ABOUT THE BOOK
What will Jake do when he forgets to bring the special collection he’s planning to share at the celebration of the 100th day of school?

Jake and his fellow students are getting ready for a celebration. Tomorrow is the 100th day of school and everyone is going to share their collections of 100 things. The day of the celebration arrives. Jake’s friend Henry brings 100 bottle caps and Emily brings 100 paper clips. But Jake forgets the 100 family pictures he has glued into a special memory book at home. Disaster!

The problem is solved thanks to Jake’s ingenuity and the sensitivity of his wonderful principal, Mrs. Wadsworth. He does have a collection to display that day...and something special to share with the class on the 101st day of school.

Lester Laminack’s well-crafted story shows schools in their best light, and Judy Love’s charming illustrations brightly capture the excitement of a busy school day.

THEMES
• 100th day of school celebration
• Solving problems/getting solutions
• Cooperation

ACTIVITIES
The following activities were prepared by teachers from across the country who submitted projects for our contest and Teacher’s Guide.

Hats Off to Reading
Grade Level: Kindergarten
Subject Area: Reading

Our school is a K–6 school and only our Kindergarten classes celebrate the 100th day of school. I decided to do a program just for the Kindergarten group...
and used the 100th day of school to tie everything
together. During the first week of school, I send home an
information sheet to all Kindergarten parents explaining
our program, which is for every parent to pledge to read
to their child 100 stories before the 100th day of school.
The school days are divided into 20 weeks, so parents are
asked to read five stories each week. At the end of the
program every child who turns in their reading journals
are rewarded with prizes like free books, pencils, stickers,
bookmarks, and a special hat to wear when reading. This
program has promoted parent involvement, reading and
family time. It’s also a fun event to celebrate at school.

—Patricia Hamlet, GES Librarian (Gordonsville, TN)

I LOVE School!
Grade Level: Kindergarten
Subject Area: Language Arts and Art

Because in New York State the 100th day of school
usually falls either on or near Valentine’s Day, we
incorporate the two celebrations. For our 100th day
celebration we ask the kindergarten children to give five
or six reasons why they love school. We then transfer
these responses to 100 paper hearts so that each heart has
a child’s written or dictated response to the question
“What do you love about school?” The 100 individual
small hearts are glued onto a large heart and displayed in
front of our classroom for all to enjoy.

—Marcie Elliott & Amy Sabol, Teachers (Nyack, NY)

100 Cans for a Good Cause
Grade Level: Kindergarten
Subject Area: Character Education
Materials: Canned goods drive, Gigantic 100 sign

Our school did two activities to celebrate the 100th
day of school this year. The first activity involved giving
back to our community. Each kindergarten discussed how
some people in our community were less fortunate than
we were and did not have a lot of money for food. So we
came up with the goal for each kindergarten class to try
to collect 100 canned goods to donate to two local food
shelters. We sent home letters to the parents explaining
our project and encouraged them to donate items. All
classes urged each other on to try and reach the goal. By
the end, all classes collected more than 850 food items! It
was a great way to celebrate the 100th day and support
our community.

—Amy Litchfield, Teacher (Summerville, SC)

100 Favorite Things
Grade Level: K–3
Subject Area: Language Arts

I have my students bring a see-through jar or
container that has 100 of their favorite things inside, such
as M&M’s or colorful buttons, etc. If their favorite thing is
a motorcycle, they can put 100 pictures from magazines
of a motorcycle or motorcycle accessories in it. Then, on
the 100th day, we share the items with the class as a
“show and share” project. This helps us all get to know
each other better. Then the kids get together in pairs and
count the items and make graphs showing the kinds of
items they brought. Stories are written using their favorite
items. We do “What If” scenarios. For instance, “What if
you were given the chance to use or try out any of the
things contained in the jars in the front of the room?
Looking at all the jars filled with items, which of the
things would you like to share with someone else such as a
grandparent or relative? The kids love it!

—Karen Skophammer, Teacher (Fort Dodge, IA)

Quintessential Quilt of Learning
Grade Level: K–3
Subject Area: Reading and Art
Materials: 100 cloth squares, fabric paint (various colors),
paper plates for paint, 100 books, one insane
kindergarten teacher with too much time on her hands to
sew quilt squares together

Our kindergarten and third grade classes meet once a
week as reading (book) buddies. During these special
sessions, they share books and other literacy activities.
This year, to celebrate the 100th day, we paid special
tribute to their reading accomplishments by having the
students collectively read 100 books to each other, then
they created their handprints with paint on fabric
squares. Each signed their name and recorded books read
within their own square. The quilt was labeled 100 Days,
100 Books, 100 Hands. The squares were sewn together
by the teacher and the quilt is now displayed in the
school’s multi-purpose room.

—Catherine O’Brion, Teacher (Stockton, CA)

100 Warm Fuzzies
Grade Level: K–5
Subject Area: Math
Materials: Cotton balls, jar, butcher paper, markers, glue,
forms to fill out for spotting “warm fuzzies”

Our class set a goal of giving out 100 warm fuzzies
(random acts of kindness). Each time we “caught”
someone giving a warm fuzzy, we put a fuzzy cotton ball
in a jar. Recording slips were sent home for families to be
on the lookout as well. Once we collected 100 cotton
balls, we grouped them by 10’s on butcher paper. We
displayed our chart in the hall and added typed examples
of some of the warm fuzzies we gave. Not only did we improve our math skills, but also learned the value of kindness!

—Katie Zuehlke, Kindergarten Teacher  
(Annandale, MN)

Our School’s 100 Memories
Grade Level: K–5
Subject Area: Math
Materials: Digital camera, three-ring binder, plastic sheet covers, cardstock, school memories

On the 100th day of school, all classes were able to hear the story, Jake’s 100th Day of School. Students began to recall activities from the school year and write in their Writer’s Notebooks about these events. The students’ enthusiasm prompted teachers to collect memories and photographs from each room to create an album of our favorite “100 memories” of the school year. All memories were put into a Microsoft Word template and then compiled into a scrapbook for our school library. Student response was so positive, that additional copies of the scrapbook had to be created.

—Ann Lewellyn and Brandi Pirtle (Sedalia, MO)

I’m 100 years old!
Grade Level: K–5
Subject Area: Art
Materials: Large construction paper, oil pastels, pencils, sentence strips

Each child made a self-portrait of what they think they would look like when they turn 100. They were all displayed in a “gallery” (our school hall).

—Ana Catasus-Perez, 1st Grade Teacher  
(Miami, FL)

100 Acts of Kindness
Grade Level: K–5
Subject Area: Character Education

On the 100th day of school, students in the class are required to choose from 100 choices of kindness. Before the end of the day, each student must have chosen the number given by his teacher and done them. These are placed on a school wall to remind all to be kind, and students journal how it made them feel and how they improved the school. The Kindness Wall spells “Kindness” in a 100-piece puzzle form so by the end of the day the words “100 Acts of Kindness” is spelled out.

—Sherry Loos, Teacher (Yutan, NE)

100 Acts of Kindness Cards
Grade Level: K–5
Subject Area: Character Education

We do multiple things for our 100th day. I have a grid prepared with different hundred day activities. One of my favorites is 100 Acts of Kindness. Students draw cards that have acts of kindness on them. Once they complete their act of kindness they take a puzzle piece from our large poster and begin to make the word. Once all 100 acts are done, the puzzle is taped together and our wall mural reads “100 acts of kindness.” It is a way to work with the 100th day and make the day special for all students in the school.

—Sherry Loos, 2nd Grade Teacher (Yutan, NE)

100th Day Class Traveling Book
Grade Level: K–12
Subject Area: Writing
Materials: Ideas for list typed on paper, construction paper, photographs, and laminator

On the 100th day of school, one of our activities was to create ten lists (each with ten items) that tell about the children in our classroom. Ten lists with ten items each made a giant list of 100 things. Children worked in pairs to add ideas to each list. The ten lists are:

- 10 Things We Like About Our Classroom
- 10 Sports We Like to Play or Do
- 10 Foods We Like to Eat for Snack Time
- 10 of Our Favorite Colors
- 10 Kinds of Pets We Own
- 10 States We’ve Visited
- 10 Things We Like to Do at Recess
- 10 Movies We Think You Should Not Miss
- 10 of Our Favorite Authors
- 10 Things We Like to Do With Our Families

Once the lists were completed, we shared them aloud and created a “traveling” class book. (To create the book, glue each list to a large (12 x 18) piece of construction paper and let the children cut out photos taken throughout the year in class and glue to each page. Laminate and bind pages together.) When the class book is finished, send it home each night with a different student along with a “comments” notebook. The children are thrilled when it is their turn to show this project to their parents. You can include an “author’s note” in the front of the book, explaining how it was created, or you can send a letter home to all parents prior to creating the book to explain how the traveling book works. (You may also want to send a traveling stuffed animal—named by the class—with the class book.) Have parents write in the “comments” notebook about their thoughts on the book and what they do each night at the student’s house. It’s always fun to get the notebook back and see what parents
have written. Students take ownership of this type of project and feel great pride in its creation.

—Nancy W. Miles, Multiage Teacher
(Johnson City, TN)

The 100-Cube Man
Grade Level: 1st Grade
Subject Area: Math

My first graders enjoy this math activity on the 100th day of school. It is fun, hands-on, and uses many math skills such as estimation, counting by tens and ones, and measurement.

Materials: 100 unifix cubes (one-inch plastic connecting cubes) and a teacher-prepared record sheet with the following sentences:

- I think I will be ________ (fill in the blank with one of the following: shorter than/taller than/the same size as) a 100-cube man.
- I was ________ (fill in the blank with one of the following: shorter than/taller than/the same size as) a 100-cube man.
- I am ________ (fill in the blank with number of cubes) cubes tall.

First the children predict whether they will be taller than, shorter than, or the same size as a line of 100 connected unifix cubes. Then working with a partner, they connect 100 cubes using 10 of each color to make counting by 10’s easier. Making “the 100 cube man” against the wall simplifies the measuring because the children can place their feet against the wall to line up their feet with “the man.” Last they measure each other to check their predictions and record the results.

—Kathy Reeder, 1st Grade Teacher
(Little Hocking, OH)

100th Day Crowns & Vests
Grade Level: 1st Grade
Subject Area: Art

Materials: Large supermarket brown bags, cut-out of 100, construction paper, 100 small items for the children to glue on their vest.

My first graders are always very excited about the 100th day of school. We make vests out of paper bags and glue 100 items on the vest. The children then make crowns with the number 100 and stick 100 stickers on their crowns. We have a parade around the school wearing our vests and crowns.

100 and Counting
Grade Level: 1st Grade
Subject Area: General
Materials: May include shawls, gloves, bifocals, canes, hairnets, pearl necklaces, cameos, glasses, hats, sweaters, support hose, beards, mustaches, dresses, dress clothes, or layered clothes for warmth.

Items needed in classroom: wheelchairs, 100-foot area measured for relay races, paper rolls, rubber bands, wax paper, plastic wrap, writing paper, scrolling paper, 100th day books, 100th day poems, 100th day songs, outline of head and shoulders for wrinkled illustrations, and bags of 100 items to count.

On the 100th day of school, all first grade students were encouraged to dress and act as if they were 100 years old. The students would complete 100th day activities throughout the day, such as writing to 100, writing 100 words, writing stories about what they are like at 100, and illustrating themselves by wrinkling the paper of their self-portrait. We have wheelchair races and 100-foot races with vision impairment. Students also bring a bag containing 100 items for us to count. Books about 100 are read aloud throughout the day.

—Susan Naifeh, 1st Grade Teacher
(Dyersburg, TN)

100 Kisses
Grade Level: 1st Grade
Subject Area: Math

Materials: 100 sticker dots and 100 Hershey Kisses
I place sticker dots on the bottom of Hershey Kisses and number them 1–100. Then I hide them around the room and my students have a 100-day hunt. After they find all the candies, we place them on a piece of grid paper and count them. Afterwards, we have a great chocolate treat.

—Kim Ford (Hooks, TX)

100th day Chocolate Chip ‘Counting’ Cookies
Grade Level: 1–2
Subject Area: Math

Materials: Give each student a sugar cookie, a craft stick with icing to frost their cookie, and ten chocolate chips.

Choose ten students to line up in front of the room facing the group, holding their frosted chocolate chip cookies. Starting with the first student on the left, have each student count his/her chocolate chips with the next in line continuing the count until every student has counted every chip to 100. Write math problems on the board and have the students in line move around to demonstrate how using their cookies, 10x10=100, 50+50=100, 90+10=100...etc. Make up ten math problems that equal 100. After the activities they can eat the cookies!

—KenYette Kilpatrick, Former 1st Grade Teacher
(Atlanta, GA)
10x10 snack
Grade Level: 1–3
Subject Area: Math
Materials: Large paper with 10 circles drawn on it, 10 different groups of small snacks (popcorn, jelly beans, raisins, marshmallows, etc.), and zip-lock bags for the kids to take their 100 snacks home! We also had a variety of small snacks served on plates in a large table. Each child had to make 10 groups of 10 of these snacks and write down their recipe of how they got to 100. Example: 10 pretzels, 10 gummy bears, etc.

Graphing School Supplies
Grade Level: 1–2
Subject Area: Math
Our 100th day of school is usually in early to mid-February. This year our 1st and 2nd grade students took our 100th day Celebration into the community. At the beginning of the year, we asked our students to bring in school supplies (paper and notebooks, erasers, pens and pencils, glue sticks, scissors, etc.). Items could be brought in any time up until the 100th day. We kept a tally of the supplies received on a classroom graph. On the 100th day of school all items were placed in a decorated box and delivered to the Neighborhood Center.

—Sharon Crandall, 2nd Grade Teacher (Gouverneur, NY)

100 Toothpicks
Grade Level: 1–4
Subject Area: Math
Materials: 100 toothpicks, glue or another adhesive such as mini-marshmallows or gum drops, mounting board or box top, any other appropriate decorations to fit the project’s theme.

To celebrate the 100th day, I organized a contest of our own. The mathematical and spatial challenge was to create a unique structure (2D or 3D) from exactly 100 toothpicks. Students are encouraged to think about geometry, polygons, polyhedrons, and symmetry. Forty-six imaginative, impressive entries ranging from a flower garden to a potato space station were submitted and all participants earned prizes. Top winners included a sea serpent, giant fish, Eiffel Tower, and geometric string art. Students, parents, and teachers had great fun with the contest. It’s a wonderful way to celebrate 100 days and encourage creative, mathematical thinking.

—Dayna Charlick, Math Teacher (Shreveport, LA)

100% Work-Out!
Grade Level: 1–5
Subject Area: Physical Education
Materials: Two dice (I suggest covering small tissue boxes in butcher paper.) One shows different physical activities on each side. (Examples: tossing a beanbag, bouncing a tennis ball, keeping up a balloon, jumping jacks, hopping on one foot, etc.) The other determines whether the activity will be done 100 times or for 100 seconds. Also needed:

Stop watch, tennis balls, balloons, beanbags, cups (one for each student), mL measuring cup for water break, paper and pencils for writing.

I create stations for the 100th day of school. It is a great opportunity to invite parents and guardians into our classrooms, and each station highlights a different aspect of our curriculum. This activity is intended to be a station, but it can be modified as a whole group activity. Students roll both dice and complete activity according to dice rolled. After rolling several times, students reflect upon and write about which 100 count they enjoyed more—100 times or 100 seconds. Students may take a 100 mL water break! Four to six students can be at one station at a time with one parent helper when possible.

—Lauren Christie, Teacher (Westfield, NJ)

100 Day Snowman Project
Grade Level: 2nd Grade
Subject Area: Language Arts and Art
Each student creates a snowman using 100 pieces of the same material. Students may use pasta, candy, cut-out map pieces, plastic grapes, name labels, puzzle pieces, geometric shapes, etc. After the projects are turned in, each student finishes by writing a creative story about their snowman, telling how the snowman would come to life, and what they would do with their snowman.

—Laney Finn, Teacher (Loveland, OH)

100 Hearts for Giving
Grade Level: 2nd Grade
Subject Area: Reading and Art
Materials: Construction paper hearts, painting supplies, crayons, craft scissors, hole punch, scraps of colored paper, glue stick, pastels.

Since the 100th day of school usually falls in late January or February, a heart art project makes for a gift-giving occasion and a way to celebrate 100 with a special classroom wall mural. Students are given several construction paper hearts of various colors. They decorate their hearts with different materials and designs.
Presentation: Arrange the classroom collection of 100 small hearts in a large heart design with the title “100 Hearts.” Literature Collection: Share the book Secret Valentine, a charming story about a little girl who makes a secret valentine for an elderly neighbor. Share the artwork by delivering the 100 hearts to a local nursing home before Valentine’s Day.

—Sandy Cupp, 2nd Grade Teacher
(Cookeville, TN)

100 Faces from 100 Places
Grade Level: 2–5
Subject Area: Social Studies, Art

My students and I have enjoyed a book project I call “100 Faces from 100 Places.” Together we look at books that show children from around the world. I have students draw faces similar to those in the books, and label the country they are from. The children really enjoy reading about what children from other areas of the world look like, hearing about the things they enjoy doing, and looking at the clothes they wear. We display the faces with a world map on the wall outside our classroom. We spend time discussing and sharing information about these children and their families. The project not only helps students visualize the concept of what 100 means, but it is also a great way to develop awareness of the similarities in the family structures and the everyday activities of people all around the globe. After we take the project down, I continue to use the faces for other activities throughout the year, like classifying, multiplication arrays, graphing, etc. Students love using the faces because they were the creators and artists.

—Robin H. Hyde, Teacher (Claremont, NC)

100 Things I Can Write About /Author’s Notebook
Grade Level: 5th Grade
Subject Area: Writing

Materials: Writer’s notebook, pen or pencil

My students create lists and keep them in their writer’s notebooks, updating them by adding new “things they can write about” each week. Writing is an important part of our class culture and prior to reading Jake’s 100th Day of School, I asked them to have 100 things to get them in the mood for the book and to celebrate the day.

—Stacey Shubitz, 5th Grade Teacher
(East Harlem, NY)

100-Character Story
Grade Level: 5th Grade
Subject Area: Writing

Materials: Paper, pencils, imagination

Have students make a list of 100 characters they have read about in different books. Begin writing a story together using all 100 characters, choosing one student to start the story, or the teacher may start it off. After the first chapter is done together, allow students to take the book home and add to the story using characters from the list. Once the final chapter has been completed, have the story bound and published. Read books throughout the year and point out how details are tied together in later chapters, allowing them to see how previous chapters build on later ones. Read the finished story to the class.

—Krista Kegerreis, Reading Specialist
(Walnutport, PA)

100 Ways to Design Paper
Grade Level: 5–6
Subject Area: Art

Materials: Tempera paint in many colors, beads, tongue depressors, paintbrushes, toothbrushes, sponges, glue, tape, pipe cleaners, 12 x 18 paper

Give each student five sheets of paper. Provide paint and the box of “gadgets” for the entire class to use together. Ask students to design each sheet of paper with a different texture using their imaginations and the materials provided. The excitement can get outrageous with students brushing, sponging, rolling, spraying, and squishing paint to form different textures. Of course they’ll come up with more than 100 different ways to design paper. When the sheets of paper dry, use them to create creatures in collage fashion—the way many well-known illustrators do. Cut sheets of paper and glue together to form different animals, imaginary creatures, snowmen, etc. (Basic shapes put together can make up everyday scenes like buildings and trees.) Display all projects with a sign that says, “Can you count 100 different textures?”

—Karen Skophammer, Teacher
(Barnum, IA)
ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Lester L. Laminack is a specialist in children’s literacy and a former professor of elementary and middle grades education at Western Carolina University. Laminack has written numerous books and articles for educators and is frequently invited to make keynote and feature presentations at local, state, regional, national, and international conferences. Laminack received an EdD in elementary education with a reading concentration from Auburn University. He earned his BS and MS degrees from Jacksonville State University. In addition, Laminack has experience in the trenches, having taught first grade for five years. Laminack lives in Asheville, North Carolina.

www.LesterLaminack.com

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR
Judy Love is the illustrator of several books for children, including The Witch Who Wanted to Be a Princess, an IRA/CBC Children’s Choice; Kelvin and the Not-laughing Lessons: First Grade Jitters and First Day Jitters. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, she lives in Massachusetts.
How many projects can you do in the week of your 100th Day of School?
Check off item as you complete the activity.

- Morning Journal: When I’m 100 years old...
- Make a list of 100 things you’d love to have. Find a few pictures in a magazine and paste them around your list.
- You have $100 to spend. Using your local store ads, go shopping by cutting out pictures of items you want. Get as close to $100.00 as possible.
- Sit in a circle and silently throw a mini bean bag around 100 times. If the bag falls you’re out of the game. Last student is the champ. May use a small ball. Must stay silent. If you talk, you’re out.
- Create a picture or book using 100 small smiley face stickers. You may draw 100 faces if stickers are not available.
- Using a 100 chart, circle every 2nd # in green, put a square around every 5th # in blue, put a star around every 10th # in red.
- In a group of five, cut out 20 strips of paper (all the same size). Link together with every 5th and 10th strip being pink or purple. Count by fives and tens.
- In a group of five, cut out 20 footprints each and write your name on your footprints. Count out how many footsteps are needed to get from one place in the school to the next. Create a school map and chart.
- Graph the contents in a mini bag of Skittles or M&Ms by color. Figure out how many pieces of candy you have and guesstimate how many you would need to have 100 pieces.
- Say thank you 100 times. Tally how many you say in a day/week.
- Do 100 sit-ups. (Or count how many you can do in 100 seconds.)
- Play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend. Tally the number of times you win and your friend wins out of 100 games.
- Identify the man on the US $100 bill. Write five facts about him.
- Ask 100 people for their signatures and keep them in a small booklet that you design.
- Count by fives to 100. Choose a way to show how to count by fives using straws, cubes, or toothpicks.
- How many words can you make using the letters in “One Hundred Days of School?”
- Draw a snowy scene with 100 snowflakes.
- Count by tens to 100. Choose a way to show how to count by fives using straws, cubes, or toothpicks.
- Choose 100 words from a class chart and write on a blank Bingo board. Play the game.
- Put together a 100-piece puzzle.
- Count out 100 pieces of popcorn for a snack. Make up 100 addition problems and solve.
- Count 100 mini pretzels for a snack. Make up 100 subtraction problems and solve.
- Roll two dice and add up numbers until you get 100.
- Create a Winter picture using 100 mini marshmallows.
- Using 100 dot stickers, graph colors.
- Read silently for 100 minutes.
- Count out 100 raisins for a snack.
- Make a card and draw 100 Valentine hearts.
- Write 100 words you can read around your classroom.
- Count 100 goldfish crackers for a snack.
- Make a list of 100 songs. Listen to or sing some of them.
- Find 100 countries on a map or globe and write their names.
- Count out 100 books you have read and group by 10s.
- Make a list of your favorite 100 things.
- Use play money to count by ones, fives, tens and 25s to 100.
- Draw a picture around the number 100.
- Stamp out 100 works. Do 100 jumping jacks.
- Fill in a 100 chart 1–100.
- What year will it be when you turn 100 years old?
- Recite 100 poems.
- Type out 100 words.
- Count backwards 100-1.
- Count out 100 marbles.
- Read 100 sentences.
- Count out 100 pennies.