



How to...



WOW!
The earliest New Year's celebrations took place more than 4,000 years ago in ancient Babylon.

Review your year

Mark the end of 2020 with one of these interesting and creative projects.

There's no doubt that 2020 brought challenges to the world. But if you think back, there were probably some silver linings for you too. For example, because of quarantines, you likely got to spend more time with your family. Or maybe you picked up a new hobby. As you reflect, you might realize that there are plenty of moments from the past year worth remembering. Here are some fun ways to do it.

Compile a review

This time of year, many newspapers, magazines, and websites create a "Year in Review" that compiles the most important news stories they published. (We're doing that this week in *The Week Junior!*) You can make your own version by writing down the year's key events in your life. A few questions to get you started: What was your biggest accomplishment? What was your best family memory? What is the funniest thing that happened? Write this out as a list or try creating it comic-book style with pictures and captions.

Create a top 10

If you want to focus on the absolute best moments of the year, a top 10 list might be the way to go. To jog your memory, scroll back to photos from last January on a parent's phone. You might come across fun things

that you forgot happened. You can create a top 10 list on your own or invite family members to make their own and then share them at dinner.

Write yourself a letter

Commemorate your year by writing a letter to your future self that you can read again when you're older. This note is for your eyes only, so it's a great place to get personal and work through your feelings about the year. Seal it in an envelope and write the date you want to open it on the front. Stash it somewhere safe.

Make a scrapbook

Pick up a scrapbook at a craft store or use a binder or blank notebook. Then get creative. Glue in photos of your favorite moments of the year, write captions using bright markers, and add cutouts from magazines and newspapers. Jazz the whole thing up with fun stickers, glitter pens, or any other craft supplies you have on hand.

Box it up

Fill an empty box with objects that will remind you of what life was like in 2020. Some ideas: a disposable face mask, cards you received from a drive-by birthday parade, a "vote" sticker, and photos of you, your family, and any pets. Write the year on the box and store it in a safe place, to be opened in the future.



Look through favorite photos.

4 ways to ring in the new year

Try one of these fun ideas to celebrate the start of 2021.

Open a window

On New Year's Eve, many cultures around the world open a window at the stroke of midnight to let out the old year's air, usher in the new air, and bring good luck.



Make a wishing wall

On sticky notes, write down what you hope will happen in 2021—for yourself, your family, or the world. Then stick them to a section of your bedroom wall or onto a bulletin board.



Start a challenge

Set a goal for yourself in the new year. For example, if you want to learn to cook, you could help your family prepare dinner every Friday night in January.

Count your blessings

Write "2021" on a jar. As good things happen throughout the year, note them on slips of paper and put them in the jar. Plan to read all of them next New Year's Eve!



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