



Page	Title	Summary and Discussion Points	Content Area
2	Winter Olympics underway in Italy	On February 6, the opening ceremony of the Milan Cortina Olympics in Italy marked the start of the 2026 Winter Games. The main event took place at San Siro Olympic Stadium in Milan and celebrated Italian history, art, and culture. What was the theme of the Opening Ceremonies? What is unique about Italian culture?	Social Studies
4	Monks walk for peace across the US	After setting out last fall, a group of Buddhist monks walked more than 2,300 miles across eight states to spread a message of peace. Where was the path of the monks? Why is their message so important?	Social Studies
6	Age limit proposed for social media	The prime minister of Spain has announced plans to ban social media for young people under the age of 16. Why did the prime minister announce this ban? Do you believe there should be age minimums for social media?	Digital Citizenship
11	Discovery could protect rare frogs	Researchers have uncovered the reason why the southern Darwin's frog has been declining in numbers. Now they can look into the best ways to solve the problem. What reason did researchers uncover? How might they solve the problem?	Science
18	Seahawks win the Super Bowl	On February 8, the Seattle Seahawks defeated the New England Patriots, 29–13, to capture their second Super Bowl title. What was your favorite part about this year's Super Bowl? How would you describe this year's Super Bowl in six words?	Social Studies

**FEATURE OF THE WEEK JUNIOR: Photos of the week (pages 16 and 17)**

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

1. Why do you think the images were selected for this week's feature?
2. How can images help to tell a story?
3. Select one of the photos. What do you think happened just before the photo was taken? Just after? What are you most curious about related to the photo?

	DEBATE	CREATE
ARTICLE	"Age limit proposed for social media" (page 6)	"Seaweed packaging reduces plastic waste" (page 15)
VOCABULARY	Prime Minister, ban, parliament, restrictions	engineering, single-use plastics, microplastics, biodegradable
ACTIVITY	<p>On index cards, ask students to write the minimum age they believe someone should be allowed to join social media. Invite students with the same answers to pair up and discuss their reasoning. Display the following prompt: "There should be a ban on social media for anyone under age 16." Divide students into groups of four, each having two smaller dyads of two. Dyad A in each group must take the "agree" position, and Dyad B must take the "disagree" position. Each group will research evidence related to its position and be prepared to defend it. Dyad A will present first. Dyad B must then restate Dyad A's argument to Dyad A's satisfaction. Then, Dyad B must do the same. Finally, invite each group to abandon its assigned positions and reach a consensus on whether they agree or disagree with the prompt. Share the position and justification if one is reached, or the reasons one can't be reached.</p>	<p>Invite students to read the article and identify the problem, solution, and process used. Review the engineering design process: ask, research, imagine, plan, create, test, and improve. Challenge teams to design a package that will protect a raw egg shipped inside a 9 x 12-inch envelope. The egg must not break, be lightweight, and include at least one reusable component. Invite students to brainstorm ideas and draw and explain their designs. Provide each team with one raw egg, one 9 x 12-inch envelope, and materials such as cardboard, newspaper, cotton balls, masking tape, foil, Styrofoam, and bubble wrap. Next, students should construct their packaging according to their plans. Have teams measure and record the weight and dimensions of their packages. Conduct tests, such as dropping the package from increasing heights, placing a textbook on top, or tossing it onto a hard surface. Conclude by having teams share their designs and discuss how the engineering design process guided their thinking.</p>
EXTEND	Research the age requirements of various social media sites.	Learn more about the <a href="#">engineering design process</a> .

	CONNECT	ACT
ARTICLE	"Winter Olympics underway in Italy" (page 2)	"Celebrate Black History " (page 24)
VOCABULARY	venues, harmony, classical, anthem, cauldron	commemorations, culture, historians, pioneering
ACTIVITY	<p>Ask students who watched the Winter Olympics Opening Ceremonies which moments stood out to them. Invite them to learn more <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a>. Explain that Opening Ceremonies showcase the host country's culture, history, values, and symbols—offering a snapshot of what makes that nation unique. Challenge teams to pitch a concept for the Opening Ceremonies of the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. They must design a ceremony that reflects what is distinctive and meaningful about the US. Each team should develop a unifying theme, key segments of the program, speakers, stage design concepts, musical guests, featured artists, and visual elements (technology, lighting, choreography, cultural symbols). Encourage teams to consider whose stories are being told, what values are highlighted, and how their ceremony would resonate with a global audience. Teams should be prepared to present their pitch and explain the choices behind their creative vision.</p>	<p>This month marks 100 years since the launch of what became Black History Month—a time dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the contributions, achievements, and impact of Black Americans throughout U.S. history. Invite students into a thoughtful discussion about why Black History Month is important, why learning about the histories and experiences of different communities matters, and what it means to them personally. Encourage students to consider how representation, recognition, and storytelling influence whose contributions are remembered—and why making space for diverse voices strengthens our shared understanding of the past and present. Invite students to read the article and highlight all of the different ideas presented for celebrating Black History Month. Then, invite them to complete the worksheet on p. 25 by identifying who they admire, what Black History Month means to them, and how they will personally celebrate.</p>

[See what's already been planned](#) for LA 28.

[Learn more](#) about Black History Month.

\* Note: On your computer or mobile device, click or tap blue