

Father's Day



Quick Facts

- Sonora Smart Dodd is credited with creating Father's Day to honor her father, who reared six children on his own.
- The third Sunday of June is traditionally Father's Day in many countries.
- In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge became the first U.S. President to support Father's Day. It became official in 1972, when President Richard Nixon signed it into law.
- The first unofficial Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane, Washington in 1910.
- The word "dad" dates back to the early 1500s.
- Some countries, such as Australia, Finland, and Thailand, celebrate Father's Day at other times of the year.

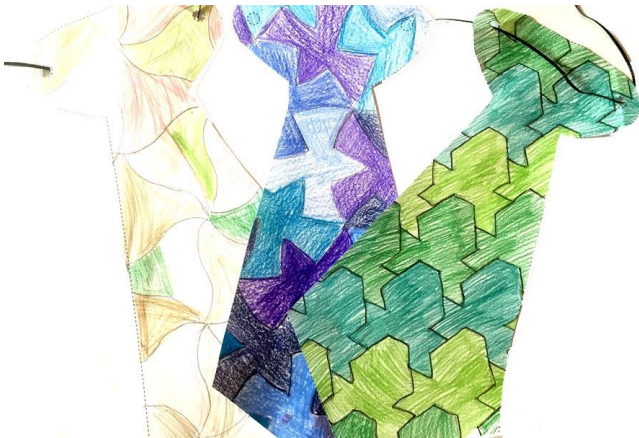
Essential Vocabulary

- **admiration** – a feeling of great respect and approval
- **father** – a male parent
- **gratitude** – feeling grateful, or recognizing effort and sacrifice
- **holiday** – a day set aside for special recognition or events in honor of something or someone

Lesson Ideas

Tie Tessellation

Introduce students to the idea of tessellations by using various pattern blocks to make patterns and fill outlines. Then, provide students with tie patterns and tessellation cutouts. Students can color and design their own math-themed ties to present to their dads on Father's Day. Adapted from [Quick & Easy Math Art](#) by Deborah Schecter.



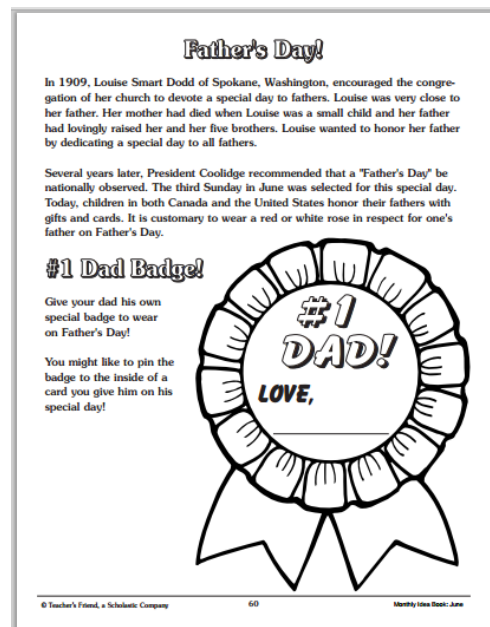
Mighty Dads Book Connection

Read [Mighty Dads](#) aloud as a class and talk about the allegorical way that the trucks in the book depict things real dads and kids do. Then, have students make a chart of many different kinds of trucks. Students can select one type of truck they think best personifies their dad and complete this sentence: "If my dad were a truck, he would be a _____ because _____." Complete the writing by cutting paper shapes to construct trucks. Watch the [Mighty Dads book trailer](#).

Create a Holiday

Use a [short history of Father's Day](#) to learn about how the holiday was created by a girl to honor her father. Color, laminate, and cut out the accompanying badge to give to fathers. Challenge students to think up a new holiday that honors someone or something. Relate the story of Father's Day and how it was created just to honor one special person. Then, make a badge to honor and celebrate the made-up day.

Adapted from [June Monthly Idea Book](#) by Karen Sevaly.



Lesson Ideas Continued

Questionnaire

Create a questionnaire that asks students about their fathers. Questions can include, "What is your dad's job?" and "What does your dad like to do?" Record responses for young students and let older students record responses themselves. Attach the responses to a Father's Day card or small gift. Parents will enjoy seeing what their kids think about them. For very young students, create a booklet of empty responses so that parents can record answers each year as the children grow and change.

I Love My Dad Because....

Have students write short essays on why they love their fathers, or other important men in their lives. Guide students through the writing process to produce complete results. Create a contest across the grade or school. Winning responses to the prompt can win gifts for dad, such as roses (the official flower of Father's Day), tickets to a local sporting event, discounts to an ice cream parlor, or any other fun treat for students to present to their fathers.

Recipe for a Great Day

Challenge students to come up with the "ingredients" needed to make a perfect day with mom or dad. For example: a green soccer field, hotdogs, icy lemonade, dad, and a sunny afternoon. Have students create a recipe by listing ingredients and writing out step-by-step instructions for putting the day together. (For instance: Take son, dad, and soccer field. Mix together. Soak in the sun for one hour. Add hotdogs and lemonade. Enjoy.) Have students write out their ingredients and instructions on real recipe cards for gift giving. From [*Dear Mom and Dad: The Best Mother's and Father's Day Gifts Come from the Heart*](#) by Carmella VanVleet.

RECIPE	NAME	YIELD
	INGREDIENTS	
	HOW TO	

Resource Connections

Articles & Blogs

- [Gifts from the Heart](#)
- [Open House, Mother's Day, and Father's Day, Oh My!](#)
- [Father's Day Activities](#)

Printables

- [Father's Day Ideas](#)
- [Creative Writing Prompt](#)
- [Cards for Dad](#)
- [Father's Day Pocket](#)
- [My Dad is Special](#)

Crafts

- [Creative Craft Stick Ideas](#)
- [Mini Garden Keepsake](#)
- [Colorful Shape Patterns](#)

Books & Activities

- [Father's Day Books](#)
- [Father's Day Read-Alouds](#)