

This Week at a Glance

Page	Title	Summary and Discussion Points	Content Area
4	Vaccine shows promise in kids ages 5-11	Drug company Pfizer and its partner BioNTech announced their Covid-19 vaccine is safe for children ages 5-11. How are vaccine studies conducted? Why is it important that vaccines are tested? What will happen next?	Health
8	Should the Supreme Court have term limits?	Once confirmed, there is no limit on the amount of time Supreme Court justices can serve. Half eventually resign or retire, but many serve for the rest of their lives. Do you know how many Supreme Court justices there are? Why do you think the appointment to the Supreme Court has no time limits?	Social Studies
11	Animals change shape to keep cool	Some animal species are gradually evolving to prevent their body temperature from getting too high. Why do you think this is happening? Can you name another animal species that adapts to its environment?	Science
14	A "dragon" that lived in Australia	The closest thing we have to a real-life dragon was discovered in Australia. What other animals look like mythical creatures? Do you think mistaken identity of animals led to myths and legends?	ELA
20	Rare look at astronaut life	A new documentary series provides a behind-the-scenes look at an astronaut's life in space. What do you think astronauts spend most of their time doing? Would you be interested in space travel?	Science



FEATURE OF THE WEEK JUNIOR: How to ... (page 24)

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

1. What does this week's "How to .." teach you to do?
2. Why do people create scrapbooks? If you were to make a scrapbook, what event or time in your life would you document?
3. What hobby would you want to teach people to do? How would you break down the steps to make it easy to teach them?
4. Choose a hobby, and create your own, "How to .." feature to teach your classmates how to do it!

	DEBATE	CREATE
ARTICLE	"Earbuds that give exercise advice" (page 15)	"An honor for those that help the world" (pages 12-13)
VOCABULARY	computerized, earbud, app, waterproof	Nobel Prizes, laureate, prestigious, humankind
ACTIVITY	This week's amazing invention is an earbud that gives exercise advice. Is that a good idea? Have half of your students form a circle and the other half make a second circle inside the first. Students in the inner circle should face a partner in the outer circle. Display the statement, "Earbuds should give athletes advice as they compete". Ask students in the inside circle to share their perspectives with the student facing them. Switch to the outside circle partner. On your signal, have the outside circle move one step to the left or right and discuss the same question with the new partner. Repeat a few times for students to discuss several perspectives. Encourage students to draw conclusions about why it's important to consider different perspectives.	The 2021 Nobel Prizes are set to be announced in early October. They recognize people who are doing groundbreaking work to help others. Recognizing people for their achievements and accomplishments is an act of kindness. Invite students to decorate rocks with special messages and pictures to recognize someone who has been kind or to spread kindness around your school. Ask students to find a rock or provide rocks for your students. Tell students to clean their rocks with soap and water and then decorate with paint or paint pens. Finally, help students seal their rocks with varnish, clear acrylic coating, or a glue-sealer. You can start a kindness rock garden or line the sidewalks with their creations.
EXTEND	Display another statement to discuss, "Sports should be required in school."	Hide and leave your kindness rocks for others to find in the community.

	ACT	CONNECT
ARTICLE	"Kenya conducts wildlife census" (page 10)	"New treats made of insects" (page 7)
VOCABULARY	census, endangered, wildlife reserve, population	locust, business executive, consuming, insects
ACTIVITY	To help protect its endangered animals, Kenya conducted its first wildlife census. Students can measure biodiversity in their community. Direct them to cut four strings 1 meter each and make a square frame outside on the ground. They have made a quadrat for sampling. Then, direct them to count the number of different species and the total number of each individual species inside the quadrat, such as plants, birds, and insects. After they finish collecting data in one area, direct them to randomly move their quadrat to another location to measure and compare biodiversity in more than one area.	A business executive in Israel is turning a type of grasshopper into treats to eat. Entomophagy is very common in many places around the world, such as southeast Asia, Africa, and Latin America. But what is it? Ask students to break down the word. "entom" refers to insects and "phagy" means to eat something. Entomophagy is the practice of eating insects! Have your students research an edible insect recipe from a particular region of the world and create a cooking show skit to pretend to make their recipe.
EXTEND	Use Leafsnap to help you identify the plants in your quadrat sampling.	Watch what other people are cooking with insects.

* Note: On your computer or mobile device, click or tap blue links to access linked content. Visit theweekjunior.com/teachers to see all our lesson guides.