

# LESSON PLAN GUIDE

PictureBook English Reading Series

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<b>Category</b>	Vocabulary	<b>Title</b>	B21 – Our Birthday Calendar
<b>Ages</b>	4–8	<b>Theme</b>	Days, Months, Seasons + Ordinal Numbers + Calendar Vocabulary

## INTRODUCTION OF THE BOOK

In this book, children join a new classroom on a Birthday Mission — creating a classroom calendar together! Through this engaging activity, children master the vocabulary of time, including days of the week, months of the year, and the four seasons. They also learn how to navigate a calendar grid and use ordinal numbers — 1st, 2nd, 3rd — to track special dates.

By connecting calendar vocabulary to their own birthdays and the changing seasons, children discover how language and the natural world are deeply linked — making time vocabulary feel personal, practical, and memorable.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

*Children will be able to:*

- Name and order the days of the week in English
- Name and order the twelve months of the year in English
- Name and describe the four seasons and their typical weather
- Use ordinal numbers — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and beyond — to express dates
- Navigate a calendar grid to find and mark important dates

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### 1. Go on a Birthday Hunt

Before reading, look at a real calendar together. Ask your child: 'Can you find your birthday? What about mine?' Help them locate each birthday on the correct month and date. This helps children understand that a calendar is a practical tool for marking important moments in their own lives — making the vocabulary feel immediately useful and personal.

### 2. Connect months to seasons and weather

As you flip through the months of the calendar, talk about the seasons. Ask: 'Is it hot or cold during your birthday month?' or 'What do the trees look like in October?' Encourage your child to describe the weather and nature for each season. This helps children associate month names with the physical world around them, making them far easier to remember.

### 3. Practise ordinal numbers

Dates can be tricky because of the special endings — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and so on. While reading, emphasise the 'st', 'nd', 'rd', and 'th' sounds clearly. Then make it a game at home: 'Who

is the 1st person to sit down?' or 'What is the 3rd day of the week?' Using ordinal numbers in everyday situations makes the language of dates feel natural and fun.

### **FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES**

Help your child make their own birthday calendar for the whole family. Ask them to find each family member's birthday, write it on the correct date using ordinal numbers, and decorate each month with drawings of the season's weather. Display the finished calendar somewhere visible so your child can practise reading the dates throughout the year!

Try the fun online learning activities for this book on our website!

[Click here to try the online learning activities](#)

### **TEACHER'S NOTES & TIPS**

Ordinal numbers are one of the trickier areas of English time vocabulary — the irregular forms 1st, 2nd, and 3rd trip up even older learners. The most effective approach is repeated exposure in real contexts: reading dates aloud every day is far more effective than drilling a list. For classroom settings, creating a shared class birthday calendar is a wonderful ongoing project that keeps the vocabulary active all year round and gives every child a personal connection to the content.