

## Flag Day – June 14, 2009

Tell children that Flag Day celebrates the day our flag was chosen. Explain that when our country first began, we didn't have a flag, but many people had ideas about how the flag should look. On June 14, 1777, the leaders of the country finally decided which flag to use. At that time, there were only thirteen stars on the flag, one for each state. As our country grew, more stars were added.



### Quick Facts About the American Flag:

- The flag is also called the "Stars and Stripes," the "Red, White, and Blue," and "Old Glory."
- Our flag has seven red stripes, six white stripes, and 50 stars – one for each state!
- The colors of our flag stand for bravery (red), goodness (white), and fairness (blue).
- People show respect for the flag in different ways. Sometimes people put their right hands over their hearts, and men often remove their hats when the flag passes by. Soldiers and sailors salute.

### Make Personal Flags

Remind children that the United States has a special flag. Explain that each state also has a flag, while sharing an image of your state's flag. Encourage children to make flags that are special to them. Invite them to draw pictures of their families and pets, cut pictures from old magazines or other materials, or decorate their flags in other ways. Provide each child with a 9" x 12" sheet of construction paper and provide assorted art/collage materials, glue, old magazines, and star stickers. Encourage children to talk about how they decorated their flags and why. Help each child write his or her name on their flag. Give children paper-towel rolls and help them tape the rolls to their flags to make handles.

## Father's Day June 21, 2009

### Fantastic Father's Day Place Mat

Here's a gift any father would treasure. Have each child draw pictures to show three reasons why his or her father is loved (e.g., reads to me, gives me hugs, plays games with me). Cut out these drawings and glue them to a 12" x 18" sheet of construction paper. When the glue is dry, cover both sides with clear contact paper. Dad now has a handmade place mat to use at each meal!

### Books to Share

#### Father's Day

by Anne Rockwell

#### A Perfect Father's Day

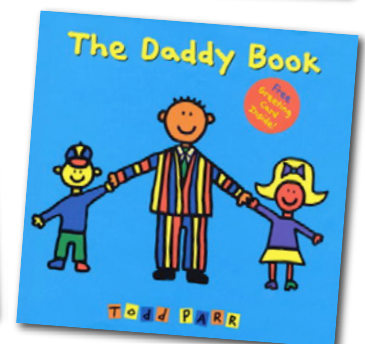
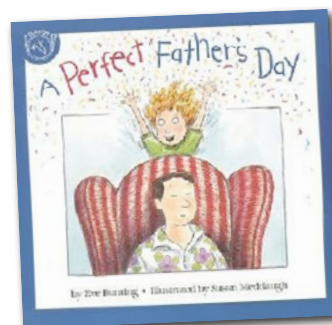
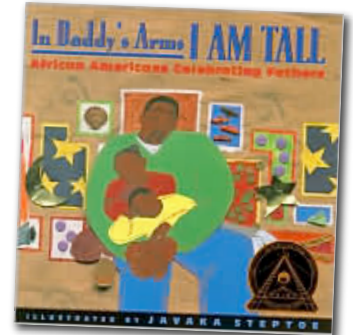
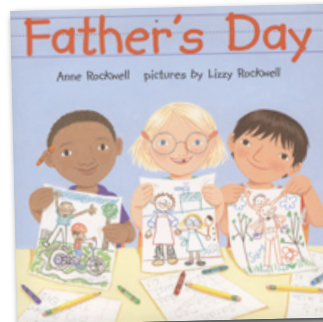
by Eve Bunting

#### In Daddy's Arms I Am Tall: African Americans Celebrating Fathers

by Javaka Steptoe

#### The Daddy Book

by Todd Parr





## **First Day of Summer – June 21, 2009**

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### **Summer Fun Word Wall**

#### **Materials and Preparations**

- Alphabet cards A–Z
- Magazines and photographs
- Construction paper
- Glue and tape
- Children's scissors
- Marker

#### **Learning Experiences:**

- Create a word wall! Label a section of wall with each letter of the alphabet.
- As children are introduced to new words and experiences related to the fun of summer, encourage them to create drawings or cut pictures of examples from magazines (e.g., aquarium, beach, barbeque, canoe, fish, ice cream, mangos, ocean, papaya, sunscreen, visor, water, swimming).
- Ask children what they have drawn or cut out. When a child is ready to add his or her drawing or picture to the wall, write the word(s) on a separate strip of construction paper.
- Invite children to match the first letter on the construction paper strip to the letter on the wall. Hang the drawing or picture on the wall, adding the construction paper word label below it.
- Add to your word wall throughout the summer.

**Extension:** Encourage families to help children collect pictures and words related to summer and add them to the summer fun word wall when they come in each day.