# The Week Junior

## Teacher's Guide

**In this issue we are learning about** President elect Biden’s historic cabinet member nominations and the responsibilities of the cabinet. Readers will debate the pros and cons of whether or not whaling should be banned. Finally, discover what archaeologist Howard Carter and his team uncovered in Egypt’s valley.

## This week at a glance

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## THIS WEEK’S BIG DEBATE:

**SOME SAY IT’S CULTURAL TRADITION. OTHERS SAY HUNTING THESE ANIMALS IS CRUEL.**

**YES** - hunting whales is cruel  | **NO** - it’s tradition in some countries

### ACTIVITY:

Put students in pairs based on if they are for or against if whaling should be banned. Pairs will create a fictional Facebook Group Page. Provide students with a paper Facebook template or have students get creative and design their own. Fictional Facebook Page must include: A). Profile picture B). Facts explaining whaling C). 3-5 posts which will explain the reasons for or against whaling D). Additional photos. Encourage students to conduct further research.

**What you need to know?**

- Many whales have traditionally been hunted for their meat, fat, and baleen (also known as whalebone).
- Whales are the largest living animals in the world. They are mammals, not fish, and are highly intelligent. Most whales live in social groups called pods.
- In 1986, the International Whaling Commission banned commercial whaling (hunting whales to make money). However, some countries continue to hunt whales.

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

## NOTES

**Inspiring children to make sense of the world**

Contact: schools@theweekjunior.com
This week’s big news

Biden Begins Choosing Cabinet
Cover and page 2

Let’s Discuss
1. What does Vice President elect, Kamala Harris, mean when she says Biden wants his cabinet to “look like America”? Be sure to explain your response.
2. What evidence from the text proves that Biden is making historic nominations?
3. What is a cabinet and what are a cabinet members’ responsibilities? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.

Vocabulary
- Inaugurated
- Secretary of Treasury
- Attorney General

TWJ Kids take action
In school or remote
Caption It! Write four captions for the four illustrations in the article.

Artifacts Uncovered at Colonial Williamsburg
Page 4

Let’s Discuss
1. What was the result of digging underneath a parking lot in Williamsburg, Virginia? Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.
2. What artifacts were discovered?
3. According to the article, the January excavation will be open to the public. Do you think this is a good idea, why or why not?

Vocabulary
- Archaeologists
- Artifact
- Excavation

TWJ Kids take action
In school or remote
Write about an experience from the article and create a visual that represents the experience.

Last Week’s Poll:
Last week, we asked if social media apps should get rid of likes. A majority said no, likes should stay. But quite a few would be happy to see them go.

Virtual Activity
Share your screen and have students engage in a mindfulness activity for strengthening focus. After the video ask: How did that make you feel? What parts were easy and difficulty for you? What are the things that distract you in school?

Brain Booster
1. Have students choose one article from this week’s issue.
2. Students will read and analyze the article through a sensory lens. Write descriptions of the five senses from the passage on a graphic organizer (Ex: What can you visualize? or What can you hear?)
3. Have students write a 3-5 paragraph essay explaining how the article made them feel using the 5 senses descriptions.