

The “Sacred Writing Time” slides that follow this one are complimentary slides for you to use this first week of April.

Have you introduced

# Sacred Writing Time

to your student writers yet?

At our [Teachers Pay Teachers store](#), we sell a 366-slide version of these slides that has writing/research/discussion ideas for every day of the year, including “Leap Day.”



# Sacred Writing Time



Did you come to class with an idea to write about?  
As soon as class starts, quietly make that pencil dance!

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## It's April 1.

Today is "April Fool's Day." Are you ready for some practical jokes?

Trivial Fact of the Day: In 1957, the BBC aired a fake April 1<sup>st</sup> news-story reporting a bumper crop of [spaghetti plants by Swiss farmers](#), which included fake footage of peasants pulling fresh spaghetti from the branches of trees. Hundreds of viewers called in, asking where they could obtain their own spaghetti trees to plant. April fools!

Interesting Quote of the Day: "The trouble with quotes on the Internet is that you can never know if they are genuine." --Abraham Lincoln

Vocabulary Word of the Day: *jocund* (adjective) – use this descriptive word as a synonym for *cheerful*. Do practical jokes make you feel *jocund* or the opposite of *jocund*?





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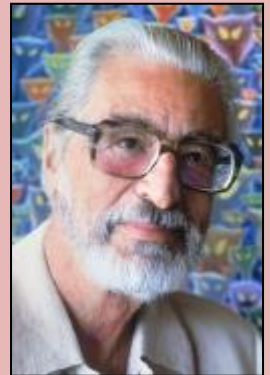
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## It's April 2.

Today is “National Children’s Book Day.” What was your favorite book way back when you were just a child?

Trivial Fact of the Day: When typing using a QWERTY keyboard, the average person’s left hand makes 56% of the actual keystrokes.

Interesting Quote of the Day: “Don’t cry because it’s over. Smile because it happened.” --Dr. Seuss (American children’s book author)



Vocabulary Word of the Day: *nostalgic* (adjective) – this modifier can be used to describe a person who (or a thing that) shows a longing for happiness or sentimentality that comes from something from the past. Is there a children’s book that would make you feel *nostalgic* if we read it today?



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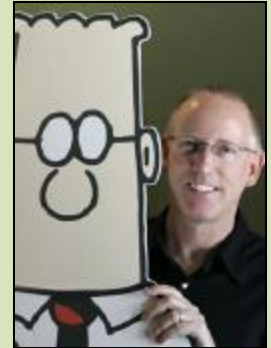
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## It's April 3.

Today is “Pony Express Day,” honoring the debut of the frontier postal service in 1860. Would you have ridden for the Pony Express?

Trivial Fact of the Day: The Pony Express service only existed for eighteen months, and riders were paid \$100 a month.

Interesting Quote of the Day: “I get mail. Therefore I am.”  
--Scott Adams (American creator of the *Dilbert* comic strip)



Vocabulary Word of the Day: *juxtapose* (verb) – this action word means you’ve placed two things next to each for the purpose of comparing them. What would happen if we *juxtaposed* the Pony Express with modern day e-mail?



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## It's April 4.

Today is “World Rat Day.” Do you think a rat would make a good pet?

Trivial Fact of the Day: A group of rats is called a *mischief*. You can also call them a plague of rats, a horde of rats, a pack of rats or a swarm of rats.

Which [collective noun](#) do you think sounds the most appropriate?

Interesting Quote of the Day: “The trouble with the ‘rat race’ is that even if you win, you’re still a rat.” --Lily Tomlin (American comedienne)



Vocabulary Word of the Day: *largess* (noun) – this fancy noun can be used to stand for the act of generously giving of expensive gifts. If you had a boss (or an in-law) in the future who demonstrated *largess*, what might he/she give you?