

The child will learn and understand the cyclic system of our calendar. The linear succession, the present, future times, the repetition of the time units - the days, weeks, months, years. When one unit finishes another one begins. Everything has its start, progression and finish. Everything is cyclic, everything repeats itself. Each day starts and finishes. Each week starts and finishes, each month, each year, each decade, each century.

Each word starts and finishes, each sentence starts and finishes so does each paragraph, chapter, book etc.

How to choose a calendar.

The best time to buy a calendar is after Christmas. There are a lot of calendars on offer, and of course, they are much cheaper during the after Christmas sales. Pick a calendar with nice pictures for each month.

The names of days should be printed in full (Sunday not Sun, Monday not Mon etc). The days have to be numbered from 1 to the last number (28, 29, 30, 31). Some calendars have no space for the last numbers and print them at the beginning of the month and that may be very confusing.

The spaces for each day have to be large enough to fit some of your written notes (such as Mum's birthday, or Wet and Wild, bowling, John's party etc).

The best time to start using the calendar is the 1st of January. Of course, when you buy the calendar later, you have to start at a later date. Find out which is your starting date.

Find the month, the date and make a big circle around that day. That is the starting point. Cross out all the days prior (before) that day as those days are already gone.

Using calendars.

We all organise our lives around the months and days each year. We plan our activities, holidays and celebrations ahead, we check and make sure that we don't miss an important date, a birthday, an appointment, a visit, a camping holiday or miss a plane.

To be able to plan and stick to our time table we have to have our own working calendar and our own easy to follow diary.

Each child should have:

- A calendar for everyday use
- A diary for school to enter important upcoming events and deadlines for projects and home work activities
- A chart calendar (a simple planner), where all 12 months are displayed next to each other, so the students can see the whole year as a complete system. At the end of each month a full month will be crossed. "May has gone."

Familiarise the students with the fact that the calendar has 12 pages, each page stands for 1 month.

Number the pages with big clear numbers, so the student will relate the month to the ordinal number of the month.

Point out the present month (circle, colour, mark). Learn all about the present month. How many days in the month? What day is number 1 in the month? Are there any holidays? When? How are they marked? What is the number of the last day? Etc...

The child has to cross out each day in the morning or before bed time.

Talk with your child about today:

- a) the day (name)
- b) the month
- c) the date (number)
- d) what is the weather like / cold / hot / sunny / cloudy / wet / etc
- e) what are the main activities or subjects today
- f) special event if any (sport, excursions etc)
- g) what are we going to do after school etc

At the end of the month tear off the sheet and throw it in the bin or cross the page and turn over to the next month. The month has gone.

Mark holidays, birthdays, excursions, parties for current month on all calendars.

As the child crosses out each passing day he will look forward to the next day, next month, next event.

They will learn the concept of today, tomorrow and yesterday.

Strategies for calendar pages activities.

For chart calendars -

Number the days of each month:

- a) in order as they come month by month on the first day of the month or on the day before the start of the month
- b) number the days for all 12 month in one session

For all calendars -

Colour code the seasons.

Colour or mark the public holidays and the school holidays.

Mark birthdays, sports days, Fete, major excursions etc...

Mark the end of the School Year.

Work out how many days are there in a year.

Colour, cross off or circle the days one by one as they pass by.

Cross each month on the last day.

Count and discuss the number of holidays. How many days, how many weeks. Find out the first day and the last day of holidays.

Watch for birthdays, fete, dances, excursions etc.

Take notice of the seasons.

The ___ — month _____.

Sunday weekend	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday weekend

template

CHART

An overview of the 12 month in the year _____.

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S