

Journal Writing Ideas



August

- Vacation has come to an end. What are you going to pack in your keepsake box labeled “Summer 2000?”
- August 22 is Be An Angel Day. Describe one angelic thing you could do for someone today.
- August is Foot Health Month. What does the idiom “HE really put his foot in hi mouth” mean? Write about a time you put your foot in your mouth.
- National Mustard Day is August 5. Are you more like plain mustard or the bold and spicy variety? Explain.

September

- September is National Courtesy Month. If someone is rude to you, how do you handle it?
- World Gratitude Day is Sept. 21. For whom or what are you most grateful?
- Sept. 6 is National Do It! Day. What have you been putting off that you are going to finish (or at least start) today?
- California became the 31st state on Sept. 9, 1850. Would the threat of a possible earthquake affect your feelings about living in California? Explain

October

- October is the month of Fire Prevention Week. What’s something that really makes you “hot under the collar” (angry)?
- The Mount Rushmore National Memorial was completed on October 31, 1941. Suppose one more face were added to this monument. Who do you think deserves such an honor? Why?
- October is National Youth Against Tobacco Month. Write a letter to a friend (young person or adult) encouraging him or her to stop smoking.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize on October 14, 1964. If you could work for peace between two people, two groups of people, or two nations, who would they be? Explain.

November

- In November, National Farm-City Week is celebrated. Would you rather live on a farm or in a large city? Give several reasons for your choice.
- American Education Week is this month. Describe an important life lesson that you learned from a past teacher. Why do you remember this lesson so well?
- November is in the season we call autumn or fall. If you could choose one of the four seasons to last all year long, which would you choose? Why?
- On Nov 8, 1895, Wilhelm G. Roentgen discovered X rays. He called them X rays because he didn't understand what they were at first! Now, over 100 years later, what great scientific discovery would you wish for? Why?

December

- During the first week of each December, New York City begins the holiday season by lighting the giant Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center. What event marks the beginning of the holiday season for you?
- Eat What You Want Day is observed on December 16. What would be on your menu for breakfast, lunch, and dinner that day?
- The third week of December is Tell Someone They're Doing a Good Job Week. Who are you going to encourage each day this week? Why?
- The annual meeting of Keep America Beautiful is held in December. In your opinion, what would be a fair punishment for someone who was caught littering, polluting, or vandalizing a city park?

January

- On January 1, 1924, Frank Buckley Cooney of Minnesota invented the first "ink paste," or crayon. Which color best describes you? Explain.
- Many people vacation in January after the holidays. What souvenir would you design for tourists to take home as a reminder of their visit to your town? Why?

- It's Backwards Day on January 26. Looking backwards, describe how you have changed since school started last fall.
- Mark Goodson – creator of popular television game shows like “The Price is Right” and “Family Feud” – was born on January 24, 1915. Why do you think game shows are so popular?

February

- February is American Heart Month. What do you wish for most, from the bottom of your heart?
- February is the birth month of “Honest Abe” Lincoln and George “I-cannot-tell-a-lie” Washington. If your best friend asked you an embarrassing question, would you tell the truth even if it was unpleasant or difficult to do so? Why or why not?
- On February 3, 1690, the first American paper money was printed in Massachusetts. If you had to name ten things that money can't buy, what would you list? Write your list in the order of importance to you, with number one being the most important item.
- On February 23, 1633, Samuel Pepys – author of a world-famous diary- was born in Cambridge, England. How would you feel if someone read your diary? What famous person's diary would you REALLY like to sneak a peek at?

March

- National Pig Day is March 1. If you could go to any restaurant and “pig out” for free, what restaurant would you visit? What exactly makes this restaurant so “pig-errific?”
- TV Turnoff Week is observed annually the second week in March. What things can you and your family do at night instead of watch TV?
- Movie Director Ron Howard (who directed Apollo 13) was born March 1, 1954. He started

his career in show business as a child playing Opie on “The Andy Griffith Show.” Would you like to be on a national television show? Give reasons for your answer.

- March is Youth Art Month. Would you rather be recognized for outstanding artistic, writing, or athletic ability? Explain your answer.

April

- April 16 is observed annually as National Stress Awareness Day. What things are stressful for you? Describe several different ways you could handle these pressure-causing incidents.
- Gideon Sundback patented the zipper on April 29, 1913. Can you keep your lips zipped when someone confides in you, or do you always manage to spill the beans? Explain.
- April 2 is International Children’s Book Day, chosen because it is Hans Christian Andersen’s birthday. If you could trade places with a famous book character, who would you select and why?
- A former slave named Robert became a very famous American hermit. He died on April 1, 1832 at his hermitage in Seekonk, Massachusetts. What do you think would be the advantages and disadvantages of a solitary life? Do you ever feel like becoming a hermit? Explain.

May

- Gabriel Fahrenheit, the inventor of the mercury thermometer, was born on May 14, 1686. Are you usually a cool cucumber or a hothead? Explain.
- National Postcard Week is in May. Describe the location in your town that would make the best picture-postcard photograph.

- May 16 is Biographers Day. If you were asked to write someone biography, who would you like to research and write about? Why?
- Older Americans Month is celebrated in May. What is the most important thing an older person has taught you? Explain how it has benefited you.

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