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Elementary School Parents

make the difference!



Celebrate famous February birthdays with learning fun

February is filled with birthdays of notable people. Plan some fun activities to help your child learn about these heroes, writers, inventors, scientists and artists:

- **February 4**—Rosa Parks. Go online to learn more about this heroine of America's civil rights movement. There are lots of books about her, too. Check some out at the library.
- **February 8**—Jules Verne. He is often referred to as the father of science fiction. Read one of his science fiction stories together.
- **February 11**—Thomas Edison. Ask your child to invent something to improve daily life.
- **February 12**—Abraham Lincoln. He delivered one of the best known speeches in American history, the

Gettysburg Address. Challenge your child to memorize the speech.

- **February 15**—Susan B. Anthony. Go online to learn more about this activist who fought for women's right to vote.
- **February 19**—Nicolaus Copernicus. Take a walk together and look at the stars this early astronomer studied.
- **February 21**—Nina Simone. Listen to the singer's music with your child and learn more about her life.
- **February 22**—George Washington. Ask what your child would do as president of the United States.
- **February 25**—Pierre-Auguste Renoir. Look at his paintings online or in a book. Ask your child to create a painting in Renoir's style.

Four ways to strengthen your child's character



Values help students make good choices, develop self-esteem, and become responsible individuals.

Teaching values at home supports what schools are doing to create a positive school culture that helps all students learn.

Here are four strategies to build your child's character:

1. **Think about the values** that are important to you and your family. Talk about them openly with your child.
2. **Teach by example.** Your example is the most powerful teacher of all. Ask yourself, "If my child watched my behavior all day, what lessons would it teach?"
3. **Set high standards.** Expect your child to act responsibly, to be kind to others and to tell the truth. Some families make it a point of family pride. "In the Smith family, we tell the truth."
4. **Talk about the Golden Rule.** Teaching kids to treat others the way they would like to be treated helps them make better choices. Ask your child, "Would you want someone to talk to you that way?"