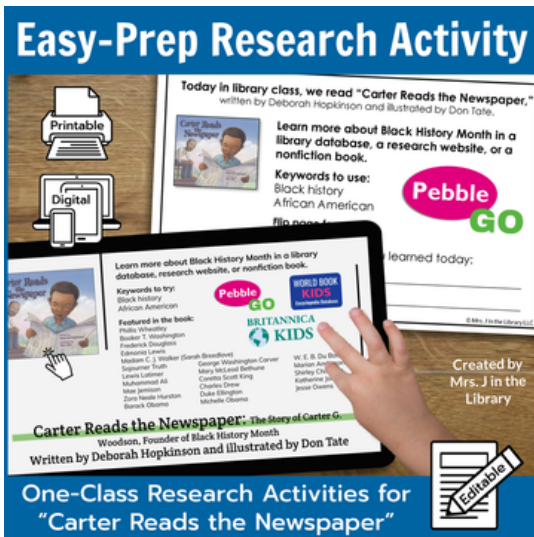


# ELEMENTARY LIBRARY IDEAS FOR FEBRUARY

## Idea #1: Celebrate Black History with Easy Research

by Collette Jakubowicz (Mrs. J in the Library)



"Carter Reads the Newspaper" is a picture book biography about the little-known founder of Black History Month, Carter G. Woodson.

This activity and lesson plan to go along with a read-aloud of that book invites students to explore many prominent Black Americans through databases and research website.

There are print and digital versions of the activity, with pre-researched keywords for PebbleGo, PebbleGo Next, World Book Kids & Student, Britannica Kids, BrainPOP and BrainPOP Jr.

[See it on Librarians Teach](#) OR [on TPT](#).

## Idea #2: Promote Some Quirky Topics

by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)

On Sunday mornings, I post new "5 Books" articles!

These are quirky booklists, often based on current events, something that happened in my own life, or a book I read recently.

Each week, there are 5 books to go with the topic, plus a free poster for library displays. For the February newsletter, I am sharing my favorite post from January - 5 Books About Microorganisms!

[Read this "5 Books" post on MrsReaderPants](#)



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[Library Learners](#)

# Idea #3: Share Some Heart-Themed Book Reviews

by Laura Trapp (The Trapped Librarian)

Let your students give a HEART rating to a book this month!

These free book review pages let your students share their opinion of a book they've read. Hang them on a bulletin board to share a love of reading in February!



[Download this FREEBIE from The Trapped Librarian](#)

PreK-  
Grade 5

## JANUARY NEW RELEASES

selected by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)

Released  
in January  
2024

### PICTURE BOOKS

- *A Ramadan to Remember* by Marzieh A. Ali
- *Ra Pu Zel and the Stinky Tofu* by Ying Chang Compestine
- *When I Wrap My Hair* by Shauntay Grant
- *Angela's Glacier* by Jordan Scott
- *My Block Looks Like* by Janelle Harper
- *Fighting With Love: The Legacy of John Lewis* by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- *Do You Know Them?* by Shana Keller
- *The Three Little Tardigrades* by Sandra Fay
- *Eyes That Weave the World's Wonders* by Joanna Ho and Liz Kleinrock
- *Elijah's Easter Suit* by Brentom Jackson
- *The Last Stand* by Antwan Eady

### CHAPTER BOOKS / NOVELS

- *The Misfits* by Lisa Yee and Dan Santat
- *Light and Air* by Mindy Nichols Wendell
- *Oona Bramblegoop's Sideways Magic: Newbie Fairy* by Kate Korsh
- *Slugfest* by Gordon Korman
- *Shark Teeth* by Sherri Winston
- *Amil and the After* by Veera Hiranandani
- *The Wandering Hour* by Zack Loran Clark
- *Alterations* by Ray Xu
- *Spirited* by Liv Livingston

### EASY ORIGAMI HEART BOOKMARKS

Got just over a minute? This YouTube clip shares a quick demo on how to make an origami heart bookmark! (Running Time 1:13)



## Idea #4: Love to Read Library Center & Bulletin Board

by Cari White (Library Learners)



Do you love to work smarter, not harder in your school library? If so, you'll love this library center that becomes a bulletin board for BOTH Valentine's Day AND the 100th day of school!

Read all the details in [this Library Learners blog post](#)--it's super simple, but the results look great AND provide peer book reviews for students browsing in the library!

## Idea #5: "Library Opposites Attract Readers!"

by Julie Olson (That Library Girl)

Front-Back    Messy-Neat    Checked In or Out  
Wet-Dry    Damaged-Repaired    Fiction-Nonfiction

Our libraries are filled with antonyms! Pair this sweet friendship story with a library opposites hunt that culminates into a fun photography activity AND bulletin board! See the preview on TPT.

[See this resource from That Library Girl](#)



## VIDEO LINK: Chinese Lion Dancing



Lion Dancers for Chinese New Year: Part dance troupe, part Kung-Fu fighters, New York's Chinese Freemasons relay the secrets of an ancient ritual to a new generation. The Chinese New Year begins on February 10th this year.



# Idea #6: Encourage Independent Reading

by Collette Jakubowicz (Mrs. J in the Library)



This FREE library center for kindergarten through 5th grades is perfect for starting centers in your elementary school library or classroom.

Students read their library books, personal books, magazines, or ebooks in a cozy space.

You can also invite students to whisper-read aloud to a stuffed animal “book buddy” to further enhance their reading fluency practice and comprehension.

[Get this freebie from Mrs. J in the Library](#)



## READ-ALOUDS - VALENTINE'S DAY

- *Love, Splat* by Rob Scotton
- *Click Clack Moo, I Love You!* by Doreen Cronin
- *This is Not a Valentine* by Carter Higgins
- *A Crankenstein Valentine* by Samantha Berger
- *Hair Love* by Matthew A. Cherry & Caldecott Award winner Vashti Harrison
- *I Am Love* by Susan Verde & Peter Reynolds
- *Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug* by Jonathan Stutzman & Jay Fleck
- *Love Grows Everywhere* by Barry Timms & Tisha Lee
- *When PB Met J* by Katelyn Aronson
- *GroundHUG Day* by Anne Marie Pace
- *Cocoa Magic* by Sandra Bradley
- *The Yuckiest, Stinkiest, Best Valentine Ever* By Brenda Ferber
- *Valentine's Day Jitters* by Julie Danneberg
- *The Mystery of the Love List* by Sarah Glenn Marsh
- *Milk and Juice: A Recycling Romance* by Meredith Crandall Brown
- *Viking in Love* by Doug Cenko
- *Porcupine Cupid* by Jason June
- *Caveboy Crush* by Beth Ferry
- *If You Were My Valentine* by Lynn Plourde



## Idea #7: Unwrap a Mystery Book

by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)

Unwrap a Mystery Book is the elementary version of my popular Blind Date with a Book activity for Valentine's Day.

It includes everything you need to let your students do the bulk of the work (wrapping the books) and save you time and energy.

Students and teachers love this activity!

See this resource in the [MrsReaderPants TPT store](#) OR on [MrsReaderPants](#)



## Idea #8: Celebrate I Love to Read Month

by Laura Trapp (The Trapped Librarian)



February is the perfect time for a schoolwide celebration of reading.

Get 5 fun ideas for celebrating I Love to Read Month in your school!

[Read this article from The Trapped Librarian](#)

### **KIDLIT TV - Read-Alouds, StoryMakers, Drawing with Illustrators, and more!**

KidLit TV is a diverse group of parents, educators, librarians, kid lit creators, and award-winning filmmakers working together to create fun new ways to reinforce an appreciation of reading.



## Idea #9: Classroom Management for Librarians

by Cari White (Library Learners)

One of the biggest challenges we face as school librarians is classroom management. We teach hundreds of students, across all grade levels, and the behavior challenges keep popping up all day long.

If you're struggling in this area, know that you're not alone. I wrote [a printable ebook](#) all about how you can turn those behaviors around so that you can actually teach in your school library!



## Idea #10: Library Decor for SWEET Hearts

by Julie Olson (That Library Girl)



OVERDUE FOR A HUG?  
or RED HOT 4 READING?

February is the perfect time to add a sprinkle of book-themed conversation hearts to your decor! You can choose a set with bright or muted pastels -- and the "Sweethearts" candy box graphic is included either way.

[See more details on That Library Girl](#)



Curated, engaging library curriculum  
for teacher-librarians

Click to learn more!





## Idea #11: Welcome Move-In Students to Your Library

by Collette Jakubowicz (Mrs. J in the Library)

For many students, moving to a new school in the middle of a school year is challenging. They may feel overwhelmed as they learn new procedures and meet new friends.

This article gives some ideas for creating a Library Welcome Center for students to get to know your library.

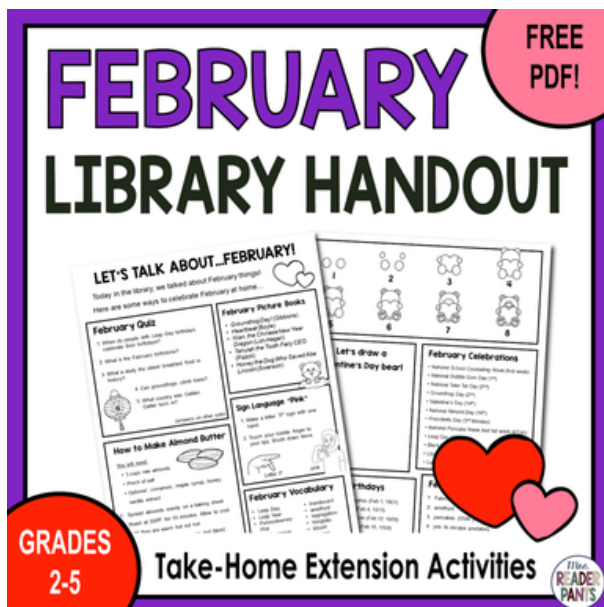
The Welcome Center can be a designated area in your library, a virtual space in our online learning platform, or a library center choice.



[Read more at Mrs. J in the Library.](#)

## Idea #12: Give Students Some Take-Home Activities

by Leigh Collazo (MrsReaderPants)



This February Library Handout Freebie can be used alone or with February library lessons and activities.

It includes a February quiz, how to draw a Valentine's Day bear, recommended February picture books, how to make almond butter, and February celebration dates.

[Download this February Freebie from the MrsReaderPants TPT store](#)



[FREE Black History Month Bookmarks](#)

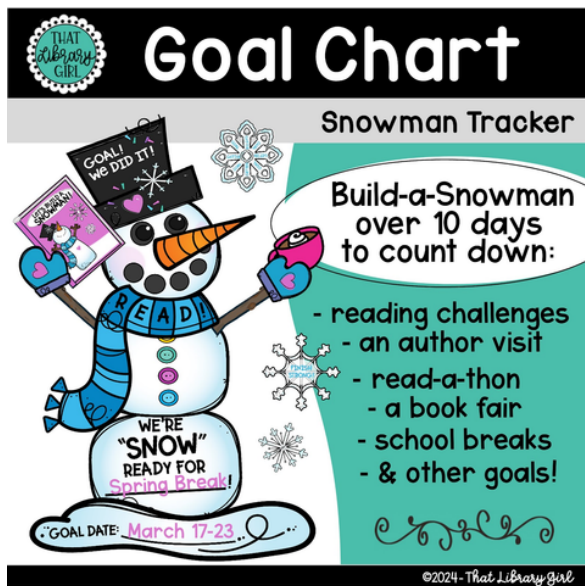
Download this FREE set of Black History Month bookmarks from Student Savvy on TPT!





# Idea #15: Track Your Library Goals and Events

by Julie Olson (That Library Girl)



Hey, "Goal Getters!" Are you anticipating...  
-- a fun library event?  
-- a reading challenge?  
-- or even an upcoming school break?

Count down the days as you build a snowman with my 10-day, goal chart tracker! This is a FEBRUARY ONLY freebie for our newsletter readers!

[Get this February freebie from That Library Girl](#)

## HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THIS NEWSLETTER

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You do not have to subscribe to all six lists to get the newsletter (unless you want to - we do send out other content individually!) since we all send it out every month.

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