sentence strips and place them around the calendar. For example, write *Stephanie borrowed a library book on the fourth. It is due on the 16th. How many days does she have to read the book?* Allow students to use the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board to solve the problems.

Birthday Graph Use the month headers as a base for a month graph. Take an instant or digital photograph of each student and work as a class to create a bar graph of student birthdays.

Money Math Provide coin manipulatives or real money for students. Each day, let students count out the different amounts of money equal to the amount of the date. For example, if it is the 13th, they could count out 13 pennies; 2 nickels and 3 pennies; or 1 dime and 3 pennies. Store the money manipulatives near the calendar or at a math center.

Activities by Subject

Calendar Math Use daily calendar time as an opportunity to reinforce several basic math skills, including odd and even numbers, place value, number sequence, and sequence of days of the week and months of the year. Incorporate the following questions into this daily review:

1. How many days have we been in school? (Use tally marks or bundles of straws to count.)
2. Is the number of today's date an odd or even number?
3. How many days of school do we have left?
4. What will the first day of next month be?
5. How many days are left in the month?

Monthly Sequence For a center activity, place the month headers at a math center and have each student properly sequence them. Or, have each student sort the months according to season or alphabetically. For an additional challenge, create index cards with various dates written as numerals. For example, *May 12* would be *5/12*. Then, instruct students to match these cards to the correct month at a math center.

Science

Weather Tracking Have a daily helper tell the class what the weather is like and show it on the weather wheel. Discuss changes in the weather with students or make a weather graph and have students track changes over time.

Today's Temperature Place a thermometer outside the classroom window or use the Internet to find the temperature so that students can record it each day. Make a class graph to track the temperature over time. Students will be able to correlate changes in temperature with the change in seasons.

Social Studies

Holiday History Use the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board to help students identify and learn about different holidays. Discuss with students how different cultures celebrate

the same holidays or examine holidays of different cultures. Allow students to use books, magazines, encyclopedias, and the Internet to find information about the different holidays each month. After students have gathered enough information, encourage them to display what they learned on sheets of poster board with illustrations and text. Display each student's work as her chosen holiday approaches. Allow students to create a new holiday cover-up for each holiday and post it on the calendar.

Art

Monthly Scrapbook Encourage students to create scrapbooks of their monthly memories. At the beginning of each month, give students copies of a blank calendar grid. Help students write the correct month and dates. As the month progresses, allow students time to illustrate things that have happened on certain days or write brief summaries. Then, mount the calendar grids onto large sheets of poster board that students can decorate. Or, at the end of the school year, collate the books into scrapbooks of memories that students can keep.

Birthday Cover-Ups Allow students to mark their birthdays in style with personalized calendar cover-ups. Give students 3" x 3" squares of poster board. Have students write their names and birth dates. Provide art supplies so that students can decorate their cover-ups. On students' birthdays, display their personalized cover-ups on the FUNky Frogs Calendar Bulletin Board.

Suggested Reading

A Child's Calendar by John Updike (Holiday House, 2002)

The Story of Clocks and Calendars by Betsy and Giulio Maestro (HarperCollins, 2004)

Calendar by Myra Cohn Livingston (Holiday House, 2007)

Frog and Toad All Year by Arnold Lobel (HarperCollins, 1984)

Birthday Badge Patterns

