

MAKE YOUR OWN ALMANAC:

What is an almanac?

An **almanac** is a collection of useful information. They were first used by farmers. It had important information about the weather, sunrise and sunset schedules, and solar eclipses!

The weather **predictions** printed in almanacs helped farmers determine the best time to plant their crops.

How did they predict the weather back then? Weather scientist, what we call **meteorologist**, studied astronomy, solar activity, and their current weather patterns to predict what each season would be.

Did you know, America's first almanac was published in 1792!

Kind of like the internet today, Almanacs also contained random, but still useful information about food and recipes, home decorating, technology, even horoscopes!

To make an almanac for you or your family think about your family's traditions. What dates are important to your family? Birthdays, holiday's, graduations, or other special celebrations. What else can you include for fun? Examples are listed below.

- Average monthly temperatures and rain, sun, or snowfall totals
- Moon phases, eclipses
- Weather forecast maps and time zones
- Favorite family, or famous quotations
- Birthdays and anniversaries
- Holidays
- Drawings or sketches (especially of local animals and plants)
- Jokes
- Special recipes
- Peak harvest times of your favorite fruits or vegetables
- Horoscopes
- List community events
- Weather facts and definitions