

GROUNDHOG DAY ACTIVITIES



By
1 - 2 - 3 Learn Curriculum

Fun Groundhog Day Facts

- February 2 brings the most-watched weather forecast of the year – and the only one led by a rodent!
- Groundhogs are also known as whistle pigs. When frightened, a groundhog will give off a loud sharp whistle, then softer ones as it runs for the cover of its burrow. Hence the name: whistlepig. Groundhogs are also known as marmots and woodchucks.
- German tradition holds that if the sun comes out on Candlemas, the precursor to Groundhog Day, the hedgehog (or badger) will see its shadow and six more weeks of winter will follow. When German settlers came to Pennsylvania they continued this tradition, using groundhogs instead of hedgehogs to predict the weather.
- The first official Groundhog Day was celebrated on February 2, 1886 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.
- Groundhogs Are Big Snoozers. Groundhogs take winter hibernation seriously.
- Groundhogs, which are the largest members of the squirrel family, are naturally aggressive and rambunctious creatures.





Fun Groundhog Day Facts



- Punxsutawney Phil is the original star of Groundhog Day. He first predicted the weather 126 years ago and has had about 39 percent accuracy ever since.
- The name Punxsutawney Phil may be a bit of a mouthful, but that's not even his full name. The weather-predicting groundhog's official name is: "Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators and Weather Prophet Extraordinaire."
- Groundhogs are great swimmers and tree climbers.



Will Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog see his shadow February 2? color sheet.

On Groundhog Day, watch the results on the computer to see if Punxsutawney Phil see's his shadow or not. Have children color the correct picture.

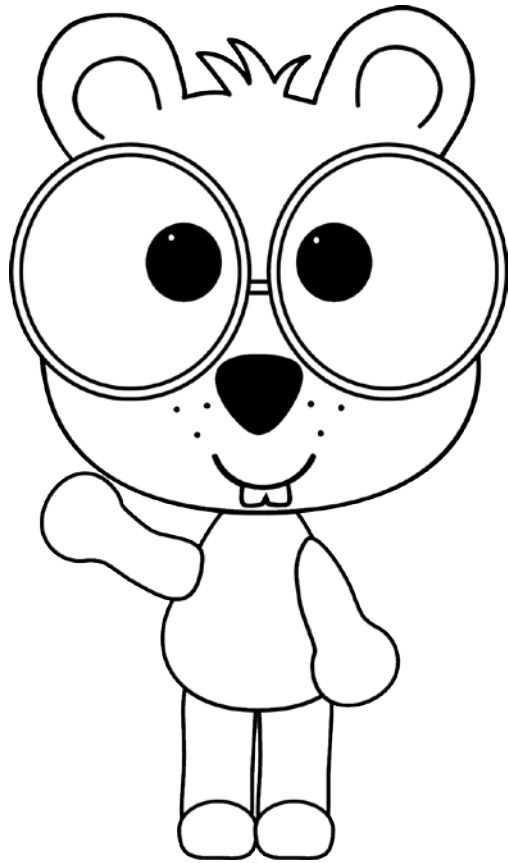
If Groundhog Day falls on the week-end, print up the following sheet for the children to bring home. Have them find out the results with their parents and color the correct picture.

Name _____

Will Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog see his shadow February 2?

Color the correct picture.

LOOK
no shadow



If Punxsutawney Phil doesn't see his shadow, then spring will come early.

6 more weeks



If Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, then winter will continue for 6 more weeks.

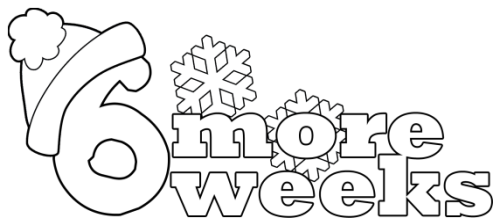
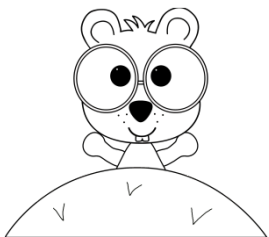
Punxsutawney Phil, the Groundhog Graph

- The day before Groundhog Day, print up a graph. (Color or B & W).
- Write the children's name in the space provided.
- Ask each child, one at a time if Punxsutawney Phil the groundhog will see his shadow or not on Groundhog Day. (Celebrated every February 2nd).
- Record their response.
- On Groundhog Day, find out the results and see who was right. Record the correct response.

Punxsutawney Phil - The Groundhog Graph

Will Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow or won't he see his shadow on February 2?

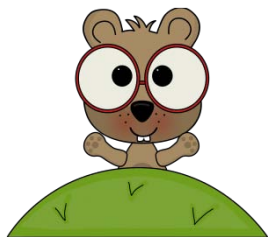
Child's Name	Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow. That means 6 more weeks of winter.	Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow. That means spring will arrive early.
Correct answer		



Punxsutawney Phil - The Groundhog Graph

Will Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow or won't he see his shadow on February 2?

Child's Name	Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow. That means 6 more weeks of winter.	Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow. That means spring will arrive early.
Correct answer		



Name _____



Happy Groundhog Day!

Name _____



Happy Groundhog
Day!