The Week Junior
Teacher’s Guide

In this issue we will learn about how the Biden administration immediately got to work after being sworn in and what the top priorities are for America. Students will have the opportunity to debate the issue of whether or not college athletes should be paid. Finally, discover the importance of Black History Month and how it started.

This week at a glance

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THIS WEEK’S BIG DEBATE:
SOME SAY STUDENT ATHLETES DESERVE A CUT OF THE MILLIONS MADE IN COLLEGE SPORTS

YES — paying athletes would ruin the game  |  NO — college athletes earn that money

ACTIVITY:
1. Invite student pairs to complete a persuasive letter prewriting activity.

2. Have each pair use the prewriting activity to write a five-paragraph persuasive letter.

3. Finally, invite student pairs to read their persuasive letters to the class.

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

What you need to know?

- The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) oversees college sports in the US. Its mission is “to promote safety, excellence, and physical and mental well-being for student athletes.”

- The NCAA sets rules for its 1,098 member colleges and universities. Student athletes can receive scholarships, but they cannot be paid directly for participating in sports.

- In 2017, the NCAA had close to $1.1 billion in annual revenue.
This week’s big news

Biden administration begins work
Cover and page 2

Let’s Discuss
1. What evidence from the text proves that President Biden is determined to help the American people?
2. What is an executive order? Be sure to use evidence from the text to explain your response.
3. According to the article, President Biden’s top priorities are the pandemic and the economy. Explain his plan to address the pandemic and rebuild the economy.

Vocabulary
- Executive order
- Oath
- Paris climate accord

TWJ Kids take action
In school or remote
Imagine you are a White House correspondent attending a press briefing.
Write five detailed questions that you would ask President Biden or Vice President Harris.

Popular standardized test makes big changes
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Let’s Discuss
1. What is the SAT? Explain why fewer students took the SAT in 2020.
2. Identify two reasons why the SAT and the ACT should be eliminated.
3. Why are tests less important? Be sure to use evidence from the text to explain your response.

Vocabulary
- College Board
- Lawsuit
- Discriminate

TWJ Kids take action
In school or remote
Create a new illustration and title for this article.

Last Week’s Poll:
Last week we asked you if winter is better than summer. You told us you like both seasons! More of you love summer, but nearly half prefer winter.

Virtual Activity
Share your screen and invite students to listen to Amanda Gorman recite “The Hill We Climb”. Have the students participate in a class discussion by answering the following questions: A) What is the message of the poem? B) What emotions did the poem bring up for you? C) Gorman’s final lines state, “There is always light, if only we’re brave enough to see it, if only we’re brave enough to be it.” Do you agree with this? Why or why not?

Brain Booster
1. You are a board game manufacturer and you have been given the task of creating a board game that reviews everything that students learned from this issue of The Week Junior.
2. Make your board game neat, colorful, and creative.
3. Create at least 15 questions and answers for your game that relate to the articles in this issue.
4. Write directions for your game