

## This Week at a Glance

Page	Title	Summary and Discussion Points	Content Area
2	Oil spill off California coast	A large oil spill happened off the coast of Southern California, polluting beaches and endangering wildlife. What caused the spill? What is being done to help? What are the short- and long-term effects of oil spills like this?	Science
8	Should communities build more skateparks?	Skaters practice their skills in a lot of public places that can sometimes be dangerous for skaters and other people. What are the pros and cons of communities building skateparks? Do you think communities should have skate parks to give them a safe place to practice?	ELA
10	Clever cockatoos make cutlery	Cockatoos and other parrots are some of the smartest of birds, and now cockatoos have even been observed making tools to help them eat. What other animals have made tools to help them eat? What kind of tools help you eat? Do people around the world all use the same tools to eat their meals?	Science
12-13	An ancient, hidden city in the sky	Machu Picchu is an ancient city and the most famous tourist attraction in Peru. It sits high in the Andes mountains and is challenging to visit. Why would a community want to build a settlement in such steep, mountainous terrain? What kinds of animals can you find if you visit?	Social Studies
20	Recovered art on display	The Jewish Museum in New York City is showcasing art and objects that were once stolen by the German Nazi part in Europe. How can art help us learn about history? What are ways we could track art and objects today?	Art



### FEATURE OF THE WEEK JUNIOR: Photos of the week (pp. 16 and 17)

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

1. How would you describe each of the photos in this week's feature?
2. Why do you think these photos were taken, and why were they selected to be featured?
3. Which photograph are you most curious about, and why?
4. How can photographs help tell a story about the past, present, and future? Pretend you have been asked to tell the story of one of the featured photographs. What story would you tell?
5. If you were asked to tell the story of your school in photographs, which five photographs would you take, and why?

	DEBATE	CREATE
ARTICLE	"Banned Books Week is observed" (page 4)	"Packing that can be eaten" (page 15)
VOCABULARY	ensorship, inclusion, offensive, banned	invention, plant-based, compostable, waste
ACTIVITY	Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom of people to read what they choose. Ask students to draw 5 text or speech bubbles on a piece of paper. In the first speech bubble, give students a few minutes to record their reply to the question, "Is it ever right to ban a book?" They can use evidence from the article in their response. Collect papers and redistribute them. Students should now respond, in writing, to the previous student's ideas and add their own thoughts. Repeat this process until all speech bubbles are completed. Finally, return papers to the first author and ask students to summarize their table texting conversation.	A German company has made plant-based packaging that is safe to eat. Invite students to try making their own edible container. Follow the <a href="#">directions</a> to make a gummy glass that they can not only drink from, but then can eat the cup! Ask students to think about other containers they could make with gelatin to store food inside. They should consider other shapes and sizes. Then, ask them to think about how other edible wraps, like <a href="#">rice paper</a> , could act as packing or containers. Invite students to brainstorm how these types of innovations could help with reducing packaging waste.
EXTEND	Find out more about <a href="#">Banned Books Week</a> .	<a href="#">Watch</a> how this designer uses bacteria to create edible and biodegradable food packaging.

	ACT	CONNECT
ARTICLE	"Rock song teaches public about bear safety" (page 7)	"Stepping up to the plate" (page 9)
VOCABULARY	Iwate region, warning, naive, spike	self-determination, representation, humanity, innocence
ACTIVITY	A spike in bear sightings in Japan led to a special song being written to educate the public about bear safety. It plays in public areas like shopping centers to spread important information and tips. Invite students to select a school or community topic they would like their peers to know more about. You may want to suggest ideas related to the environment, safety, health, or civic duty. Then, ask students to write a list of words they associate with their topic and to choose a simple melody to write a song about the topic. Encourage students to share their songs on the morning announcements.	Author Nic Stone wants young people to feel represented in the books they read. Gaming is another platform for visual storytelling. Invite students to imagine they are a videogame designer. Assign partners and ask students to design four new video game characters. They should include at least one character that looks like them and one character that looks like their partner. For the other two characters, they should think about age, skin color, eye color, hair color, clothing, ability, and background to create an inclusive video game experience. Invite students to present their characters, and summarize by leading a discussion on why it's important for all students to feel represented in media and storytelling resources.
EXTEND	Use a music creation app to record, create, produce, and share your song.	Use <a href="#">Bitmoji</a> to turn your sketch into an emoji/cartoon-based avatar.

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