February 14 is Valentine’s Day! Most people associate Valentine’s Day with love and marriage, hearts and flowers. But this holiday wasn’t always about romance. Its origins are steeped in ancient legend and religious history.

Influenced by kings, poets, and religious customs, Valentine’s Day has changed over the centuries from its origins in ancient Rome. Discover the facts and learn some fun traditions along the way!

The book includes Valentine’s Day jokes, fun facts, and two holiday activities.

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Valentine’s Day tissue paper flowers

You’ll need:
- pieces of colored tissue, each piece should measure about 8 x 12 inches
- 1 pipe cleaner
- green crepe paper cut into 24-inch strips
- 1 green bamboo garden stick
- sturdy tape

Instructions:
1. Make a neat pile of tissue pieces.
2. Fold the paper stack accordion style.
3. Twist a pipe cleaner tightly around the center of the folded tissue.
4. Round each tissue end with scissors.
5. Gently separate the tissue layers by pulling them up and toward the center one at a time until they look like flower petals.
6. Twist two strips of crepe paper around the pipe cleaner at the base of the flower.
7. Then twist the rest of the pipe cleaner and flower to the bamboo stick and secure it with sturdy tape.

Want to learn how to make a Mouse of Hearts Valentine’s Day card? Take a peek inside Valentine Be Mine to find out!
Q: What did the paper clip say to the magnet?
A: I find you very attractive.

Find more jokes, activities, and cool facts about Valentine's Day in The story behind this romantic holiday.
Give these Valentine’s Day bookmarks to your customers!

Print out on heavy paper or card stock for best results. Print pages 4 and 5 double-sided, flipping on the long edge. Cut out and keep at the register as a giveaway for your customers.

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**The more I give to thee, the more I have; for both are infinite.**

*William Shakespeare*

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**Q:** What did the elephant say to his girlfriend?

**A:** I love you a ton!

**Q:** What kind of flower do you never give on Valentine’s Day?

**A:** Cauliflower!

**Q:** What did the stamp say to the envelope?

**A:** I’m stuck on you!

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**Q:** Do skunks celebrate Valentine’s Day?

**A:** Sure! They’re very scent-imental.

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**How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.**

*Elizabeth Barrett Browning*
Find fun activities at www.charlesbridge.com.
Valentine’s Day cards

Ready to give to your customers! Print out on heavy paper or card stock for best results. Print pages 6 and 7 double-sided, flipping on the long edge. Have some crayons and blank paper on hand if children want to create their own or add to the samples below.

Will you be mine?

To: __________________________

From: ________________________

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,

Happy Valentine’s Day

If I had a flower for every time I thought of you, I could walk in my garden forever.
-Alfred Lloyd Tennyson

Will you be my Valentine?

To: __________________________

From: ________________________
Happy Valentine’s Day

To: ______________
From: ____________

Happy Valentine’s Day

To: ______________
From: ____________