This week at a glance

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**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.

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.

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

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**NOTES**

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’s big news

US will exit Afghanistan

Page 2

Let’s Discuss
1. What major announcement did President Biden share with the world?
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:
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.