

## Bulletin Board Ideas

### Background Ideas:

- Fabric
- Scrapbook materials
- Old curtains/drapes
- Wall Paper
- Wrapping Paper, Newspaper, Shelf Paper
- Shower Curtain
- Artificial Grass
- Carpet
- Tablecloth

### Border Ideas:

- Staple old greeting cards together
- Postcards
- Fabric
- Cartoons from Newspaper
- Flashcards
- Playing Cards
- Old CDs
- Play Money
- Bookmarks
- Rope
- Leaves
- Students' handprints
- Socks, gloves, ties
- Wide Ribbon

Remember Bulletin boards don't have to be on a designated wall space. Use the back of the door, an easel, side of a file cabinet, etc.

### Where to get supplies:

- Parent Donations/Wish List
- Garage Sales/School Flea Market
- Dollar Store
- Freebie Recycle Table
- Save small items and before you know it you've got a theme going

### Tip for those who think they can't draw:

Even if you're not an artist, you can create pictures of just about anything you want for your bulletin board displays. Find the picture you want to use on the internet or in a coloring book, and then use an overhead to enlarge it to the appropriate size. To enlarge your picture, put a transparency sheet over it and use a marker to trace the outline. Then project your tracing onto a large piece of paper and trace the outline in pencil. Use a marker to darken the outline of the picture, and then decorate it with crayons, markers, wrapping paper, paint, and/or fabric.

## Bulletin Boards Month-by-Month

### The Tree

- Create a Large Tree out of old crumpled brown bags or paper and change leaves throughout the year.
- Have a classroom adopt each month/season or change yourself.
- Start with green leaves, red apples for start of year. If parents stop by for Back To School Night, make it a Giving Tree and put book titles/supplies on the apples that parents can pick and grant a wish to the library. Or you can have a bunch of apples cut out and on first library ask if anyone read a great book over the summer. They can put the title on an apple and then hang it on the tree.
- Change to fall leaves in October. Add fall color hands for leaves for Thanksgiving. Have children write what they are thankful for before on the leaves before you put up the leaves.
- Strip the hands and hang lights or other decorations for the holidays.
- Add snowflakes for Winter Months or just for January.
- Decorate with Hearts for February. Have children write what books they love on the hearts.
- Decorate with clovers for March
- Decorate with eggs for April
- Back to green leaves/paper blossoms for May

### August/September

- Kick Off A Great Year or Get a Kick out of Reading (Soccer foot kicking or football flying over goalpost)
- Keys to A Great School Year (have different keys, large cut-outs of keys with rules printed on them)
- Recipe for A Good School Year or Recipe for Reading (Big recipe card with ingredients listed, rolling pin out of paper, apron, on Checkerboard tablecloth)
- Welcome Snack to School (include healthy snack options)
- Library Rules (show clown juggling balls, have rule on each ball)
- National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15, pics of famous Hispanic authors, copies of their books)
- Banned Book Week (books in box made to look like Jail cell, copies of covers on wall in jail cell)

### October

- Fall Into A Good Book (leaves, book covers, fall themes)
- Nuts About Books (squirrel with different nuts, leaves)
- Rake In A Good Book (fall theme, rake, leaves, basket)
- Reading Leaves You Smiling (fall leaves)
- Boooks Are Real Treats (ghost reading with large paper candy)
- Get Caught in a Good Book (spider web with big spider holding book, little books caught in the web)
- We are “Batty” Over Books (bats, book covers)

- Wrapped Up in Books (Mummies reading)
- Spine-Tingling Books (skeletons reading)
- Columbus Day (Oct. 12, three ships, pic of Christopher Columbus)
- Day of the Dead

#### **November**

- Vote For Books (red, white and blue, patriotic)
- Gobble Up A Great Read (turkey)
- Feast on Reading (cornucopia, Thanksgiving table)
- Give Thanks for Books (same as above)

#### **December**

- Wrapped Up In Reading (large present w/copies of books or bunch of wrapped gifts)
- Books Light Up The Holidays (X-mas lights, menorah, Kinara for Kwanza)
- Blizzard of Books (snowflakes, snowballs)
- Warm Up With a Good Book (blanket as background, mittens, fireplace)

#### **January**

- New Year: New Books (copies of new books)
- Martin Luther King's Birthday
- Chinese New Year (sometimes in February, Lanterns, red envelopes, Red & Gold)
- "Snow" Better Time to Read (snowflakes, animals reading in snow)

#### **February**

- Black History Month (pictures of famous African Americans, books by African-American authors)
- Love Your Library Month (hearts, books)
- Groundhog Day (popping out of hole with book about weather in hand)
- Love Your Books or We Love Books (Valentine Theme)

#### **March**

- Read Across America Day (March 2, map with books across, hands joining across map, Dr. Seuss)
- St. Patrick's Day (clovers, rainbow w/pot of books instead of gold)
- Women's History Month (pictures of women who made a difference)

#### **April**

- National Poetry Month (famous poets, short poems)
- National Library Week
- Reading Helps Your Mind Grow (watering can, flowers, spring theme)
- Swing Into Spring Reading (Sports: tennis, baseball, golf, badminton OR girl or boy swinging on a swing)
- April Showers Bring Reading Hours (umbrella, raindrops)

### May

- Cinco de Mayo (sombrero, Mexican flag)
- Memorial Day (Camouflage)
- Children’s Book Week (pics of favorite classic children’s books)
- Get Hooked on Reading (fish, fishing pole, hook, lures)
- Don’t Bug Me I’m Reading (bugs, springtime)
- Catch the Reading Bug (bug net, butterflies, ladybugs)

### June

- Graduation (Cap, diploma)
- Flag Day
- Stay Cool this Summer: Read! (swimming pool, pool toys)
- We’ve Got the Scoop on Reading (ice cream theme)
- Reading is A Picnic (healthy food, ants—No “c-ants” allowed, grass, picnic basket)
- Our Future’s So Bright . . . We Gotta Wear Shades! (different sunglasses, big sun, pics of students or teachers wearing sunglasses)

### Misc.

- Hats Off to Good Reading (include old hats)
- You Otter Be Reading
- Dive Into Reading (Ocean life, diver)
- Race Into Reading or You “Auto” Read (car theme)
- Pop Into A Good Book or Pop Into Your Library (popcorn machine, etc.)
- Fan-tastic Books (have a bunch of fans as decorations)
- Step Into a Great Book (shoes)
- Ti-riffic Books (old men’s ties)
- How do you say Books? (translate the words “Books” into different languages)
- Author Birthdays (Pics of authors each month w/copies of their books)
- Guess Who We Caught Reading (pictures of staff members with book covering most of face, just eyes showing)
- Some babies grow into teachers! Can you guess who these who these babies are?
- The Dewey Decimal System (pic and bio of Melville, major headings (000, 100, etc.)
- California Young Reader Medal Nominees: Display copies of books, medals