

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Velcro's original patent expired on this day in 1978, bringing in many imitations.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>In the 1940s, engineer George de Mestral was inspired to create Velcro after observing prickly burrs stuck to his clothes when he went hiking.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>He saw tiny hooks on the burr under a microscope. Why do you think fruits or seeds might need this feature?</p>	<p>5</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>Mestral worked with a weaver to give nylon fabric similar hooks and loops that could stick together.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>See a scanning electron microscope image of Velcro at http://science.exeter.edu/jekstrom/VT/VELCRO/Velcro.html.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Birthday of Melvin Calvin (1911–1997), who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1961.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Calvin explained the part of photosynthesis in which carbon dioxide (CO₂) is turned to sugar.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>This process is named the Calvin Cycle.</p>	<p>11</p> <p><i>Photosynthesis</i> is how green plants turn CO₂ and water into carbohydrates and oxygen using light energy.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>How do plants help humans?</p>	<p>13</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>Teachers, read more about photosynthesis in Science 101 on p. 60.</p>
<p>15</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>Birthday of Marie Maynard Daly (1921–2003), the first African-American woman to receive a Ph.D. in chemistry in the United States.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Daly was a biochemist, a scientist who studies the chemistry of living things.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>One of the many things Daly researched was arteries.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Why is it important to study arteries?</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>Daly was inspired by Paul de Kruif's <i>Microbe Hunters</i>, a book about the discovery of microbes.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>What science books have you found inspiring?</p>
<p>22</p> <p>The first national Earth Day celebration was held in 1970.</p>	<p>23</p> 	<p>24</p> 	<p>25</p> <p>Read <i>Earth Day</i> by Robin Nelson (Grades K–4).</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Find out how to make your home energy smart at www.energybog.org and www.eere.energy.gov/kids/roofus.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Why is it important to conserve energy?</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Read <i>Science Frontiers: Green Power—Eco-Energy Without Pollution</i> by David Jefferis (Grades K–8).</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Read about germs at www.kidshealth.org/kid/talk/qa/germs.html.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Louis Pasteur spoke about how germs can cause disease in 1878.</p>					

For more resources, click on the calendar at www.nsta.org/elementaryschool#journal.