

Name:

Really Good Stuff®

Instructional Guide

Today’s Calendar Pocket Chart

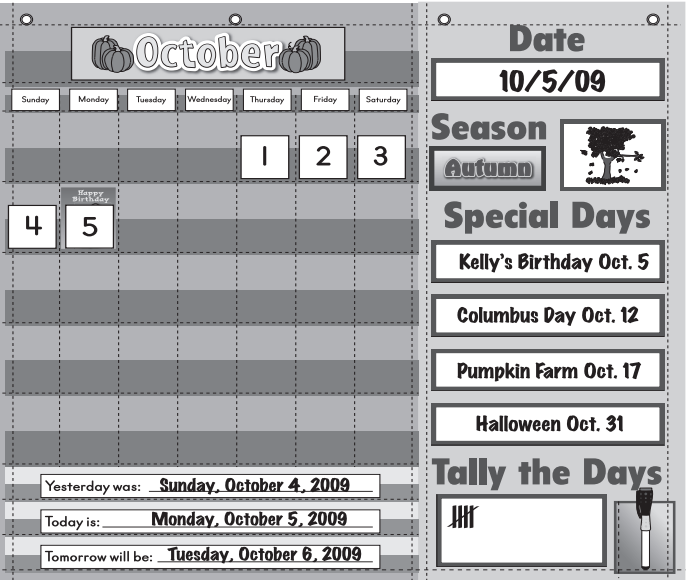
Congratulations on your purchase of this Really Good Stuff® **Today’s Calendar Pocket Chart**—an easy-to-use tool to help you with daily calendar activities and special events for the month.

- This Really Good Stuff product includes:
- **Today’s Calendar Pocket Chart**, with magnetic strip
 - 36 Number Cards
 - 34 Special Occasion Cards
 - 12 Month Cards
 - 7 Days of the Week Cards
 - 4 Season Cards
 - 3 Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow Cards, Write Again® wipe-off laminate
 - 4 Special Days Cards, Write Again® wipe-off laminate
 - 1 Date Card, Write Again® wipe-off laminate
 - 1 Tally Card, Write Again® wipe-off laminate
 - 1 Season Picture Card, Write Again® wipe-off laminate
 - Adhesive Loop Tape
 - Storage Pocket
 - This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

Cleaning and Storing the Today’s Calendar Pocket Chart
Keep your *Pocket Chart* in good condition by wiping it occasionally with a damp sponge. Fold the *Pocket Chart* horizontally along the stitching lines for storage.

Assembling and Displaying the Today’s Calendar Pocket Chart
Before displaying the **Today’s Calendar Pocket Chart**, make copies of this Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide, cut apart the reproducibles, and file the pages for future use. Or, download another copy of it from our Web site at www.reallygoodstuff.com. Separate the Cards along the perforated lines and place the *Calendar Cards* for the current month in the *Pocket Chart*. Stick matching pieces of *Adhesive Loop Tape* to the backs of the four *Season Cards*, *Date Card*, *Season Picture Card*, *Tally Card*, and *Special Days Cards*. Label the appropriate cards for the month and attach them to the *Pocket Chart*. Store the unused *Cards* in the *Storage Pocket*. Hang the *Pocket Chart* on a chart rack, attach it to a bulletin board with pushpins, or affix it to a magnetic board using the magnetic strip on the back. Display the *Pocket Chart* where students will be able to see and interact with it easily. Place a dry erase marker in the pocket next to the *Tally Card* on the *Pocket Chart*.

Introducing the Today’s Calendar Pocket Chart
Decide when you want to update the *Pocket Chart* and when you want to review it with students. Gather students around the *Pocket Chart* and point to each section as you explain that you will be using this *Pocket Chart* to introduce the number and name of the day; to show them how to write the date; to talk about the dates for yesterday, today, and tomorrow; to identify the season and draw a picture to represent it; to point out special days, and to tally the number



of days each month.

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
Use a dry erase marker to complete the appropriate days and dates for the *Yesterday*, *Today*, and *Tomorrow Cards*. As you tuck them in place, urge students to read them along with you. Be sure to discuss the tense of the verb found on each *Card*.

Today's Date
Use a dry erase marker to label the *Date Card* each day. Remind students to refer to the *Date Card* on the *Pocket Chart* as they write the date on their papers each day.

The Season
Talk with students about the name of the current season. Discuss the types of things they might see, hear, taste, touch, or smell during this season and write them on the board. Have students vote for their favorite image and encourage the student who made that suggestion to use dry erase markers to draw a picture for the season on the *Season Picture Card* and place it on the *Pocket Chart*.

Using the Special Days Cards
Use a dry erase marker to label the four *Special Days Cards* with special days for the month, such as birthdays, field trips, holidays, vacations, special visitors, and so on.

Tally the Days
After explaining how to make tally marks to count, have students use the dry erase marker to make tally marks for each day of the month. Count the tally marks each day and ask students such questions as, “How many days are left until the end of the month?” or “How many weeks have we been in school this month?”

Happy Birthday to You! Desk Tent
Keep a list of your students’ birthdays and refer to it as you

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set up the calendar each month. As students' birthdays arrive, make a copy of the *Happy Birthday to You! Tent Reproducible*, use crayons, markers, and stickers to decorate it, and place it on the student's desk or table the morning of his or her special day.

- Calendar Math
- Use the *Pocket Chart* to introduce students to calendar math activities, like these:
- Talk about how there are seven days in a week and have the students do some addition using the dates on the calendar. For example, if today is Monday and it is the 6th, what will the date be next Monday?
 - Have students look at the special days section and today's date section and calculate how many days it will be until one of the special days included on the *Pocket Chart*.
 - Have students identify whether the day is an odd-numbered day or an even-numbered day.
 - Create calendar riddles for students to guess a date using your clues. For instance, for the 24th say, "I am an even number. I have two digits. My digits add up to 6. What's my date?"
 - Ask questions to familiarize students with ordinal numbers. For example, you might ask, "What's the date on the third Friday of this month?"

Calendar Grid Reproducible

Copy and distribute the *Calendar Grid Reproducible*. Have students fill out the calendar at the beginning of the month: Tell them to write the name of the month at the top, copy the days of the week in the correct places, and number the days for the month. Encourage students to come up with their own symbols to show special days and use their crayons and markers to illustrate them, such as a flag to symbolize Memorial Day or a candle for a birthday.

Goal Card Reproducible

Copy and distribute the *Goal Card Reproducible* at the beginning of each month. Explain to students that they should set realistic goals and to think of things they can do to help them reach those goals. Have students set a goal for themselves for the month, record it on their reproducible, and then write what they can do to help them reach the goal. For instance, a student might write, *I want to get a 100 on my spelling test each week* for his goal and *I will study my words for 30 minutes each night and I will write my words three times every day* as two ways to reach his or her goal. At the end of the month, ask students to review their goals and see if they have achieved them. If so, check the box labeled *Yes, I did it!* If not, check the box labeled *I can do better next time.*

Goal Card Reproducible

Name: _____

My Goal for the Month

Month:

This month I will: _____

This is how I plan to reach my goal: _____

☐

Yes, I did it!

☐

I can do better next time.

Decorate, cut out, fold into a tent, and then tape together as shown here.



Happy Birthday to You!

Happy Birthday to You!

Tape this flap to the inside of the tent.