

The Week Junior Teacher's Guide

In this issue we will explore President Biden's American Jobs Plan and how he intends to spend the \$2.5 trillion. Students will form an opinion about whether every home should have a pet. Finally, find out about the noisy insect that will emerge this spring.



This week at a glance

Page	News	Discussion points	Article type
2	Biden proposes American Jobs Plan	How does President Biden plan to pay for the rebuilding of America's infrastructure?	Big News
5	Vaccine found safe for kids 12 and up	What did you learn from this article about kids receiving the Covid-19 vaccine?	National News
10	Noisy insects return after 17 years	What are cicadas? Explain what will happen to the cicadas in April or May.	Animals & the Environment
12	The biggest band in the world	Write a one- to two-paragraph summary explaining why the Beatles were the biggest band in the world.	All About
14	Research shows rise in twin births	Explain why there is a rise in twin births. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your response.	Science & Technology

THIS WEEK'S BIG DEBATE: SHOULD EVERY HOME HAVE A PET?

YES—pets bring happiness | **NO**—many people can't handle a pet

ACTIVITY:

1. Distribute index cards or have students use their own. Have students answer the following questions: Do you have a pet? If so, how does your pet make you feel? Should every home have a pet? Why or why not? Invite students to share out responses.
2. Have students research and write 3–5 strong reasons and examples to support their argument.
3. Provide each student with a shoebox or any food container box (or have them find one at home). Invite students to decorate and use each side of their box to explain their argument.
4. Encourage students to incorporate interesting pet facts.
5. Students will present their boxes to the class.

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

What you need to know

- Nearly 67% of US households own at least one pet, the highest level of pet ownership recorded.
- Approximately 38% of households in the US have a dog, 25% have a cat, and about 3% own a bird, according to the most recent statistics from the American Veterinary Medical Association. Other popular pets include fish, reptiles, ferrets, and horses.
- The US pet industry made close to \$99 billion in 2020.

NOTES

This week's big news

Biden proposes American Jobs Plan

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Let's Discuss

1. Explain the purpose of the American Jobs Plan.
2. Explain President Biden's quote "If we act now, in 50 years people are going to look back and say, 'This was the moment that America won the future.'"
3. How do Republicans feel about the American Jobs Plan?

Vocabulary

Infrastructure
Climate change
Economy

TWJ Kids Take Action

In school or remote

According to the article, infrastructure includes highways and water pipes. Create an illustration for the article that represents America's infrastructure.

Vaccine found safe for kids 12 and up

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Let's Discuss

1. What are the benefits of giving the vaccine to children?
2. Explain what occurred in the Pfizer study. Be sure to use evidence from the article to support your response.
3. Why is "Vaccine Found Safe for Kids 12 and Up" a good title for this article? How do the details support this being a good title?

Vocabulary

Herd immunity
Antibodies
Vaccine

TWJ Kids Take Action

In school or remote

Write 2–3 headings the author could have included in the article.

Last Week's Poll

Last week we asked you if memes make the world a better place. More of you (61%) said yes, they do. But many of you (39%) said no, memes push things too far.

Virtual Activity

Share your screen and invite students to participate in a [Mood Walk](#). Have students share how they are feeling and why they feel that way. Challenge students to invent their own mood walk.

Brain Booster

1. Students will choose an insect to research and write a three- to five-paragraph essay.
2. Use the following questions to guide your research:
 - A) What does the insect look like?
 - B) Where does it live?
 - C) What does it eat?
 - D) Explain the life cycle.
 - E) Find interesting facts.

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