



Name: _____

Leap Year and Leap Day

What is Leap Day?

Have you ever heard of Leap Day? It's a special day that comes only once every four years! Leap Day is an extra day added to our calendars to help keep our days, months, and years in sync.

Why Do We Have Leap Day?

Our calendar has 365 days, but it actually takes the Earth about 365.25 days to orbit the sun. To make up for that extra 0.25 day, we add an extra day to our calendar every four years. This special day is called Leap Day, and it happens on February 29th.

Leap Year Explained

A year that has an extra day added is called a leap year. Not all years are leap years - only those divisible by four. For example, the year 2020 was a leap year, and the next one will be in 2024. This helps our calendar stay accurate with the Earth's orbit around the sun.

Fun Facts about Leap Day

Leap Day is often associated with interesting traditions and customs. In some places, it's considered a day when women can propose to men.

People born on Leap Day are called "leaplings" or "leapers." Since their birthday only comes once every four years, they might celebrate on February 28th or March 1st in non-leap years.

Leap Day is also known as Sadie Hawkins Day, inspired by a comic strip where a woman asked a man to a dance, breaking traditional norms.

Celebrating Leap Day

While Leap Day isn't a holiday like Thanksgiving or Christmas, some people like to celebrate this rare occurrence. It's a day to embrace the uniqueness of the calendar and perhaps do something special or different.

So, next time you see February 29th on your calendar, remember that it's not just any ordinary day - it's Leap Day, a day that leaps into our lives only once every four years!

1. Explain why we have a Leap Day. _____

