



Monthly information:



Birthstone – Sapphire – Meaning: Intuition



Flowers



Aster - Symbolizes the element of patience. Morning Glory – Means “Morning Face” in Japan



Quote of the month:

“People do not care how much you know until they know how much you care.”

~John Maxwell

National Holiday(s):

- Labor Day – First Monday in September
- National Grandparents Day – First Sunday after Labor Day in US and Canada
- Native American Day – fourth Friday (theme ideas on Sept 2009 file)
- Teddy Bear Day – 9th
- Swap Ideas Day – 10th (theme ideas on Sept 2009 file)
- Patriot Day – 11th
- Positive Thinking Day – 13th
- Citizenship Day – 17th
- National Stepfamily Day – 17th
- Talk Like a Pirate Day – 19th
- American Business Women’s Day – 22nd
- Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival – 28th (theme ideas Sept 2009 file)
- Classical Music Month (theme ideas on Sept 2009 file)
- National Sewing Month (theme ideas on Sept 2009 file)
- Hispanic Heritage Month (theme ideas on Sept 2009 file)

Activity Theme Overview:

- 1) “Give my regards to Broadway” (In honor of Broadway Musicals Day – 29th)
- 2) Extra! Extra! Read all about it! (In honor of American Newspaper Week)

Activity Theme Details:



“Give my regards to Broadway”

Learn & Listen – Read through the history of Broadway theatre on Wikipedia.org. Share some of the highlights during the history of Broadway with the residents. Ask if the following questions:

- Have you ever been to see a Broadway show in New York?
- What year did they attend?
- What was the name of the show?
- Do you remember who played the starring role? If they have never been to NY, have they ever seen a Broadway show preformed by a local theatre group or a movie based on a Broadway show?

Get the residents geared up for a fun day based on Broadway.

Game – Broadway Musical Hits – This is a true or false game. You can either divide the residents in teams or keep score by placing each residents name on a white board when they give the correct answer. However you want to keep score or just do this as a group for a fun way to learn about the hit musicals on Broadway. Below are some questions with answers to start the game with.

1. The Broadway musical “110 in the Shade” was based on the 1954 play “The Rainmaker”. (True)
2. The musical “13” was based on the life of 13 year old Evan Goldman as he moves from NY City to Appleton, Indiana. His dilemma is when the move conflicts with the celebration of his Bar Mitzvah. This musical premiered in 2007 in Los Angeles and transferred to Broadway in 2008. (True)
3. The musical “All Aboard” was a 1974 Broadway musical. (False, the year was 1913, not 1974 when it was on Broadway)
4. The year the Broadway musical “All-American” by Charles Strouse and Lee Adams was 1962. (True)
5. “Birds of Paradise” was a 1987 Off Broadway musical. (True)

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6. The 1942 Broadway musical “By Jupiter” music was written by Lorenz Hart and the lyrics by Richard Rodgers. (False, the music was written by Richard Rodgers and the lyrics by Lorenz Hart)
7. In 1960 “Camelot” the Broadway musical was filmed by Warner Brothers in 1976. (False, this musical was filmed in 1967)
8. “Christine” was a Broadway musical in 1960. (True)
9. “Cats” opened first on Broadway in 1981 and then in the West End in 1982. (False, is opened in the West End in 1981 and then on Broadway in 1982)
10. In 1955 the book “Damn Yankees” was on Broadway as a musical. (True)
11. Dr. Seuss “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” was not a Broadway musical. (False, it was on Broadway in 2006)
12. In the 1982 Broadway musical “Dreamgirls” a notable song is “And I am Telling You I’m Not Going”. (True)
13. In 1954 Harold Rome wrote the music and lyrics for the Broadway musical “Fanny”. (True)
14. Zero Mostel was cast in 1964 as Tevye in the Broadway musical “Cat on the Roof”. (False, it as “Fiddler on the Roof”)
15. The notable song “Comedy Tonight came from the 1962 Broadway musical “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum”. (True)
16. In 1939 Marvin Hamlisch wrote music for the Broadway musical “The Goodbye Girl”. (False, he wrote the music in 1993)
17. “Hair” was Off-Broadway in 1967 and Broadway in 1968 and the most notable song was “Aquarius”. (True)
18. The 1971 Broadway musical “Jesus Christ Superstar” had no notable songs. (False, it had three notable songs: Superstar, Heaven on their Minds and Everything’s Alright)
19. “Little Women” was on Broadway as a musical with music by Jason Howland in 2005. (True)
20. George Abbott’s book “New Girl In Town” was a musical on Broadway in 1957. (True)

If you need more or want different questions check out the List of musicals A to L and M to Z on Wikipedia.org.

Food – Since Broadway is in New York, then cook up some NY food. Here is a list of easy foods that the residents can help make that Wikipedia.org notes as Cuisine_Of_New_York_City which identifies its origins with NYC:

- Hot dogs served with sauerkraut, sweet relish, onion sauce, ketchup and/or mustard.
- Baked pretzels
- Italian Ice
- Waldorf Salad
- Doughnuts
- New York-style cheesecake (make the mini version so each resident can make their own to eat)

Exercise – Select your exercise music based on the Broadway musical or Songs about New York.

Creative writing/Craft – Ask the residents to think about their life and make up a title for a Broadway musical which describes their life. Have them draw, paint, or cut out pictures from magazine to paste on poster board along with the title. While they create their posters let them talk about their title and why they choose it to describe their life.

Game – With the Broadway musical titles used in the first game create a word search for the residents to do on their own, or use it as a conversation starter when you do your one on one activity.

Staff/resident activity – To get your staff involved with the residents or just to have a staff activity to entertain the residents ask them to perform songs or a short skit from a Broadway musical. Their performance can be held during a family night at the facility or during a social hour while serving light refreshments.

Movie – There are so many movies that came from Broadway musicals that there are just too many to list, but here are a few of my favorites:

- Fiddler on the Roof
- Cats
- Oklahoma!
- The King and I
- My Fair Lady
- Funny Girl
- Grease



Extra! Extra! Read all about it!



Learn & Listen – Read the history on Newspapers on Wikipedia.org and share the highlights with the residents. To get some good conversation going this morning ask them the following questions:

- What was the name of your local newspaper?
- Did you ever deliver newspapers to earn money?
- What was the most exciting newspaper article you ever read?
- Did you ever keep any historical newspaper because you wanted to share it one day with your children or grand-children? Were you able to show the paper to them as you had planned?
- Do you think newspapers are more informative today than in the past? Why or why not?

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Game – Let’s see how many major newspaper names the residents know. Ask them to call out major Newspaper names and when they match one on your list then write it on the white board. You can give points if you want or just do it for learning fun. Here is a list to get you started:

- New York Times
- The Wall Street Journal
- The Washington Post
- Huston Chronicle
- USA Today
- Los Angeles Time
- Chicago Tribune
- The Arizona Republic
- Charlotte Observer
- Star Tribune
- The Denver Post

There is a list of 100 Newspapers on Wikipedia.org under List_of_newspapers_in_the_United_States-by_circulations. The list can help you make this game an informative experience too by giving the residents the circulation after they have listed the newspaper names on your list. Afterwards read some of the paper circulation numbers to further the learning experience. You can also find a list of newspaper by each state including Canada on usnpl.com which is linked to the newspaper sites.

Morning social – Serve coffee and/or tea to read with today’s news paper. You can also bring in some mini muffins or donuts to snack on if it is mid-morning. Stop by a local news stand, or book store (airport stores usually carry newspapers from all over) to purchase copies of Newspapers from different areas. Ask staff for help to select some “Happy” news from each paper and take turns reading to them out loud. The residents will enjoy the good news along with the staff.

Exercise/game – The exercise today is also a game since the theme is about newspapers we have to include the newspaper carrier. A good newspaper carrier has to fold the papers, load their bags, walk (roll if in a wheelchair) and throw the paper as close to the front door as possible, which takes a lot of physical movement. The exercise is in all the movement that it takes to deliver newspapers. Below is a suggestion as how this works, however you will have to adjust it to fit the motor skills of your residents:

Materials:

- 4 - Unfolded newspapers per participate (does not have to be the entire paper and you can use more than four per resident, just make it an even number)
- 1 – bag per participate
- Doors (can be the doors that enter into the room or extra doors from your maintenance department, or you can draw a few doors by using freezer paper)

Instructions:

- Give each resident participating 4 unfolded newspapers and one bag.
- Tell them to roll the papers and put them in their bag.
- Once they roll the papers (good movement for hands) and add them to their bag then they can deliver them.
- They must walk to the X mark which you will place several yards from the door.

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- The resident will throw two papers with their right hand and two papers with their left hand (the hand use will depend on your residents physical movement, but the point is to get them to swing or stretch twice on each side of their body).
- Once papers are delivered the resident needs to return to their seat.

You can have them do this one at a time or have several door set ups so several residents can do it at the same time. The resident that gets the paper closest to the door can receive “Top Newspaper Carrier Award” if you are calling this a game. The residents will get a little exercise movement in while they are having fun. You may get more residents to participate if you call it a game instead of excise time.

Craft – Use newspapers to make paper hats or a paper mache craft.

Writing – Get the residents involved in writing the facility newspaper. Let them decide what story should run in the next newspaper (or letter). Ask them to write poems, quotes, jokes or submit pictures. Let them have full decision making and remind them of all dead lines. This just may start a new weekly or monthly activity that will get residents involved that won’t participate in other activities.

Game(s) – Create a word search using the newspaper names from the first game.

OR

Using the letters in the word newspaper see how many other words the residents can make from them. They cannot add other letters and they can only use the letters found in the word itself.

Example:

News
Paper
Wasp
Reap
As
Was
Pew

Okay, now see what the residents will come up with.

Have a word search using the newspaper. Give each resident a section of the paper and a marker or highlighter. Call out random words for the residents to find and circle. See how many they can find in a specified amount of time.

Movie – According to time.com under special, the top 10 Newspaper movies are as follows:

1. It Happened One Night (1934)
2. His Girl Friday (1940)
3. Citizen Kane (1941)
4. Ace in the Hole (1951)
5. Sweet Smell of Success (1957)
6. All The President’s Men (1976)
7. Superman (1978)
8. Welcome to Sarajevo (1997)
9. State of Play (2003)

10. Zodiac (2007)

I can only recommend Citizen Kane and Superman since they are the only two on this list that I have seen for viewing friendly for all residents. Just keep in mind you know your residents and you can decide which will work for them to view.



Measure of Success

When sunset falls upon your day
And fades from out the west,
When business cares are put away
And you lie down to rest,
The measure of the day's success
Or failure may be told
In terms of human happiness
And not in terms of gold.

Is there beside some hearth tonight
More joy because you wrought?
Does some one face the bitter fight
With courage you have taught?
Is something added to the store
Of human happiness?
If so, the day that now is o'er
Has been a real success.

~ unknown~