

## Reading Calendar

Discuss at home, in the car or waiting for an event.

**March 1:** National Pig Day; National I love Peanut Butter

**March 2:** Read Across America Day

**March 3:** 1931 - The "Star Spangled Banner," written by Francis Scott Key, was adopted as the American national anthem. The song was originally a poem known as "Defense of Fort McHenry."; 1972 - NASA's Pioneer 10 spacecraft was launched.

**March 4:** 1974 - "**People**" magazine was available for the first time; 1963 - **The Beach Boys** single "Surfin' U.S.A." was released.

**March 5:** 1770 - "The Boston Massacre" took place when British troops fired on a crowd in Boston killing five people. Two British troops were later convicted of manslaughter.; 1998 - It was announced that Air Force Lt. Col. Eileen Collins would lead crew of *Columbia* on a mission to launch a large X-ray telescope. She was the first woman to command a space shuttle mission.

**March 6:** Santa Anna captured the Alamo; 1944 - During World War II, **U.S.** heavy bombers began the first American raid on Berlin. Allied planes dropped 2000 tons of bombs.

**March 7:** 1987 - Mike Tyson became the youngest heavyweight titleholder when he beat James Smith in a decision during a 12-round fight in Las Vegas, **NV**; 1968 - The Battle of Saigon came to an end.

**March 8:** 1999 - The **U.S.** Supreme Court upheld the conviction of Timothy McVeigh for the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City in 1995.; 1993 - "Beavis and Butthead" premiered on MTV as a series

**March 9:** 1949 - The first all-electric dining car was placed in service on the Illinois Central Railroad.; 1959 - Mattel introduced Barbie at the annual Toy Fair in New York.; 1964 - Production began on the first Ford Mustang.

**March 10:** 1994 - White House officials began testifying before a federal grand jury about the Whitewater controversy.; Birthday **Carrie Underwood** 1983 - Singer, winner of the fourth season of "American Idol"

**March 11:** 1997 - **Paul McCartney** was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.; 2002 - Two columns of light were pointed skyward from ground zero in New York as a temporary memorial to the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

**March 12:** 2010 - In the U.S., [Apple](#) began taking pre-orders for the [iPad](#).; 1993 - Janet Reno was sworn in as the first female U.S. attorney general.

**March 13:** National K9 Veterans Day; 1951 - The [comic strip "Dennis the Menace"](#) appeared for the first time in newspapers across the country.

**March 14:** National save a spider day; National Pi Day; 1794 - Eli Whitney received a patent for his cotton gin.

**March 15:** 2002 - In the [U.S.](#), Burger King began selling a veggie burger. The event was billed as the first veggie burger to be sold nationally by a fast food chain.; 1990 - The Ford Explorer was introduced to the public

**March 16:** 1994 - Tonya Harding pled guilty in Portland, [OR](#), to conspiracy to hinder prosecution for covering up the attack on her skating rival Nancy Kerrigan. She was fined \$100,000. She was also banned from amateur figure skating.

**March 17:** St Patrick's Day; 1930 - Al Capone was released from jail.

**March 18:** 1977 - Vietnam turned over an MIA to a [U.S.](#) delegation. 1971 - [U.S.](#) helicopters airlifted 1,000 South Vietnamese soldiers out of Laos

**March 19:** 1831 - The first bank robbery in America was reported. The City Bank of New York City lost \$245,000 in the robbery. ; 2003 - [U.S. President George W. Bush](#) announced that [U.S.](#) forces had launched a strike against "targets of military opportunity" in Iraq. The attack, using cruise missiles and precision-guided bombs, were aimed at Iraqi leaders thought to be near Baghdad.

**March 20:** First day of spring; 1990 - The [Los Angeles Lakers](#) retired Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's #33

**March 21:** National Common Courtesy Day; 1994 - Steven Spielberg won his first Oscars. They were for best picture and best director for "[Schindler's List](#)."

**March 22:** World Water day; 1954 - The first shopping mall opened in Southfield, [Michigan](#).

**March 23:** 1972 - [Evel Knievel](#) broke 93 bones after successfully jumping 35 cars.; 1994 - [Wayne Gretzky](#) broke [Gordie Howe](#)'s National Hockey League (NHL) career record with his 802nd goal

**March 24:** 1989 - The *Exxon Valdez* spilled 240,000 barrels (11 million gallons) of oil in Alaska's Prince William Sound after it ran aground.; 1947 - The U.S. Congress proposed the limitation of the presidency to two terms.

**March 25:** 1965 - Martin Luther King Jr. led a group of 25,000 to the state capital in Montgomery, [AL.](#) ; 1992 - Soviet cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev returned to Earth after spending 10 months aboard the orbiting *Mir* space station.

**March 26:** 1945 - The battle of Iwo Jima ended.; 1983 - The U.S. performed a nuclear test at the Nevada Test Site.

**March 27:** 1794 - The U.S. Congress authorized the creation of the U.S. Navy.; 1884 - The first long-distance telephone call was made from Boston to New York.

**March 28:** 1797 - Nathaniel Briggs patented a washing machine; 1979 - A major accident occurred at Pennsylvania's Three Mile Island nuclear power plant. A nuclear power reactor overheated and suffered a partial meltdown.

**March 29:** 1848 - Niagara Falls stopped flowing for one day due to an ice jam.; 1951 - In the [United States](#), Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage. They were executed in June 19, 1953.

**March 30:** 1867 - The U.S. purchased Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million dollars.; 1939 - The comic book "Detective Comics #27" appeared on newsstands. This comic introduced Batman.

**March 31:** National Crayon Day