

# The Week Junior Teacher's Guide

**In this issue we are** celebrating 2021 and reflecting on the events of the past year. Readers will discover who received the first COVID-19 vaccine in the United States and how American citizens reacted to the news. Students will learn about 10 people who made significant impacts in 2020. Finally, find out about the little miracle that was born at the National Zoo in Washington, DC.



## This week at a glance

| Page | Big news                                | Big question   | Article type          |
|------|---|--|-----------------------|
| 1    | Happy 2021                              | Describe the illustration on this week's cover. What story does the cover tell? Be sure to explain your response.            | News                  |
| 2    | First COVID-19 Vaccines Given In US     | What word or phrase would you use to describe what the vaccine means to Americans? Be sure to explain your response.         | News                  |
| 4    | Electoral College Certifies Biden's Win | If you were going to make a new title for the article, what would it be? What details gave you the idea for the title?       | National News         |
| 10   | Miracle Panda Is Born At Zoo            | Why was the birth of Xiao Qi Ji a miracle? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.                   | Animals & Environment |
| 18   | Show Brings History To Life             | Explain how the film version of Hamilton was groundbreaking. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response. | Arts & Entertainment  |

## YEAR IN REVIEW: PEOPLE OF THE YEAR 2020

### ACTIVITY:

Pick one of the 10 people who made big headlines in 2020

1. Why was this person selected as a person of the year?
2. Above each person of the year is a speech bubble with a quote or a fun fact. Explain the meaning or significance of the quote or fun fact.
3. What about this person intrigued you and what more would you like to know?
4. If you could interview this person, what questions would you ask him/her/them?
5. Describe how you can use what you learned from this person and apply it to your own life.

## This week's big news

### First COVID-19 Vaccine Given In US

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#### Lets Discuss

1. Explain what you learned about the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
2. What is a vaccine? How will the vaccine help fight COVID-19? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
3. What evidence from the text proves that FedEx and UPS are collaborating?

#### Vocabulary

Vaccine  
Antibodies  
Herd immunity

#### TWJ Kids take action

*In school or remote*

1. A public service announcement is a message shared with the purpose of raising awareness or changing public attitudes or behaviors towards an issue.
2. Invite students to create a public service announcement for the COVID-19 vaccine. Students may create a poster, video, Google Slide, or brochure.

### Electoral College Certifies Biden's Win

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#### Lets Discuss

1. What is the Electoral College? Explain the importance of this prestigious group. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
2. Who is Mitch McConnell? Why was his statement on December 14th significant? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
3. Explain what will occur on January 6, 2021. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.

#### Vocabulary

Electoral College  
US Constitution  
Voting Fraud

#### TWJ Kids take action

*In school or remote*

Invite students to complete a K-W-L Chart focused on the Electoral College 1. What I Know 2. What I Want to Know 3. What I Learned. Each section should include 3-4 sentences.

### Last Week's Poll:

Last week we asked if schools should have snow days when school is canceled because of bad weather. Most of you said yes, but some said no.

### Virtual Activity

Share your screen and watch Xiao Qi Ji receive a check-up and learn all about his progress. Invite students to engage in class discussion about what they learned. [Miracle Panda Cub](#)

### Brain Booster

1. Read "Review Your Year" on page 22 of The Week Jr.
  - A). Compile a Review
  - B). Create a Top 10
  - C). Write Yourself a Letter
  - D). Make a Scrapbook
  - E). Box It Up
3. Complete the activity and present to the class

#### NOTES

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