



# June

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## Volunteers

June 1 through 7 is International Volunteers Week. If you could volunteer to help out around your town, what would you do? Would you clean up trash, maybe, or deliver meals to people who are sick and cannot leave their homes? Think about what you would like to do as a volunteer. Write about your choice of volunteer activity and why being a volunteer is important.

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## Garage Sale

On June 3 each year, the world's largest garage sale is held in South Bend, Indiana. Usually about 12,000 people attend! What if you had a garage sale? Make a list of ten things you own that you would like to sell.

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## Worth a Thousand Words

There's a famous saying: "A picture is worth a thousand words." Find a photograph that you like. It can be in a book or a magazine or a newspaper. Study it closely. Then, write about what you think is happening in the photograph.

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## Pet Appreciation

The second week of June is Pet Appreciation Week. Do you have a pet? If not, what kind of animal would you like to have as a pet—a cat, a parrot, maybe a goldfish? Write as complete a description of your real or imaginary pet as you can, mentioning the kind of animal your pet is, what it eats, what it looks like, its personality, and so on.

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## Picnic

Every year on June 10 there's a "Betty Picnic" held in Grants Pass, Oregon. Everyone in the whole world named Betty is welcome. What if there were a picnic held for everyone with your name? Who are some famous people with the same name as you? Write a story about this unusual picnic.

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## Cool Creations

Summer is here and the weather is getting hotter. You know what that means. Ice cream! Now, what if you could invent your own special ice cream flavor? Would it be something like chocolate peanut-butter banana swirl? Pretend you own an ice cream shop. Create a menu listing at least ten new delicious flavors of ice cream of your own invention.



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## June Juggling Month

June 20 is World Juggling Day. Imagine if you tried to juggle a skunk, a can of purple paint, and a cowboy hat. Write a story about the mixed-up results.

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## Space Address

Your space-alien friend Iplik wants to send you a postcard. But first you need to give him your full address. Fill in the blanks:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(name),  
(street address),  
(city), \_\_\_\_\_ (country),  
(planet), \_\_\_\_\_ (galaxy).

Make your address as detailed as possible to make sure Iplik's postcard reaches you.

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## Hall of Fame

There's a Baseball Hall of Fame, a Football Hall of Fame, even a Rock-and-Roll Hall of Fame. What kind of Hall of Fame would you like to see: fashion models, maybe, or all-star wrestlers? Make a list of members of your own special Hall of Fame, and also write down some reasons why each member was chosen.

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## A Fat, Yellow Hippo Smartly Dove Into Four Warm Ponds

"The quick brown fox boldly jumped over a tall fence." Rewrite this ten-word sentence ten times. Each time you rewrite it change just one word. For example, sentence number-one might read: "The quick brown cow boldly jumped over a tall fence." Sentence number-two might read: "The quick brown cow gracefully jumped over a tall fence." By the time you are finished you should have a very different sentence.

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## For Your Own Amusement

What if you had your own amusement park? You could give it a great name, like Wade's Wild World. What types of rides would you have? You could have some really fun ones, like a Triple Upside-Down Scream Coaster. Write about an amusement park you would build. Remember, give it a great name and fill it with all kinds of exciting rides.



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## April May March

It has been a long school year. Many different months have passed. Write a few sentences using the names of different months in various ways. For example, "April" could be a girl's name. Bands and soldiers "March." You "May" be able to write some interesting sentences.

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## Dr. Doolittle Vacation

When the famous fictional character Dr. Doolittle wanted to go on vacation, he would close his eyes and place his finger on a map. Wherever his finger pointed, that's where he would travel. Plan a Dr. Doolittle Vacation. Close your eyes and touch your finger to a map or globe. Do some research and write about the place you chose.



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## Pretend Postcard

Pretend you are a visitor to your own town. Does your town have some interesting places or special types of food or sports teams? Write a postcard describing an imaginary visit to your own home town.

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## Stretch Your Senses

It's pretty easy to describe how roses smell. It's pretty easy to describe how spaghetti and meatballs taste. But how about stretching your senses? Describe roses and spaghetti using a different sense than the one you would usually depend on. What does it feel like to touch a rose? How do spaghetti and meatballs look? If you enjoy this, try some other sense-stretching exercises, such as: What does salt sound like?

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## Bat Nights

The hottest days of summer are known as the "dog days." Can't you almost picture a dog panting in the heat? Well, how about making up your own descriptive names for other parts of the year? Maybe the days in early April are "flower days." Or maybe the nights close to Halloween are "bat nights." Think of ten and let your imagination go "hog wild"—or is it "kangaroo wild"?

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## Elvis Is Everywhere

Elvis Presley is famous for rock songs such as “Hound Dog” and “Burning Love.” He was so popular that he was known as “The King.” He died in 1977. Or did he? Some people think he got tired of all his fame and decided to go into hiding. Every now and then someone will claim to have seen Elvis still alive and walking around. Imagine that you spotted Elvis. Where would he be? At the mall, maybe, or working as a teacher? Would he be wearing a disguise? Write a story about spotting Elvis the King.

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## Summer Fashion Review

Every summer there are new styles of clothes: new types of shorts and sneakers, new swimsuits, or popular new T-shirts. Have you noticed any new fashions for this summer? Write a review discussing one or more of them. Remember reviewers have to be tough. They must express strong opinions, such as: “Sneakers with blue stripes are popular this summer. I think they look terrible, because . . .”

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## Sheer Nonsense

Some of the very best stories are full of nonsense. Humpty-Dumpty was an egg who fell off a wall. Who ever heard of that? Here’s a bit of nonsense to get you started on a story of your own: “Watookie had on her favorite pink overalls. She was singing ‘Happy Birthday’ to no one in particular, and was gathering sticks for a stick pie. She ran into Mr. Chompers, the blue mule. Mr. Chompers was headed off to Soap Bubble City . . .”



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## Summer Job

When you are older you may have a job during the summer. Maybe you will be a lifeguard, or perhaps you will work in a music store. Write about your perfect summer job.

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## Fractured Fairy Tale

Write your own silly version of a well-known fairy tale. Instead of the Three Little Pigs you could write about the Three Big Cows. Instead of having Cinderella ride inside a pumpkin carriage you could have her fly onboard a zucchini plane. Have fun and let your imagination go bonkers!



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## Summertime and the Writing Is Easy

The school year is about to end. You are about to enjoy a nice, long summer vacation. So just relax. Let yourself write freely. Get loose, go wild, and put down whatever thoughts come into your mind. Write fast and free and have lots of fun!

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## Sentence Starters

Here are some sentence starters: A, No, I, The, and People. Write five sentences. Start each sentence with one of these words. For example, "I can't believe that summer is about to start!" That's a sentence that starts with I. Now, write five sentences using the five sentence starters.

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## Cool Colors

Colors have some pretty cool names like hot pink and sky blue. Think up ten new color names, like sun yellow or asparagus green.

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## Summer Fun List

What are ten fun things you want to do this summer? Make a list so you won't forget. And have a great summer!