

The Week Junior Teacher's Guide

In this issue we are learning about how Americans went to the polls in record numbers and are still unsure about who will be the next President. Readers will also debate the pros and cons of testing in schools. Finally, discover why the Mayans are intelligent and innovative.



This week at a glance

Page	Big news	Big question	Article type
2	Close Race for US President	Why do you think this Presidential Election has been such a close race? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.	News
4	America Elects Members of Congress	What is the author's purpose for writing the article America Elects Member of Congress? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.	National News
8	Are Tests The Best Way To Evaluate Students	Do you think tests are the best way to evaluate students? Be sure to explain your opinion. What is the Loess Plateau?	Opinion
11	Leopard Numbers Rise in China	Explain why the number of leopards is rising in China. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.	Arts & Entertainment
14	Mayans Pioneered Safe Water	Who are the Mayans? What evidence from the text supports the idea that the Mayans were intelligent and innovative?	Science & Technology

THIS WEEK'S BIG DEBATE:

SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE THERE ARE BETTER WAYS TO ASSESS KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY

YES - The tests serve a purpose | **NO** - The tests are unfair

ACTIVITY: In small groups of 3-4, students will choose group roles (scribe, time keeper, materials manager, and presenter). Students will determine if they are for or against the argument. Allow students the opportunity to conduct further research or ask other teachers in the school community. Students will be responsible for creating an anchor chart with visuals that supports their argument. Each group will present to the class. Allow time at the end of each presentation for a Q&A session.

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

What you need to know?

- Since the signing of the No Child Left Behind Act in 2002 and its update the Every Student Succeeds Act in 2015, US public school students have taken state tests in reading, math, and science starting in third grade.
- A typical US student takes 112 required standardized tests between prekindergarten and 12th grade, according to a 2015 study.
- In October, Georgia public school officials proposed greatly reducing the state's number of tests for good.

NOTES

This week's big news

Close Race for US President

Cover and page 2

Lets Discuss

1. Why was the turnout for eligible voters the largest in more than 100 years? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
2. What word would you use to describe each candidate as they spoke to America early on November 4th? What advice would you give to each candidate? Be sure to explain your response in detail.
3. What is an exit poll? Explain what the exit poll data revealed. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.

Vocabulary

Polls
Electoral College
Popular Vote

TWJ Kids take action

In school or remote

1. Complete a 3-2-1 summary. Write 3 facts you learned from the article, 2 facts you found interesting, and 1 question you still have about the article.

America Elects Members of Congress

Page 4

Lets Discuss

1. Who controlled more seats in the House of Representatives? Explain why having more seats is beneficial. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
2. Explain what happened in the Georgia Senate races. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
3. What happened in the state races in Florida, Arizona, and Mississippi? Do you think these new laws will benefit the citizens of those states? If so, explain why. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.

Vocabulary

Consulate
Tension
Tariff

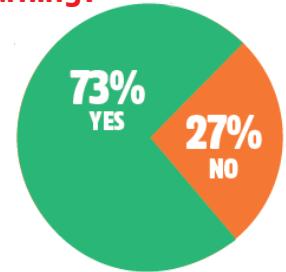
TWJ Kids take action

In school or remote

Invite students to create a poster that represents and explains the House of Representatives or The United States Senate.

LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Should pajamas be allowed for home learning?



Virtual Activity

Share your screen and invite your class for a virtual field trip to Williamette Egg Farm. Students will learn the process of how eggs travel from farm to table. Have students create the life cycle of an egg from farm to table. Be sure to have students use captions to describe each stage.

Brain Booster

Invite students to go on an "animal watch." Have students choose an animal from page 24 or an animal of their choice. Students will research the history of the animal and the different types. If possible, encourage students with an adult to observe the animal in real time or watch an online video. Students will write 1-3 paragraphs explaining their research and observations.

NOTES
