The Week Junior
Teacher's Guide

In this issue we are learning about a new Olympic sport that will make its debut at the 2024 games in Paris, France. Readers will also form an opinion determining if schools should continue to have snow days. Finally, discover what astronauts will study on their mission to the Moon.

This week at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Big news</th>
<th>Big question</th>
<th>Article type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Olympics Announce New Sport</td>
<td>Describe the cover of this article. What story does the illustration tell? Be sure to explain your response using evidence from the text.</td>
<td>News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>NASA Selects Astronauts for Moon Missions</td>
<td>What is SpaceX? What happened during one of their experiments on December 9th?</td>
<td>National News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Should Schools Still Have Snow Days</td>
<td>Do you think schools should still have snow days? Be sure to explain your opinion.</td>
<td>Opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Award from Energy from Vegetables</td>
<td>Who is Carvey Ehren Maigue? What did he invent and why is it important? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.</td>
<td>Science &amp; Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Music Teacher Finds His Purpose</td>
<td>What is the movie Soul about? List 2-3 facts about the genre of music that will be featured in the movie.</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Entertainment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THIS WEEK’S BIG DEBATE:
SOME SAY THEY ARE NO LONGER NECESSARY WHEN STUDENTS CAN LEARN REMOTELY INSTEAD.

YES - snow days are pure magic  | NO - students will fall behind

ACTIVITY:
As a class, brainstorm ideas for how to survey the entire grade and how to collect the information. Students will write 3-5 survey questions. Have students distribute surveys and collect results. In small groups, students will analyze the survey results and create a graph to display the results. Invite students to write a letter to school administration explaining the results from the grade wide survey. Remind students to include all parts of a friendly letter.

What you need to know?

- Many schools have “snow days,” when school is canceled because weather conditions make it unsafe to get there.
- In recent years, states including Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia have allowed schools to redefine snow days as “virtual learning days.”
- In September, New York City, which has the country’s largest school system, cancelled snow days for the entire school year.

Have your students visit theweekjunior.com/polls to vote. We’ll publish the results next week.

NOTES

Contact: schools@theweekjunior.com
Olympics Announce New Sport
Cover and page 2

**Lets Discuss**
1. What new sport will be added to the summer Olympics? Why was this sport chosen? Be sure to explain your response using evidence from the text.
2. Explain break dancing. Where was this kind of dance created and first performed?
3. Breaks will have to create their routines based on the judging of what six categories?

**Vocabulary**
- International Olympic Committee
- Spectators
- Olympics

**TWJ Kids take action**
*In school or remote*
Watch a video of the break dancing group J Crew. Imagine you are an Olympic judge and give the group a score in the following categories: creativity, performance, and personality. Scores will range from 1-10, with 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest. Write 1-2 paragraphs explaining your score for each of the categories.

---

**NASA Selects Astronauts for Moon Mission**
*Page 4*

**Lets Discuss**
1. According to the article, what will the astronauts study on their mission? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
2. What word would you use to describe astronaut Victor Glover? Be sure to explain why you choose that word and use evidence from text to support your response.
3. Explain what NASA plans to do between 2021 and 2024. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.

**Vocabulary**
- Lunar
- International Space Station
- Crewless

**TWJ Kids take action**
*In school or remote*
Stick It! Use sticky notes to write
1. Topic/Main Idea
2. Five details
3. What new information you learned from reading the article

---

**Last Week's Poll:**
Last week we asked if parents should ask their children's permission before posting pictures of them. Most of you said yes, but a few said no.

**Virtual Activity**
Share your screen and have students engage in a brain break called "Winter Would You Rather!"

**Brain Booster**
Choose one Winter Olympic Sport and list the following information.
1. Name of the sport
2. Definition of the sport
3. Equipment needed
4. Individual or team
5. History of the sport
6. Well-known athletes
7. Additional facts

Use your research to create a Google Slides presentation or write a 5 paragraph essay. Students will present to the class.