

# Groundhog Day Activities!



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# Groundhog Day Reasons To Celebrate!

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Professional authors and writers often write about things that interest them or that they care a lot about. They also share their ideas and opinions about certain topics. If you were a professional author and writer, and wanted to encourage others to celebrate Groundhog Day, what reasons would you give them to encourage them to celebrate this day? How many reasons can you come up with?

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# Groundhog Day Drawing!

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Create a drawing of a groundhog. The groundhog, also called a whistlepig or woodchuck, can look realistic (like a photograph or real groundhog) or it can be changed to take on human or super human characteristics. Be creative with your drawing and have fun!!

# Groundhog Self Portrait!

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When an artist draws, paints or sculpts a work of art that looks like herself or himself, this piece of art is called a self-portrait. Can you draw a self portrait of yourself looking like a groundhog? Have fun creating!

# Groundhog Day Poem

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What do you think about on Groundhog Day? What ideas do you have? Create a poem using the theme of Groundhog Day. Your poem can have words that rhyme at the end of a line or it can be a prose, non-rhyming poem.

Your poem could also be a haiku, which is a 17 syllable (5-7-5), three line, Japanese poem that does not rhyme. A haiku contains at least one reference to nature and refers to an event that is happening in the present moment. It is strongly suggestive, inviting the reader to experience his or her own feelings and ideas.

Write your poem on this page; when you are finished, share your poem with your classmates, friends or family!

# Ideas for Poetry

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## Haiku

The haiku is a 17 syllable (5-7-5) “one breath” Japanese poem. Containing at least one reference to nature, the Haiku refers to a particular event as it is happening in the present. It is strongly suggestive, inviting the reader to experience his own feelings and insights.

Example:

Like a rose petal  
I fall away from one place  
into light and peace

## Prose Poetry

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Prose poetry does not need to use rhyme or rhythm. It is whatever you would like it to be! Be creative!

EXAMPLE:

Hail to “today!”  
You are the breath of fresh air;  
you are the life that flows within me.  
I shall cherish you  
and make you mine, “today!”

# History and Poetry

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Poetry has been written since the beginning of time. Inscriptions on the walls of ancient caves or onto artifacts have long been a source of history throughout the ages.

When it comes to Groundhog Day, there are several known poems that were written that tell us a lot about that special day.

Old English song:

If Candlemas be fair and bright,  
Come, winter, have another flight;  
If Candlemas brings cloud and rain,  
Go winter, and come come again.

A Scottish couplet:

If Candlemas Day is bright and clear,  
There'll be twa (two) winters in the year.

Another version of the Scottish rhyme:

If Candlemas Day be dry and fair,  
The half o'winer to come and mair,  
If Candlemass Day be wet and foul,  
The half of winter's gone at Yule.

From Germany:

For as the sun shines on Candlemas Day,  
So far will the snow swirl until May.  
For as the snow blows on Candlemas Day,  
So far will the sun shine before May.

America:

If the sun shines on Groundhog Day;  
Half the fuel and half the hay.

# Groundhog Songs!

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Why not! Make up your own song! You can make up your own melody or use a melody of a song that many people are familiar with. Examples of these are on the following pages.

Write your own song on this page, sing it and share it with others! You could even use the words to a Groundhog poem that you may have written. Have fun!

# Groundhog Songs!

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## UP AT THE KNOB SONG

*(sung to the tune of "Up On The Housetop")*  
(words by: Kathy Bish)

### Version 1: If Phil does *not* see his shadow

Up at the Knob the groundhogs pause  
Sitting up and showing claws.  
Is there a shadow here today?  
If not spring is on the way.

Cheer, Cheer, Cheer  
Spring is here!  
Cheer, Cheer, Cheer  
Spring is here!  
Up at the Knob it is so clear  
We're waiting for Springtime to appear!

### Version 2: If Phil sees his shadow

Up at the Knob the groundhogs pause  
Sitting up and showing claws.  
"I see my shadow." says old Phil  
Six more weeks of winter chill.

Boo, hoo, hoo,  
We're so blue!  
Boo, hoo, hoo,  
We're so blue!  
Up at the Knob when shadows come  
Six more weeks till we have sun!

# Groundhog Songs!

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## **I'M DREAMING OF THE GREAT GROUNDHOG SONG**

*(to the tune of "White Christmas")*

From: Holiday Ideas for Youth Groups, Wayne Rice & Mike Yaconelli, Youth Specialties, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan

I'm dreaming of the Great Groundhog  
Just like I do this time each year  
When he brings nice weather  
And brings us together  
To wait for him to appear.

I'm dreaming of the Great Groundhog  
With every groundhog card I write.  
May your Groundhog's Day be bright  
When the Great Groundhog visits you tonight.

## **GROUNDHOG WONDERLAND SONG**

*(to the tune of "Winter Wonderland")*

From: Holiday Ideas for Youth Groups, Wayne Rice & Mike Yaconelli, Youth Specialties, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Groundhogs hoot, are your listening?  
'Neath the sun, all is glist'ning  
A real warm light we're happy tonight  
Waitin' in a Groundhog wonderland.

In the field, we're watching for the Groundhog.  
We've been waiting for this day all year.  
Do you think that he will see his shadow?  
And will we know if springtime's almost here?

Later on, while we're eating  
What we got on Groundhog Day  
We'll share all our sacks  
Of good Groundhog snacks  
Waitin' in a Groundhog wonderland.

# I WANNA BE A GROUNDHOG

I wanna be ground hog  
and live beneath the ground.  
I wanna be a ground hog;  
be furry, soft and round.

I'd like to sleep all winter;  
have lots of dreams and rest;  
wake up in spring and have a fling—  
with children I'd be blest.

I wanna be a ground hog  
and bask in the mid day sun.  
I wanna be a ground hog;  
eat berries and grass—what fun!

I'll do my duty yearly,  
a shadow yea or nay;  
to let you know if spring is here  
or alas, it's far away!

I wanna be a ground hog;  
my distance I will keep.  
I wanna be a ground hog;  
to eat and play and sleep.

I'll be your friend, do you no harm;  
I'll go on my gentle way.  
And every year I'll send you love  
and a **Happy Groundhog  
Day!**



**Anitra the Groundhog**