Activities to Go
February Edition 2022

Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative
Discover • Engage • Transform
Valentine's Day

Word Scramble

E VOL __________________________
PIC UD _________________________
K SE I SS _______________________
B ON BIR _______________________
E T A HR _______________________
E RD __________________________
N AMOC ER ______________________
K N IP __________________________
W LOFER _________________________
R E SO __________________________
I NE L V AN T ______________________
M O EP __________________________
D Y N AC _________________________
M IL A XOB _______________________
R A DC __________________________
R Y R U B E FA ________________________

Answers: love, cupid, kisses, ribbon, heart, red, romance, pink, forever, flower, rose, valentine, poem, candy, mailbox, card, february.
Black History Month
Word Search

Search for the Famous Last Name
Angelou  Ashe  Bethune
Douglass Hughes Hurston
Jemison  Luther  Obama
Parks  Winfrey

Answer Key
What is in the Mail?
Color and Connect
Maze

Happy New Year
Year of the Tiger

Start  →  Goal
Rocket Like Mae Jemison

Rocket like Mae Jemison by crafting a paper rocket! Learn about Mae Jemison with a book or worksheet, and then have your child create a paper rocket with their picture inside. Help them imagine reaching for the stars, just like Mae, in their very own rocket. Perfect for young learners in preschool through second grade, this activity highlights both math and non-fiction comprehension skills.

Mae Jemison was the first African American woman to enter space. She is a doctor, researcher, and dancer. After becoming a doctor, she joined the Peace Corps and served in Africa. Later, she joined NASA and became a crew member of the space shuttle *Endeavour*. After her travels in space, she left NASA to start companies and continue researching how to get to a new star.

**What You Need:**
- Picture of your child with their face cut out
- Assortment of construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Scrap paper for notes about what your child says
- Tape (optional)
- Pictures of Mae Jemison in space
- Video of an astronaut floating in space
- Book about Mae Jemison, like *Ready-to-Read - You Should Meet: You Should Meet Mae Jemison* or *Astronaut Mae Jemison* (optional)
- *Who Is Mae Jemison?* worksheet (optional)

**What You Do:**
1. Ask your child to share things they know about space. Feel free to jot down some notes based on what they say.
2. Read a book to your child about Mae Jemison, or use the worksheet *Who Is Mae Jemison?* for ideas. Discuss the questions in the worksheet with your child.
3. Ask your child what they think it would be like to travel to space. Show them pictures of Mae in space and pictures of space itself. They can also see a video of an astronaut floating in space.
4. Ask your child to point out things they notice about space so far. Feel free to jot down some notes based on what they say.
5. Explain to your child that Mae Jemison is trying to figure out how to go to a new solar system. Tell them that solar systems are filled with planets that orbit, or travel around, a star.
6. Tell your child to imagine Mae Jemison was successful finding out how to get to another star and they are an astronaut on the rocket traveling to that star. Have your child create a paper rocket ship. They can cut:
   - a long rectangle for the body of the ship
   - a triangle for the top of the ship
   - little circles or squares for the windows
   - two rhombuses for the fins at the bottom of the rocket
   - wavy flames for the exhaust
7. Have your child glue all the pieces of the rocket as seen in the picture.
8. Ask your child to cut out their face from the picture to add to one of the windows of the rocket. If they want to bring family along with them, have them add more people to each window.
9. Finish the activity by asking what your child wonders about space. Write some notes about their thoughts to guide future activities and read-aloud books.

An extension for this activity is to create a rocket that can soar in the air and then discuss the distance the rocket travels. The ideas for scientific extension are endless!

Author: Jennifer Sobalvarro
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If I Were President...

What would you do if you became president of the United States? Write your ideas below.

First, I

Next, I

Finally, I

Draw a picture of yourself as the president.
Valentine's Day Flowers

Whether you're a kid or a grownup, flowers are simply irresistible. But in the doldrums of winter, real ones can be hard to come by. Here's a classic first grade activity that'll let you have beautiful flowers this Valentine's Day. All you need are a few sheets of tissue paper and some pipe cleaners to get started. This activity will help boost your little one's fine motor skills, too!

What You Need:

- 1 large sheet each of white, red, and pink tissue paper
- 3 green pipe cleaners
- Scissors

What You Do:

1. Cut the tissue paper into squares measuring roughly 5"x 5". You may do this for your child, or even better, have your child do this independently. When it comes to managing scissors well, practice makes perfect for kids!
2. Take 4 squares, at least one of each color and two of whatever color your child most wants to dominate—and lay them on top of one another in one flat, square stack.
3. Starting with closest edge, have your child fold the stacked square into horizontal folds, every ¾ inch, like an accordion. It will end up as a flat, long rectangle with about 4 folds in it.
4. Now it's time to add the stems! Take out one pipe cleaner, and fold the top 1". Now hook it over the center of the long, flat rectangle of tissue, and wrap it tight. The tissue on each side will start to fan up—pull it up even more to make a rounded flower shape, very much like a carnation.
5. Repeat this process twice more, and then wrap the three pipe cleaners into a twisted "stem."

While giving small hands great developmental practice, you've made a sweet bouquet for all seasons—a delightful gift for a teacher, grandma, or any other special person in your child's life.
Valentine Crossword Puzzle

ANSWER:
Color Me