

# APRIL 2025

## PAHKISIMON NUYE?ÁH PAGES

### April Highlights

April is **National Poetry Month**, a perfect time to introduce students to **novels in verse**—consider borrowing **Alone** by Megan E. Freeman from the PNLS classroom set collection! **Poem in Your Pocket Day (April 24)** is another great way to bring poetry into your school—encourage students to carry and share their favorite poems throughout the day.

**Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Day** on April 12 is a great time for uninterrupted reading. Celebrate **Beaver Day (April 7)** with free activities from [beavertrust.org](http://beavertrust.org). Why not borrow a Nicholas Oldland book? PNLS has a great selection from his **Life in the Wild** series, featuring a beaver, a bear, and a moose!

Other exciting events include **International Dance Week (April 23–29)**, **Earth Day (April 22)**, and **Superhero Day (April 28)**—a chance to dress up and celebrate comic book heroes! Plus, **One Book, One Province** kicks off this month, connecting communities through reading.

However you celebrate, we also hope you have a fantastic **Easter break!**



**Sînapân kîkasâkâs:**  
a guide to making  
contemporary style  
Métis ribbon skirts

This resource offers  
a step-by-step  
method to create the

four-panel Métis ribbon skirt, while also sharing the rich history of this iconic garment worn by Métis women since the 1800s.

**Borrow it!**



### IN THIS ISSUE

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- Borrow it!
- Did you know...
- **Calendar:** April in your library
- Resources for April
- PNLS spotlight classroom set collection:
  - **Alone** by Megan E. Freeman

### Did you know...

The **Willow Awards Book Grab Fundraiser** is coming soon?

**Save the Date!**

May 3rd, 2025 in Saskatoon and Regina.

It's a great opportunity to get a selection of new books at a fantastic price while supporting the Willow Awards! Visit [willowawards.ca](http://willowawards.ca) for pick up location announcements.



EGG HUNT



Sign up for our monthly Teacher-Librarian newsletter!















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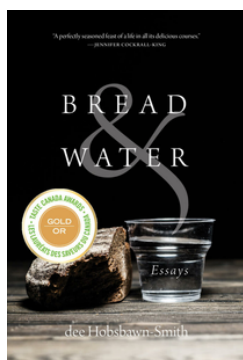


APRIL  
2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
National Poetry Month  National Oral Health Month 	April is Children and Nature Awareness Month   April is Ribbon Skirt Month	<b>APRIL FOOL'S DAY!</b> 	 2 <u>International Children's Book Day</u>	3	 4 <u>International Mine Awareness Day</u>	5
6	<u>World Health Day</u>  7  <u>International Beaver Day</u> 	8	 9  International Day of Pink	10  <u>Siblings Day</u> 	11  	12  <u>Beverly Cleary's birthday is D.E.A.R. Day</u>
13	14	15	 16 <u>National Canadian Film Day</u>	17  Administrative Professionals Day  <u>Equality Day</u>	18  	19
20  	Easter Break 21  <u>International Dance Week April 23 – 29</u>	Easter Break 22  <u>International Mother Earth Day</u>	Easter Break 23  Canada Book Day, World Book Day, & Copyright Day	Easter Break 24  <u>Poem in Your Pocket Day</u> 	Easter Break 25	26   <u>Canadian Independent Bookstore Day</u>
National Volunteer Week 27 – May 4	27  <u>World Day for Safety and Health at Work</u>  <u>National Superhero Day</u>	 29  <u>International Dance Day</u>	30  International Jazz Day	Canadian Children's Book Week Tour Begins		

#### TO DO

- One Book One Province events kick off across Saskatchewan. Events held across the province, including Alex Robertson Public Library, La Ronge - April 16 (6 pm):



#### NOTE

- One Book One Province
- April is National Poetry Month
- April is Ribbon Skirt Month
- April is National Oral Health Month
- April is Sikh Heritage Month
- Administrative Professionals Day - April 17
- National Volunteer Week April 27 – May 4
- International Dance Week April 27 – May 3
- April is Filipino Food Month
- Canadian Children's Book Week Tour begins at the end of the month

## RESOURCES:

## PLANNING:

International Mine Awareness Day

Mining Matters provides curriculum-aligned resources on Earth sciences, minerals, and mining careers



International Beaver Day

Beaver Trust offers fun, free activities to explore how beavers shape ecosystems and our connection to nature



Beverly Cleary's birthday is D.E.A.R. Day

Drop Everything and Read Day is a celebration that encourages people of all ages to take time out their day to enjoy reading



Canadian Children's Book Week

Canadian Children's Book Week connects authors, illustrators, and storytellers with schools and libraries to inspire young readers.



The 5th Edition of "Copyright Matters!"

Addresses updates in copyright law since 2016, includes new FAQs for educators, and helps teachers understand and navigate copyright rules



Poetry Month

40 Inspiring Poetry Games and Activities for Kids and Teens



Poetry in Voice

Poetry In Voice offers resources for Canadian students and teachers



Prestwick House Poetry

Prestwick's guide to some of their favorite free poetry materials from around the web!



League of Canadian Poets

The League of Canadian Poets celebrates poetry's significance in Canadian culture every April. It also offers free themed posters and bookmarks



National Superhero Day

Superhero party in the library program outline



International Dance Day

Pearson Special Awareness Days activities and lesson plans for grades K–8





## Alone

Freeman,  
Megan E.

**Copies: 25**

**Pages: 410**

DVD: No

Gr. Level: 6-9

Age Range: 11-14

Resource: Yes

## Companion Read: Alone & Hatchet Two Survival Stories, Two Different Challenges

For years, *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen has captivated readers with its gripping survival story and themes of resilience, self-reliance, and personal growth. Now, **Alone** by Megan E. Freeman offers a fresh take—where the greatest challenge isn't the wilderness but **complete isolation in an abandoned town**.

At **410 pages**, *Alone* may seem like a big read, but its **novel-in-verse** format makes it **fast-paced, accessible, and engaging, even for reluctant readers**. Maddie, a 12-year-old girl, wakes up to find that an emergency evacuation has left her behind. Her **parents assume she's with the other**, and with no way to contact them, she must **scavenge supplies, ration food, and survive alone for years**—her only companion, a Rottweiler named George.

Like *Hatchet*, *Alone* explores **themes of independence, problem-solving, and perseverance, but through a modern lens**—with Maddie navigating a world of abandoned homes, disconnected technology, and uncertainty. This gripping survival story is an **ideal companion read for *Hatchet***, offering students the opportunity to compare two vastly different survival experiences—one against nature, the other against solitude.

**As a novel in verse, *Alone* is also a perfect way to celebrate National Poetry Month. Need unit plan ideas? Email me!**

[View Copy Availability](#)



[Explore Resources](#)



[Alone Read-Aloud with Author  
Megan E. Freeman](#)



## How to Borrow Classroom Sets

### Request Copies:

Call (306) 425-4282 or submit the [Subject Request & Class Set form \(PDF\)](#).

### Delivery:

Sets are shipped to your local public library or directly to your school if no library is available.

### Explore Other Titles:

Visit our website, click the **EXPLORE** menu, and search the PNLS Headquarters Class Set Collection.

### Teacher Library Card:

Get a card at [www.pahkisimon.ca](http://www.pahkisimon.ca) or ask your school/public library staff.



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