

● SPOTLIGHT

Read Across America Day

On March 2, 2009, the National Education Association calls for every child to have the opportunity to read in the company of a



carrying adult. Launched in 1997, this annual reading celebration takes place on the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss, who inspired countless children to read with his classic *Cat in the Hat* and other works. The Read Across America initiative focuses the country's attention on how important it is to motivate children to read and to help them master the basic skills necessary to become proficient readers.

Commemorating this event can be as simple or elaborate as you want to make it. You can celebrate your favorite authors, books, and characters at a book lover's ball or parade; write your "hometown heroes" asking for a list of favorite books to then showcase at your event; contact your local sports team for reading challenges or guest readers; or simply sit down with a child you care about and enjoy a book together.



Visit the [National Education Association](http://www.nea.org) website for more

● RESOURCES

Bringing Career Options to Light

Job shadowing is a work-based learning activity that provides students with opportunities to experience a variety of career possibilities before deciding where they want to focus their attention. Students are able to identify career interests and gain an understanding of the connection between school, work, and achieving goals. The following resources can help youth shed light on their interests, follow the right path, and obtain skills that lead to professional success.



Lending Library

- [Job Shadow Guide](#)
- [School to Careers: Connecting Youth to the Future](#)
- [What's School Got to Do with It?](#)

Effective Practices

- [Expanding youth employment opportunities with an entrepreneurial endeavor](#)
- [Teaching students about professionalism](#)

● ANNOUNCEMENTS

2009 California Service-Learning Leadership Institute

Join the experts striving to make service a meaningful part of every young person's life. The 2009 California Service-Learning Leadership Institute takes place February 9-11 in Anaheim, CA. The Institute offers workshops from service-learning experts; three keynote presentations; an exhibit hall; a bookstore; and networking opportunities.



Find out more and register at [Youth Service California's](http://youthservicecalifornia.org) website.

National Service-Learning Conference: Growing Hope, Cultivating Change

National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) is proud to partner with Volunteer Tennessee in hosting the 20th Annual National Service-Learning Conference, March 18-21, 2009. This conference is the largest gathering of youths and practitioners involved in the service-learning movement, drawing approximately 2,700 attendees from across the United States and at least 20 other countries each year. [Find out more and register at the conference website.](#)

ideas and resources, including free downloads of selected books.

Other Resources

- [National Job Shadow Coalition](#)

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Simple tech tip:

To capture a screen shot of your desktop, press the **Print [prnt] Screen** button on your keyboard, then in a Word document select **Edit -> Paste**.

Hint: Hold down the alt key then press print screen to capture only the active desktop window.

Online Learning Center

Featured course: [Key Concepts of Cash and In-Kind Match](#) from Walker & Co. Learn the fundamentals of cash and in-kind matching for programs funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES COLLECTION

Effective practices define good ideas, successful strategies, and studied findings to help your program thrive. Featured practice: [Organizing a one-day community book drive](#)

ABOUT THE RESOURCE CENTER

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