

This Week at a Glance

Page	Title	Summary and Discussion Points	Content Area
2	Crisis emerges at the Texas border	Haiti is an island nation that has had many problems, causing people to leave the country and seek a different life in places like the US. Why did the Haitians go to Texas? What is a refugee?	Social Studies
4	National Hispanic Heritage Month begins	The achievements and contributions of Hispanic Americans are celebrated during Hispanic Heritage Month, from September 15 through October 15. The celebration recognizes the history, culture, and influence of Hispanic heritage. How can everyone celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month?	Social Studies
12-13	A magical kingdom for 50 years	Walt Disney World's 50th Anniversary is October 1, 2021, and kicks off an 18-month-long celebration. What would you write in an anniversary card to Disney? What is the purpose of anniversaries?	ELA
15	Scientists look inside prehistoric turtle egg	A fossilized egg was found in China, and x-ray technology revealed it was the egg of an ancient turtle. What types of technologies help us see inside the body? Are they similar to or different from what was used to investigate the fossilized egg?	Science
18	WNBA heads into playoffs	Eight of the Women's National Basketball Association's 12 teams have made it to the playoffs. Who is your favorite team to win the WNBA championship? How would you design the championship trophy?	PE/Health



FEATURE OF THE WEEK JUNIOR: Book club (page 23)

Invite students to look at this week's feature and answer the questions.

1. What is a book review, and why do people write them?
2. What elements are part of a book review ?
3. Do you find book reviews helpful? Would you be more or less likely to read a book, based on a review?
4. Which featured book would you be likely to read, and why?
5. Read one of the featured books, and write your own review.

	DEBATE	CREATE
ARTICLE	"Should billionaires go to space" (page 8)	"Playing with words" (page 9)
VOCABULARY	billionaire, civilians, pioneer, entrepreneurs	palindrome, illustrator, wordplay, graphic novel
ACTIVITY	<p>Create four signs with the following labels, one label per sign: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree. Place each poster in a different corner of the classroom. Present the statement "Billionaires should be able to go to space" and ask students to move to a corner of the room that best reflects their opinion. Next, ask students to read the article and discuss their positions as a group. Then, ask students at each sign to explain their reasoning to the class. After all groups have shared, provide the opportunity for students to change corners.</p>	<p>A palindrome is a word, phrase, or sequence that reads the same in both directions. Palindromes are a fun and silly way to practice writing skills.</p> <p>Challenge students to create four trading cards that illustrate a palindrome. For example, students can draw a "racecar" or funny phrases like "taco cat" or "UFO tofu." Share a list or ask students to search for ideas or make up their own. Then, invite students to trade their cards with a partner and try to guess the palindrome illustrated on the card.</p>
EXTEND	Watch one of the space flights, and read about plans to send other citizens into space.	Be inspired by author Jon Agee as he draws Martians and talks about making books.

	ACT	CONNECT
ARTICLE	"Be a citizen scientist" (page 24)	"Taxis turned into community garden" (page 7)
VOCABULARY	data, scientific studies, citizen, monitor	sustainability, community, taxis, upcycle
ACTIVITY	<p>Careful observations can help scientists around the world. First, introduce students to quantitative and qualitative observations. Explain that quantitative observations use a quantity or number and usually require a measurement using a ruler, thermometer, or scale. Qualitative observations rely on senses and are observations of what we hear, see, feel, taste, and smell.</p> <p>Search for your location and a topic that's of interest to your students. Work together to make and submit regular observations. What is the benefit of having more than one observation?</p>	<p>Coronavirus restrictions prompted taxi company employees to turn their unused vehicles into community gardens. These gardens provide fresh vegetables to feed out-of-work drivers and employees.</p> <p>Share with students that they can start growing fresh vegetables at school or home using recycled materials. Ask students to consider how they could then scale up this design or brainstorm other ways to upcycle materials to create an innovative community garden.</p>
EXTEND	Create your own field book to record your scientific discoveries.	Find a five-ingredient recipe that uses one of the vegetables you grew.

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