

Welcome to *TEKTOK*
November 28, 2016

“A mistake is a crash-course in learning.”
– Billy Anderson

Web Sites

[ReadWriteThink: Dr. Seuss Classroom Activity](#)

A classroom activity to celebrate the life and works of Dr. Seuss on Read Across America Day. Provides teacher ideas and suggestions for activities as well as links, lesson plans, and a bibliography.

<http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/calendar-activities/read-across-america-celebrates-20455.html>

[Springfield Museums: Who is Dr. Seuss?](#)

Here's a detailed biography of Dr. Seuss.

<https://www.seussinspringfield.org/who-dr-seuss>

[Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site: Dr. Seuss](#)

This "Featured Author," selection speaks more about how and why Dr. Seuss (Theodor Geisel) wrote his children's books than about his life. Hurst also suggests the Dr. Seuss books can be used to teach older students some literary techniques as well as to teach younger students basic reading skills.

<http://www.carolhurst.com/authors/drseuss.html>

Hardware/Software

Storage Recommendations & Optimization

MacOS now includes a feature which can help to discover where your disk space has vanished. You'll see how much space Applications, Documents, iTunes, Mail, Photos, Trash, other users, System, and other items found in the file system take up.

Go to the  Apple menu and choose "About This Mac" and then visit the "Storage" tab. Next to your primary Macintosh HD, you'll see a "Manage" button, which is how you access the new storage optimization screen.

You'll also find options to store stuff in iCloud (highly recommend having a very fast and very stable internet connection if you use this feature), reduce clutter, empty trash automatically, and to optimize storage by ditching old

iTunes crud.

The Utility is kind of like a simpler version of OmniDiskSweeper or DaisyDisk, but it's built into macOS and doesn't require any downloads.

Famous People from American History

Dr. Seuss

The beloved author of more than 46 children's books
by Borgna Brunner

Green Eggs and Ham

At the time of Theodor Seuss Geisel's death in 1991, his 46 children's books had sold more than 200 million copies, and his last, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* (1990), was still on the bestseller lists. His books, which he both illustrated and wrote, have been translated into twenty languages as well as Braille.

Wockets, Whos, and Grinches

Better known by his pen name, Dr. Seuss, he populated his odd and fanciful children's books with a hybrid bestiary of Wockets, Whos, Grinches, bunches of Hunches, Bar-ba-loots, red fish, blue fish, and a fox in socks. He once remarked in an interview, "If I were invited to a dinner party with my characters, I wouldn't show up."

His stories march forward at an incantatory, rhythmic pace, and are full of tongue-twisters, word play, and highly inventive vocabulary. The American Heritage Dictionary in fact credits Dr. Seuss as the originator of the word *nerd*, which made its first appearance in his 1950 book, *If I Ran the Zoo*: "And then just to show them, I'll sail to Ka-Troo And Bring Back an It-Kutch a Preep and a Proo a Nerkle a Nerd and a Seersucker, too!"

Rejected by 28 Publishers

His books were originally considered too outlandish to appeal to children. His first, *And to Think That I Saw it on Mulberry Street* (1937), was reputedly rejected by twenty-eight publishers before it finally found a home at Random House. It was one of the company's most prescient decisions: former Random House President Bennett Cerf once remarked, "I've published any number of great writers, from William Faulkner to John O'Hara, but there's only one genius on my authors list. His name is Ted Geisel."

The Cat in the Hat

Among his most famous books is *The Cat and the Hat* (1957), a story about

two children who find themselves home alone with a roguish, hat-wearing feline who is a study in bad behavior. With only 223 vocabulary words and much repetition, it was ideally suited for beginning readers and became a lively alternative to the wooden dullness of the "See Spot run" primers.

Green Eggs and Ham (1960) managed with a vocabulary of just fifty words to tell the story of a Seuss creature's relentless crusade to introduce a hapless furry character to a revolting dish.

Political Cartoonist and Documentary Filmmaker

In addition to becoming one of the world's most loved children's writers, Ted Geisel worked as a political cartoonist, an advertising illustrator, and a documentary filmmaker. Geisel also wrote other books under the pseudonyms Theo LeSieg and Rosetta Stone.

He graduated from Dartmouth College, where he edited the school humor magazine, and pursued a Ph.D. in English literature at Oxford, ultimately dropping out when he decided his studies were "astonishingly irrelevant." They certainly did little to aid his phantasmagorical imagination in the creation of the environmentally conscious Loraxes and fractious Sneetches, not to mention the indescribable Zubble-wumps and ooey-goopy green Ooblecks. Dr. Seuss claimed his ideas started with doodles: "I may doodle a couple of animals; if they bite each other, it's going to be a good book."

Riddles You Can Tell in Class

What is a math teacher's favorite dessert?

Pi!__

What object is king of the classroom?_

The ruler!

Why do elephants have grey skin?

To keep their insides together.

This Day in History

Birthdates which occurred on November 29:

1803 Christian Doppler discovered Doppler Effect (color shift)

1832 Louisa May Alcott Germantown PA, author (Little Women)

1898 CS Lewis English writer/scholar

1907 Merle Travis country singer (16 Tons)

1927 Vin Scully sportscaster (NBC Baseball Game of the Week)
1932 Diane Ladd Meridian Miss, actress (Wild Angels, Wild at Heart)
1940 Chuck Mangione jazz composer/horn blower (Chasing the Clouds Away)
1946 Suzy Chaffee US, skier/chapstick user (Olympics-1968)
1949 Garry Shandling comedian (It's Garry Shandling Show)
1955 Howie Mandel Toronto Canada, comedian (Dr Wayne Fiscus-St Elsewhere)
1960 Cathy Moriarty actress (Neighbors, Raging Bull)
1961 Kim Delaney Philadelphia PA, actress (All My Children, Tour of Duty)
1963 Andrew McCarthy actor (St Elmo's Fire)

On This Day:

1812 Napoleon's Grand Army crosses Berezina River in retreat from Russia
1864 Colorado militia kills 150 peaceful Cheyenne Indians
1877 Thomas Edison demonstrates the hand-cranked phonograph
1887 US receives rights to Pearl Harbor, on Oahu, Hawaii
1890 1st Army-Navy football game, Score: Navy 24, Army 0 at West Point
1929 Lt Cmdr Richard E Byrd sends "My calculations indicate that we have reached the vicinity of the South Pole" (He was wrong)
1944 John Hopkins hospital performs 1st open heart surgery
1947 UN Gen Assembly partitions Palestine between Arabs & Jews
1952 President-elect Eisenhower visits Korea to assess the war
1961 Freedom Riders attacked by white mob at bus station in Miss
1961 Mercury-Atlas 5 carries a chimp (Enos) to orbit
1963 LBJ sets up Warren Comm to investigate assassination of JFK
1969 Beatles' "Come Together," single goes #1
1975 Kilauea Volcano erupts in Hawaii
1976 Free agent Reggie Jackson signs 5 year pact with Yankees

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