



# America's Special Days

## Social Sciences, Language Arts

GPN 1994 - 2000

**6 New Programs!**

16 15-minute programs for grades K-3

One Year Tape and Keep Rights

No Duplication Rights

The series is designed to help students understand and appreciate why we celebrate certain days as holidays. The programs use an interdisciplinary approach that combines language arts, reading, science, mathematics and the fine arts – all around a social studies framework. The interdisciplinary content is included at appropriate, naturally occurring points in the series. Not all disciplines are included in every program.

### 1. New Year's Day

**Social Studies: 1.1**

The celebration of the new year is investigated as we follow the earth around the sun, explain the calendar, and experience several new year activities including the making of New Year's resolutions.

### 2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Social Studies: K.1, 1.12, 2.11, 2.12, 3.11**

Fairness and equal rights and the goals of Dr. King are depicted as we visit important historical sites in Memphis, Atlanta, and Washington, D.C.

### 3. Presidents Day

**Social Studies: K.1, K.9, 1.2, 1.3, 1.11, 2.11, 3.11**

We honor George Washington and Abraham Lincoln as we tour historical monuments in Washington, D.C., Mt. Vernon, Springfield and New Salem, Illinois.

### 4. Women's History Month

**Social Studies: 2.11, 2.12, 3.11**

We celebrate the contributions of women in our society through re-enactments of events in the lives of famous women. Florence Nightingale and Amelia Earhart visit classrooms and talk to children.

### 5. Arbor Day/Earth Day

**Social Studies: 2.7, 2.9, 3.7, 3.9**

Environmental Conservation and the roles that trees play in the survival of the Earth are discovered as we visit the birthplace of Arbor Day and the rain forest of Australia.

### 6. Veteran's Day/Memorial Day

**Social Studies: 1.11, 1.12, 2.12, 3.11**

Honoring America's veterans takes us to several memorials including Arlington National Cemetery, Tomb of the Unknowns and others. The students will experience the ceremonies and discover how we show respect for the men and women who serve or have served our nation.

### 7. Flag Day/Citizenship Day

**Social Studies: K.1, K.9, 1.11, 3.7**

The symbolism of America's flag is examined. The program focuses on people and how they view the flag and begins and concludes with a Flag Day parade in Appleton, Wisconsin, the birthplace of Flag Day. Also included are: 'The Flag We Fly,' a poem by Aileen Fisher; the history of Flag Day; a trip to a flag factory; flag etiquette; the Pledge of Allegiance; and the meaning of the red, white, and blue. The program concludes with a sing-along of the 'National Anthem' (with words on the screen).

### 8. Independence Day

**Social Studies: K.1, K.2, 1.2, 1.3, 1.11, 2.11, 3.11**

A brief history of the events leading up to July 4th as the United States' Independence Day. Also included is a section on the Mexican holidays, Cinco de Mayo and Diez y Seis de Septiembre.

### 9. Native American Day

**Social Studies: K.2, 1.12, 2.2, 2.12, 3.12**

We celebrate the contributions of Native Americans to our country's development including their influence on the food we eat and how our government was created. Successful Native Americans share their feelings about living in two cultures.

### 10. Thanksgiving Day

**Social Studies: K.1, K.2, 2.2,**

The true meaning of Thanksgiving is emphasized as we observe past and present day celebrations in a wide variety of cultural and ethnic settings.

### 11. Labor Day

**Social Studies: K.2, K.6, 1.10, 2.3, 2.7, 3.7**

Children learn the value of work ethics, fairness in the workplace and the history of Labor Day. Labor practices of children throughout the world are reviewed. This video is an

incentive to appreciate the American education system.

#### **12. Book Week**

**Social Studies: K.6, 2.7, 3.7**

Viewers visit a book factory, meet authors, visit places where books are made available to readers, and learn more about the importance of books. The joy of reading is emphasized.

#### **13. Election Day**

**Social Studies: 1.11, 1.12, 2.10, 2.12, 3.10, 3.11, 3.12**

Children learn that elections are an earned right and responsibility of citizens. They meet new citizens and learn why and how they became citizens. School elections and national elections are compared and contrasted.

#### **14. Olympics/Special Olympics**

**Social Studies: K.2, 1.10, 2.12, 3.1, 3.4, 3.12**

Sportsmanship, competition, national pride and honor among Olympians are emphasized. Olympic history is reviewed and the value of doing your best is demonstrated.

#### **15. Groundhog Day**

**Science: K.7**

This popular, but little understood holiday is explained along with the concept of Spring.

#### **16. Daylight Savings Time**

**Science: 3.8**

“The day we change the clocks” ... Children learn the why and when. What happens when the Earth revolves around the Sun? What happens when we don’t change our clocks? Time zones and the reasons for them are discussed.