

The Week Junior Teacher's Guide

In this issue we will learn about President Biden's plan to exit Afghanistan and how people feel about this decision. Students will have the opportunity to discuss the pros and cons about switching to a four-day school week. Finally, discover what animal prefers to take it slow.



This week at a glance

Page	News	Discussion points	Article type
2	US will exit Afghanistan	How will the United States continue to support Afghanistan as troops begin to leave?	Big News
4	Lawmakers vote to study damage of slavery	Why do you think the author wrote this article? Be sure to explain your response.	National News
10	The world's biggest bird-watching day	What is Global Big Day? Explain what happens on this day.	Animals & the Environment
12	America's classic "run for the roses"	Write a one-paragraph summary that explains the traditions of the Kentucky Derby.	All About
15	Study shows grizzly bears hike like humans	What is the main idea of the article? What details explain more about the main idea?	Science & Technology

THIS WEEK'S BIG DEBATE: SHOULD SCHOOLS SWITCH TO A FOUR-DAY WEEK?

YES—four days are better for everyone | **NO**—five shorter days a week are better

ACTIVITY:

1. Invite student pairs to participate in a Think-Pair-Share by answering the question: Should schools switch to a four-day week? **A)** What I think, **B)** What my partner thinks, **C)** What thoughts we will share with the class.
2. Have student pairs create a social media post for their argument.
3. Each social media post should include: **A)** a photo, **B)** a status that clearly states their argument, **C)** a post that includes three strong reasons and examples to support their argument, and **D)** comments, including thoughts from peers or teachers about their post.

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

What you need to know

- Approximately 560 school districts in 25 states have one or more schools on a four-day schedule. More than half of these districts are located in four states: Colorado, Montana, Oklahoma, and Oregon.
- The four-day school week was first introduced in Cimarron, New Mexico, in the early 1970s to cut costs during the US energy crisis (oil shortage).
- Spain is set to become the first nation in the world to test a 32-hour, four-day workweek.

NOTES

This week's big news

US will exit Afghanistan

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Let's Discuss

1. What major announcement did President Biden share with the world?
2. What is al Qaeda? Explain what occurred on September 11, 2001.
3. Identify two opinions in the article: one that supports troop withdrawal, and one that does not support it.

Vocabulary

The Pentagon
NATO
The Taliban

TWJ Kids Take Action

In school or remote

A caption is a short bit of text near an image that explains the image or provides related information. Write a new caption for the picture used in this article.

Lawmakers vote to study damage of slavery

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Let's Discuss

1. Explain the bill that the House Judiciary Committee voted in favor of.
2. What are reparations? Provide an example of reparations.
3. How do people feel about reparations?

Vocabulary

House Judiciary Committee
Commission
Slavery

TWJ Kids Take Action

In school or remote

Invite students to complete a K-W-L Chart focused on slavery and reparations:
1) What I Know, 2) What I Want to Know, 3) What I Learned.

Each section should include three to four sentences.

Last Week's Poll

Last week we asked you if it's time to stop using cash, since there are many other ways to pay for things. Most of you (72%) said no, but quite a few of you (28%) said yes.

Virtual Activity

Share your screen and invite students to participate in a five-minute [Yoga & Mindfulness](#) exercise.

Brain Booster

After reading the article "Dino discovery made in Wyoming" on page 5, have your students do a dinosaur research project.

1. Choose a dinosaur to study.
2. Use the following to guide your research:
A) Full name, kingdom, and class
B) Size
C) Appearance
D) Habitat
E) Diet
F) Interesting facts
3. Present your research in a three- to five-paragraph essay, a poster, or a PowerPoint presentation.

NOTES
