

Labor Day

Homeschool Unit Study



Let's Learn about Labor Day!

Here are some books and activities to correspond with our unit study printables.

Books About Labor Day

- Things Kids Should Know About Labor Day by Educational Parade
- The Story of Labor Day: Learning About The Workers' Holiday by Chris Art Aferd
- The Amazing History of Labor Day - The Day That Celebrates America's Workers by Peter Stevens
- A Labor Day Hooray by Dee Smith
- Who Started the Labor Day Celebration? by Baby Professor
- How to Draw Professions and Occupations for Kids by Shirley Shirley

Labor Day Snack Ideas

Whether you're having a family and friends cookout to celebrate or it's just another homeschooling day in your house, get the kids involved and make a fun USA-themed appetizer or dessert.

- Make a charcuterie board with your meat and cheeses in the shape of an American flag. Line them up in rows for the stripes and use a small star-shaped cutter for your cheese.
- Make a red, white, and blue cheesecake. After slicing up the cheesecake, decorate each piece with blueberries, and strawberries or raspberries.
- Bake cookies and decorate them with a patriotic- or even career-themed!
- Make red, white, and blue fruit tarts!
- As it is the unofficial end of summer, bake an apple pie, peach pie, or better yet, make some homemade ice cream!



Visit [Homeschool.com](https://www.homeschool.com) for additional resources for your Labor Day unit study, including educational videos, activity ideas, timeline of events, and more!

Read to Learn



THE HISTORY OF LABOR DAY

Read the passage below to learn about the history of Labor Day, then answer the questions on the next page.

Labor Day is a collective celebration of the hard work of all American workers. It's not just for military workers; it's meant to pay tribute to the work of all Americans. Though we still celebrate it several decades later, Labor Day actually emerged during one of the most dismal times in America's labor history.

Toward the end of the 19th century, American workers often worked 12-hour days and 7-day workweeks. Though it was illegal, they also often had children as young as five or six working alongside adults in factories across the nation. Why children? Because employers could get away with paying them only a fraction of the adult wage – despite the fact that they often worked faster. Sadly, all workers had to put up with less-than-ideal circumstances for working, such as unsanitary working conditions, poorly ventilated factories, and very few breaks. This was especially true for the poor and for recent immigrants.



As manufacturing became more popular, so did labor unions. In fact, they became much more vocal and prominent in the 19th century. These labor unions organized strikes and rallies as a protest to poor working conditions. They also urged employers to renegotiate hours and pay for employees.

The idea of a holiday for all workers in America quickly caught popularity. But, when is Labor Day? While it's different every year (since it falls on the first Monday in September and not a particular date), it is always somewhere in the first week of September. On September 5, 1882, about 10,000 workers took an unpaid holiday to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City. This is known as the first Labor Day parade in the United States. It would still be another 12 years, however, before Congress would recognize the holiday as a national one.



Name: _____

Reading Comprehension

THE HISTORY OF LABOR DAY

Tick the true statements and cross out the false ones.

- 1 Labor Day is a celebration of the laziness of American workers. ☐
- 2 Labor Day originated in the 19th century. ☐
- 3 American factory workers had fantastic working conditions. ☐
- 4 Employers had children as young as 5 and 6 working in their factories. ☐

- 5 Answer the questions below using complete sentences.

When was the first Labor Day parade in New York City?

On which day of the week is Labor Day celebrated each year?

Which group organized strikes and protests for better wages and working conditions?

Name: _____

UNITED STATES LABOR DAY



Labor Day is a special day that we celebrate to say thank you to all the adults who work hard every day. It's like a big thank you party for doctors, teachers, firefighters, police officers, farmers, and all the people who do different jobs to help our communities.

We celebrate Labor Day on the first Monday of September. On this day, many people get a break from work, and families often have picnics, go on trips, or enjoy fun activities together. It's a time when we remember how important it is to work together and help each other, and we show our appreciation for the people who make our lives better with their hard work. This holiday also means the end of summer for most people.

1 Why do we celebrate Labor Day?

2 When is Labor Day celebrated?

3 Who are some of the people we thank on Labor Day?

4 What are some things families do on Labor Day?

5 Why is it important to work together and help each other?

Name: _____

LABOR DAY FUN FACTS

THE FIRST LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
WAS CELEBRATED ON

MONTH, YEAR

IN _____
PLACE

WHICH U.S. PRESIDENT
SIGNED THE LAW DECLARING
LABOR DAY A NATIONAL HOLIDAY?

CONGRESS PASSED
AN ACT MAKING IT A
LEGAL HOLIDAY ON

YEAR

WHAT TIME OF
YEAR IS THE HOLIDAY
CELEBRATED?

WHY WAS
LABOR DAY
CREATED?

Name: _____

LABOR DAY FUN FACTS

LABOR DAY IS
CELEBRATED ON



WHAT TYPES OF
ACTIVITIES ARE HELD ON
LABOR DAY?



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE
WHEN YOU GROW UP?

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THAT CAREER?



WHO DO WE
DEDICATE LABOR
DAY TO?

Name: _____

JOBS

Label the pictures with the words in the box.

farmer - engineer - soldier - teacher
artist - firefighter - doctor - police officer



Name: _____

Jobs and Occupations

Read each job description and use the names in the box to fill in the blanks spaces.

Vocabulary

Chef	Teacher	Pilot	Post man	Farmer	Police officer
Firefighter	Doctor	Nurse	Judge	Air hostess	Astronaut
	Taxi driver	Baker	Waiter		

- 1 I treat sick people and I work with doctors. I am a...
- 2 I work in a school and I work with children. I am a...
- 3 I work at a restaurant, I cook food. I am a...
- 4 I fly to many countries, I fly airplanes. I am a...
- 5 I grow crops and I have many animals... I am a...
- 6 I put out fires and rescue cats in trees. I am a...
- 7 I work in airplanes but I'm not a pilot. I am a...
- 8 I deliver letters and parcels to people's houses. I am a...
- 9 I bake bread, cakes and cookies. I am a...
- 10 I drive people to where they want to go. I am a...
- 11 I wear a uniform and I catch criminals. I am a...
- 12 I fly in a rocket and I get to go to space! I am a...
- 13 I grow crops and I have many animals... I am a...
- 14 I take orders in a restaurant and I bring food. I am a...
- 15 I sentence people in court using laws. I am a...

Name: _____

What's My Job?

Take turns miming an activity for others to guess.

doctor	teacher	dentist
singer	baker	shop assistant
cook	police officer	fire fighter
ballet dancer	mechanic	hairstylist

Name: _____

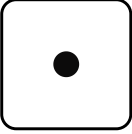
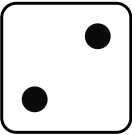


ROLL AND TELL

All About Jobs



Work in pairs or small groups. Take turns to roll the dice.
Every time you roll, you have to tell something about community helpers.

	Who works in an office?	Who helps you learn to read and write?	Who delivers the mail?
	Who helps you when you are in trouble?	What does your mother/father do?	What do you want to be when you grow up?
	Mention 3 community helpers who work with animals	What do you want to be when you grow up?	Mention 3 community helpers who work at school
	Where does an architect work?	Who helps put out fires?	Who cooks food in a restaurant?
	Mention 3 community helpers who wear a uniform	Mention 3 community helpers who fix things	Mention 3 actions that community helpers do
	What does a painter need, to work?	What do astronauts do?	Who helps people get from one place to another?

Name: _____

Labor Day Word Scramble

BREUBEQA

OKCOUTO

EWORRK

RLBOA

KWOR

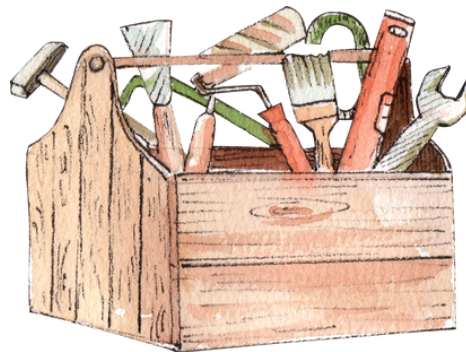
PBEERMEST

BKREA

CETLRBAEE

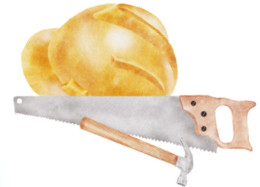
NLINAOTA

NIUNO



Name: _____

Labor Day Word Search



C	S	N	B	W	D	Y	U	J	A
E	B	E	A	T	L	Q	U	I	S
L	C	A	P	T	L	D	N	J	B
E	O	L	R	T	I	B	I	U	R
B	O	A	I	B	E	O	O	U	E
R	K	B	V	W	E	M	N	C	A
A	O	O	K	W	B	Q	B	A	K
T	U	R	Z	O	H	U	U	E	L
E	T	W	O	R	K	E	R	E	R
H	Z	S	H	K	D	G	G	Z	E

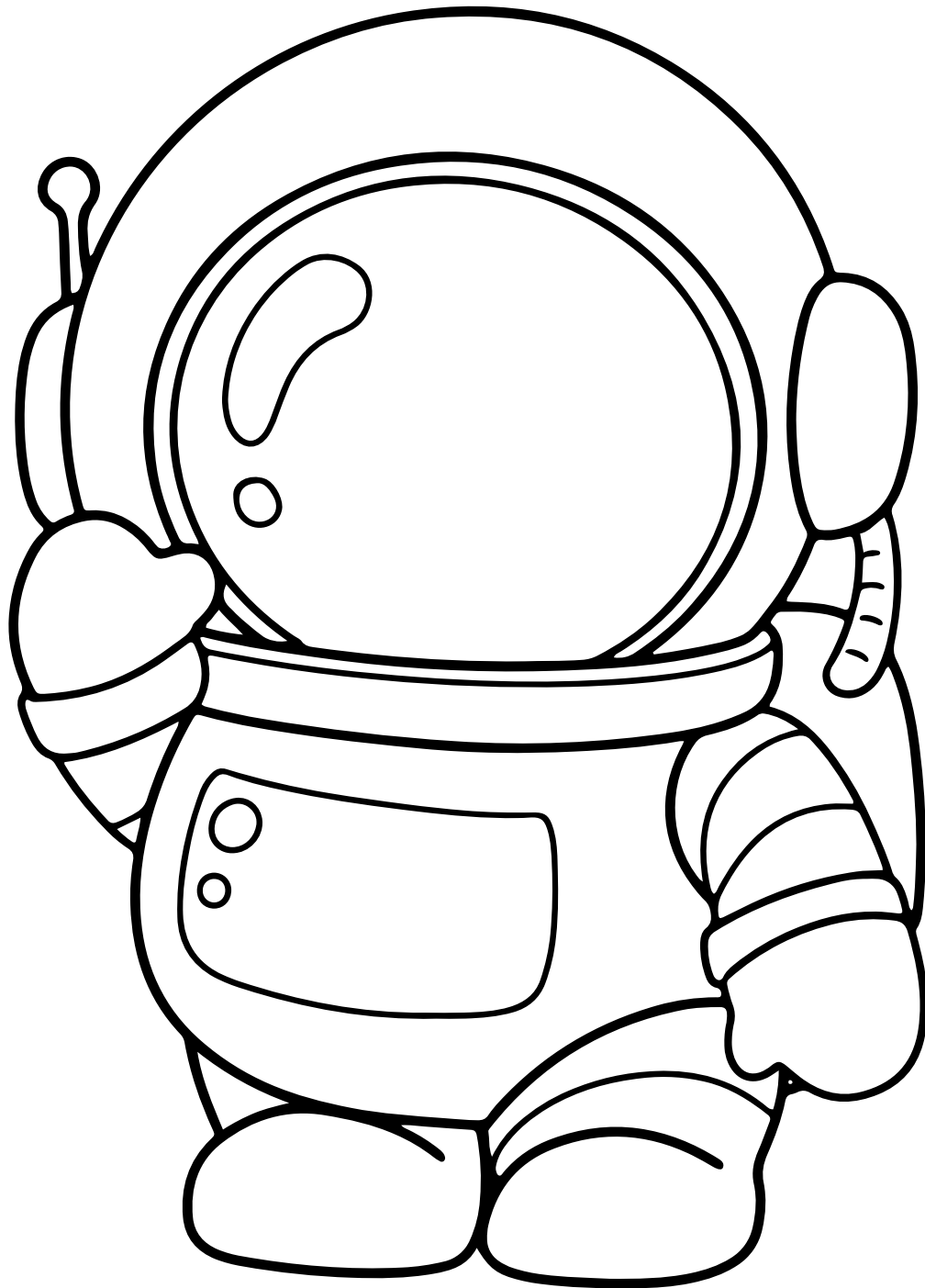
September
worker
union

celebrate
labor
work

barbeque
cookout

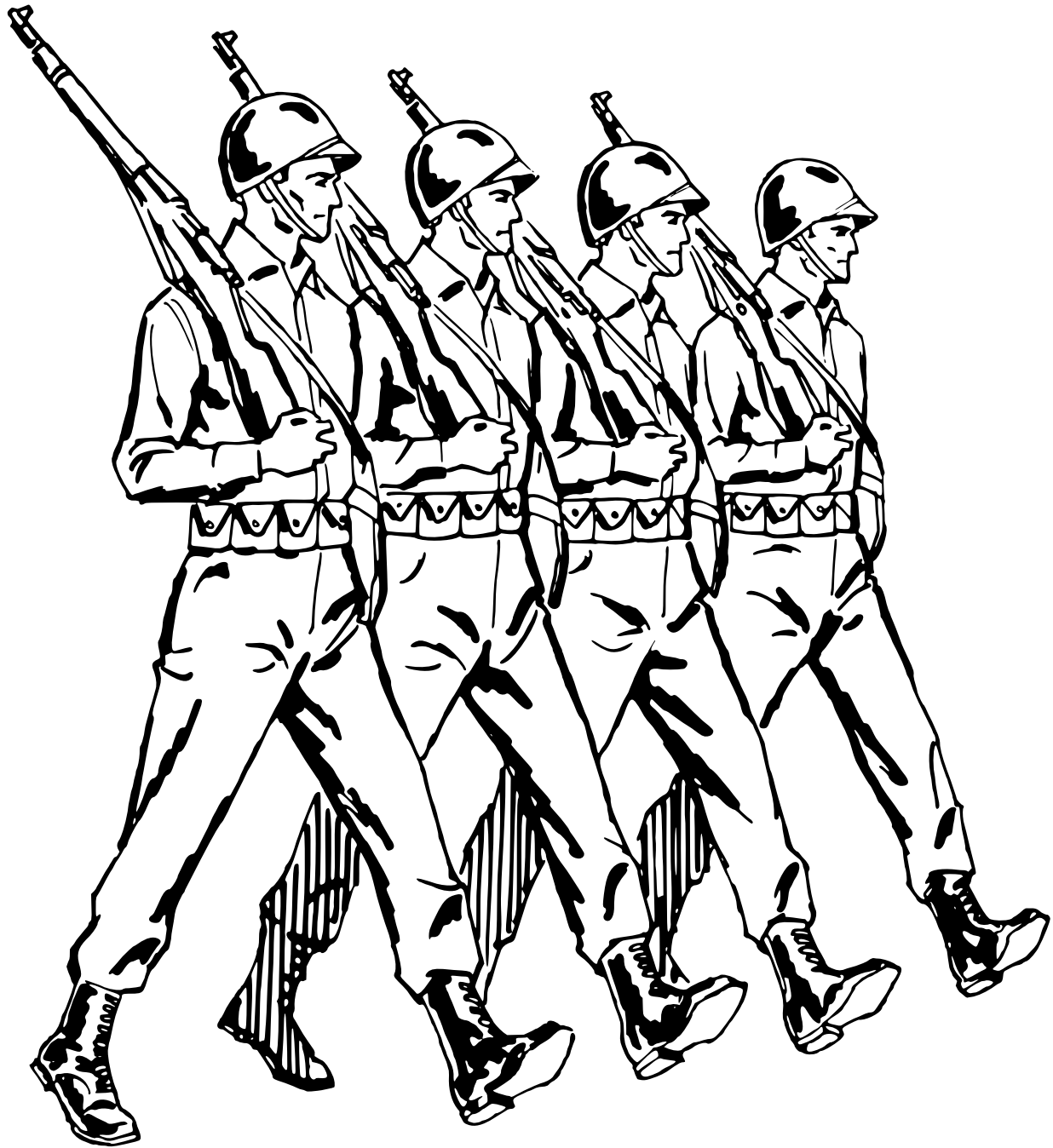
national
break

Name: _____



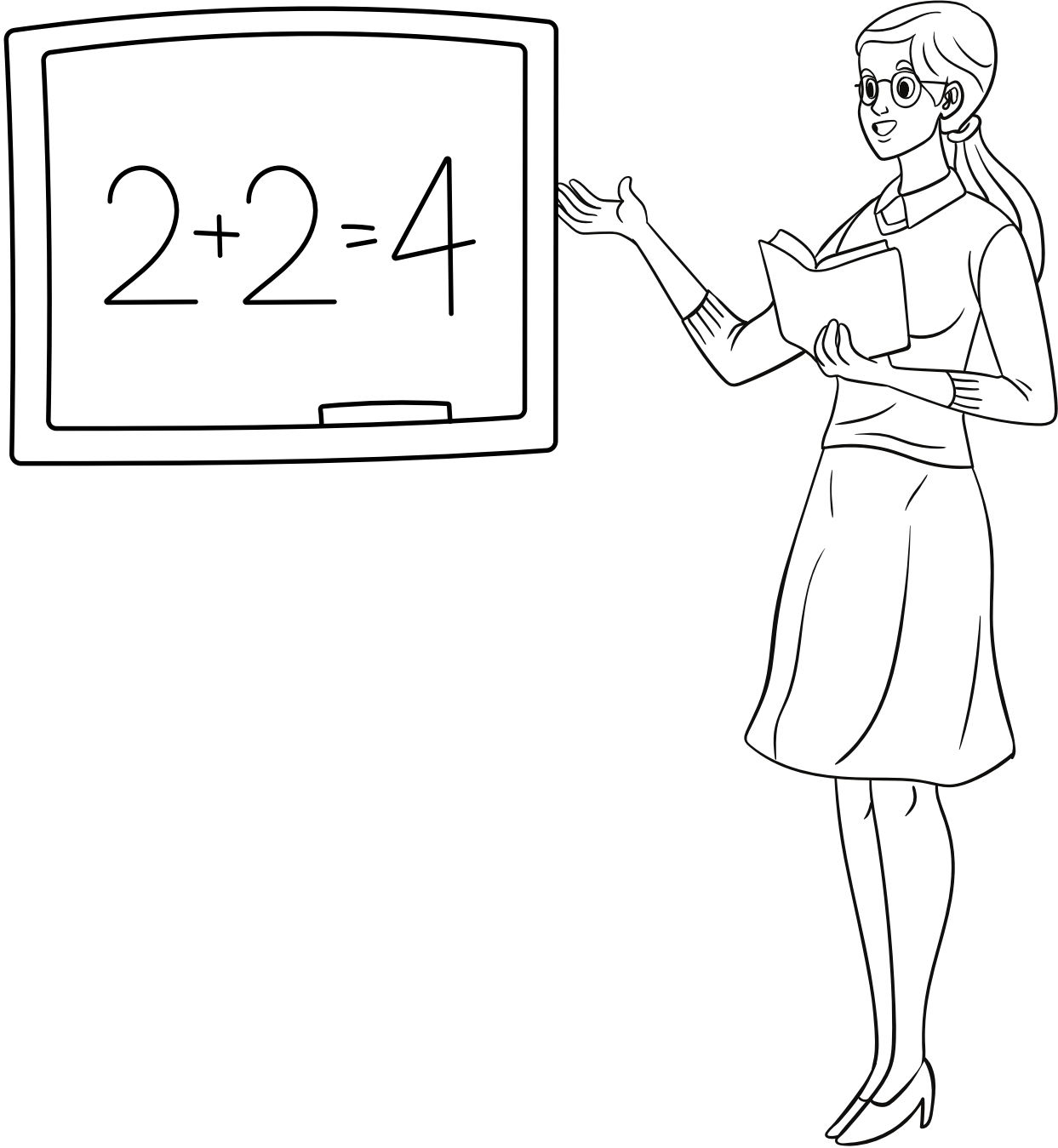
astronaut

Name: _____



soldiers

Name: _____



teacher

Name: _____



doctor

Name: _____



nurse

Name: _____



police officer

Name: _____

Think about all the professions out there.

Would you want to be any of them? None of them?

What do you want to do? What is your dream job?



List a few jobs that you think are interesting in the spaces below.

Now, choose your dream job and explain why you chose it.
