

Daily attendance often plummets before and following spring break. Educators can plan ahead and offer activities to encourage attendance and participation, whether school is in person, remote or hybrid. Ask families and students for ideas and help. Local community groups often will provide coordination, volunteers and financial supports.

Choose from the following ideas that are most suitable for your school community and grade levels. Most of these activities can be adjusted so they are streamed online or available to students and families over a computer or phone!

- 1. Spirit week:** Engage students through activities (academic or non-academic) and themed days where students dress up as a hero or draw a picture of themselves as the hero. Download our Sprinting Through Spring calendar with sample activities ([on this page](#)).
- 2. Spring education events:** Such as [Read Across America Day](#), Million Word Challenge, Pi Day or Earth Day.
- 3. Outdoor field day:** Get students and staff moving! Older students can be trained to lead movement or mindfulness activities.
- 4. Pop up Saturday festivals:** Involve different area schools – a good use of community partnerships.
- 5. Multicultural day or a world music dance party:** Invite students to share from their own cultures or from an area of the world they are interested in.
- 6. Shows and showcases:** Hold in-person performances, spotlight activities, or showcase upcoming summer or afterschool expanded learning programs.
- 7. Field trips:** Organize opportunities to learn outside the classroom by visiting zoos, planetariums or local farms. Ensure policies are inclusive so that all students can participate. Or plan online field trips, using [zoo webcams](#), locating astronomical features via a [virtual planetarium](#), or delving into biomes with The Nature Conservancy.
- 8. Breakfast bunch:** Arrange for a small group of students to have breakfast with the principal or selected favorite administrators or teachers.
- 9. College and career spirit:** Take pictures of students in graduation robes. Younger students draw a picture of their future and share online.
- 10. For next year:** Create a mentor program and assign 5th-grade buddies to kindergarten students to prepare them for 1st grade, or arrange 5th and 6th grade buddies for next year's middle schoolers.

## Caring Activities

- 1. Basic needs:** Provide personal items (hygiene) or free fruit in classrooms several times a week. Invite families to pick up extra groceries the day before spring break.
- 2. Appreciation days:** Everyone thanks a particular type of person, (parents/caregivers, teachers, custodial staff, students, etc.).

For more ideas visit our webpage: <https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/spring-attendance-slide/>