

Sharp Ideas for Reading in the Schools Day

In addition to inviting volunteer readers to your school, here are a few “sharp” ideas to make a special day of reading fun for your students.

- With the upcoming movie releases, Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs and Where the Wild Things Are, build your Reading in the Schools Day events around one of these wonderful books.
- Have students dress up as their favorite book character.
- Choose a theme for your school and have teacher’s plan accordingly.
- A new Winnie the Pooh book will be released in October. In anticipation of the release, plan your day around Winnie the Pooh.
- Game/Trivia: Pick your favorite book/story and create fun trivia questions, play charades or jeopardy type games to test everyone’s literacy knowledge. (Make sure everyone has read or heard the story first!)
- Shared readings: host an “open mic” time and allow students to read aloud their own creations or a favorite selection of poetry or other readings.
- Drama /play reading: get a group together and do an impromptu dramatization of a favorite play—or write your own.
- Host a Pajama party—let the students dress in their pajamas and enjoy the day (or a portion of the day) reading.
- Have a book discussion in classrooms.
- Ask merchants to provide coupons to give as incentives for reading.
- Play Book Bingo using book titles instead of letters and numbers.
- Let students design new book jackets for their favorite books.
- Let various school staff members read a favorite book over the intercom during morning announcements.
- Use puppets for story retelling.
- Alphabet Day/Week: each person picks a book to read that begins with the first letter of their name. (This would be great to do leading up to Reading in the Schools Day.)