



Staying Connected in December

Elementary School

December 4th National Dice Day- The ancient Egyptians had games and weighted dice that ensured easy wins. These have also been found in the ruins of Pompeii. It seems that nearly every culture has a game or two based on these little cubes. Rolling the dice is more than just fun: it teaches strategy, critical thinking, making predictions and works on basic math skills. Send home with students a pair of dice and a sheet with some dice math games. Here is a site with free dice math games. Enjoy

<https://www.newarkschools.us/Download/s/Math%20Games%20with%20a%20Pair%20of%20Dice.pdf>

Pair of dice cost - Handy Basics 100 Pack Standard for "white dice set" Price: \$11.99 (\$0.24 for 2)

December 15th International Tea Day-Aside from water, tea is the most popular beverage in the world. The primary types of tea include white, black, green, oolong, and herbal. Tea is believed to have originated in China. Make a card with a tea bag and give to a neighbor, janitor, cook, teacher, etc. "A CUP OF TEA TO SAY THANK YOU FOR ALL THE THINGS YOU'VE DONE AND WISHES THAT THE DAY WILL BRING YOU HAPPINESS AND FUN."

December 18th International Migrant Day-International Migrants Day emphasizes the protection of migrants' human rights. The day also recognizes the contributions and efforts of migrants around the world. Ask families to share with the class their heritage. Use a large world map and put pictures of your student where their families migrated to America from.

Middle School/High School

December 4th National Dice Day- The ancient Egyptians had games and weighted dice that ensured easy wins. These have also been found in the ruins of Pompeii. It seems that nearly every culture has a game or two based on these little cubes. Rolling the dice is more than just fun: it teaches strategy, critical thinking, making predictions and works on basic math skills. Send home with students a pair of dice and a sheet with some dice math games. Here is a site that has games for algebra, geometry, classroom management skills. Send home 2 dice with students to play dice games with their friends and family.

<https://www.mathgiraffe.com/blog/23-ways-to-use-dice-in-math-class>

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December 4th National Cookie Day- Cookies arrived in America in the 17th century. Macaroons and gingerbread cookies were among the popular early American cookies.

Have families share a favorite cookie recipe, create a Cookie Recipe Book from the family recipes and share between families. It would be fun to include a family photo with the recipe.

Promote family literacy with a Book Study - Choose 2/3 books that students/families would be interested in reading. Take a survey, decide upon a book, and then host weekly virtual book studies with families and students. Encourage families to participate by offering incentives periodically. If you need suggestions on books to read talk to your school librarian.