

# THE WEEK



**THE WEEK MAGAZINE**  
EDUCATION PROGRAM

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## The Week at a Glance



4	SVB's meltdown prompts federal rescue	News	The Federal Reserve launched an investigation into the oversight and regulation of Silicon Valley Bank, as the Biden administration scrambled to limit political and market fallout from the nation's second-largest bank failure in history.	Government Economics
5	Biden proposes budget that spends more and taxes the rich	News	A high-stakes showdown over the country's finances began as the Senate took up the Biden administration's 2024 budget proposal, a \$6.8 trillion behemoth that would include a raft of tax increases on corporations and the wealthy.	Government Economics
6	Tucker Carlson: The making of a demagogue	News	While media bias may be widespread and inevitable, a slew of texts and emails released as part of a defamation lawsuit reveal that Fox anchor Tucker Carlson repeatedly and knowingly lied to viewers.	Media Studies
7	Alaska: Green light to drill	Opinion	The White House approved an \$8 billion oil project on Alaska's North Slope, leading environmentalists to slam President Biden for abandoning his campaign pledge to end new oil drilling on federal lands.	Government Environmental Studies
17	'Woke': What does it really mean?	Opinion	A recently-released USA TODAY/Ipsos poll offered two definitions of the word, "woke," and 56% of respondents chose the positive one: "to be informed, educated on, and aware of social injustices." Why is "woke" being so politicized?	Politics Civics

## BRIEFLY: Quick Questions & Ideas To Engage Students

Wellesley, Mass: Trans rift	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What did the students of Wellesley College vote on last week in a non-binding referendum? Why is this vote significant?</li> <li>2. What has been the response from the administration and alumni?</li> <li>3. Why do you think all women or all men's colleges exist? Should they exist?</li> <li>4. What are your thoughts on this news story?</li> </ol>
Cabo San Lucas: Fentanyl-laced drugs in pharmacies: PAGE 8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What do you know about the dangers of Fentanyl?</li> <li>2. Why do you think so many people, especially teens, are dying from Fentanyl-laced drugs?</li> <li>3. How would you summarize this news story? Why is it so important for you to know about events that happen in other countries?</li> <li>4. What, if anything, could the short- and long-term positive and negative impacts be of a State Department travel warning about Mexico?</li> </ol>
When teens have no time for fun: PAGE 12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What do you think this story is about, based on its headline?</li> <li>2. What does research reveal about the "extraordinary rise of teen mental illness"?</li> <li>3. What factors do you believe most contribute to the rise in teen mental illness?</li> <li>4. Do you believe your generation faces more, less, or the same amount of pressure as your parents' generation to get good grades and high test scores? Explain your answer.</li> </ol>

## FEATURE OF THE WEEK: The Cover

Invite students to look at this week's cover and answer the questions.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the illustration on this week's cover.</li> <li>2. What story from this week's issue does the cover image represent?</li> <li>3. What do you think the illustrator's point of view is about this news story?</li> <li>4. What techniques does the illustrator use to represent his or her point of view?</li> </ol>
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MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #1: Based on the article, "Biden proposes budget that spends more and taxes the rich" (p. 5)	
VOCABULARY	raft, revenue, national debt, breaching, debt ceiling, recession, partisan, unprecedented, unsustainable, nonsensical, imminent, tsunami, catastrophe, ballooning interest
DISCUSS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What role should the federal government play in the U.S. economy?</li> <li>2. How does the federal budget impact your life?</li> </ol>
DO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Challenge students to guess how much the US government has spent so far in 2023 to ensure the well-being of the people of the United States. Have them go <a href="#">here</a> to learn the answer.</li> <li>2. Write the following terms on separate signs, and hang those signs around the room: administration of justice; agriculture; commerce, community and transportation; defense; education; government functions; healthcare; income security; interest on the debt; international affairs; natural resources, energy, and the environment; science, space and technology; social security; and Veterans benefits. Ask students if they know what the terms represent. Explain that each is a spending category that is part of the <a href="#">federal budget</a>. Explain that there are two types of spending in the federal budget: mandatory spending which is determined by law and cannot be changed as part of the annual process; and discretionary spending which officials can change as part of the annual budgeting process. They can learn more about each category <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>3. Invite student groups to create a two-column table that has each spending category listed in the first column and a blank box in the second column. Distribute 100 pennies or small pieces of candy to each group. Explain that each penny or piece of candy represents 1% of the federal budget. Challenge them to distribute the pennies or candy according to what percent of the budget they think should be allocated. So, if they think Social Security should receive 10% of our federal budget, they would put 10 pennies or pieces of candy in the second column next to Social Security.</li> <li>4. Invite each group to present and justify its allocations. Invite spirited debate. Invite them to compare their funding allocations with the actual allocations in <a href="#">recent federal budgets</a>.</li> </ol>
EXTEND	Invite students to learn more about the <a href="#">federal budget process</a> .

MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #2: Based on articles of students' choice from throughout the issue	
VOCABULARY	Constitution, amendment, right, preamble, law, amendment, founder
DISCUSS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why was the U.S. Constitution amended after it was written?</li> <li>2. Which amendment do you most value, and why? How would your life be different if that amendment had not been ratified?</li> </ol>
DO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Write the word, "amendment," and ask students if they know what it means. Explain that an amendment is a change to a document. Ask students if they know how many amendments there have been to the U.S. Constitution. Explain that there were 10 original amendments in the Bill of Rights. There have since been 17 additional amendments. Ask students why they think our nation needed to amend the Constitution. Explain that the Founders knew that, as our country grew and times changed, it would need a mechanism in place to stay relevant to the needs of the U.S. citizens. So they provided that mechanism in <a href="#">Article V</a> of the Constitution. The Constitution provides two methods for making amendments. The U.S. Congress can pass a bill setting out a proposed amendment by a vote of two thirds in each body. Or a constitutional convention can be convened by a vote of two thirds of the state legislatures, which will propose one or more amendments. (This has never happened.) The amendments only become effective after being ratified by 3/4 of the states.</li> <li>2. Invite student groups to review all <a href="#">27 amendments</a> and to summarize each one into 10 words or less. Then, challenge them to explain why, if at all, each amendment is important and still relevant.</li> <li>3. Challenge the groups to identify five amendments they think impact their lives the most and the five that are most significant to our nation as a whole.</li> <li>4. Finally, challenge students to identify articles from this week's issue that represent or relate to as many amendments as possible.</li> </ol>
EXTEND	Invite students to imagine that they have been asked to write a 28th amendment, based on our nation's current needs. What would they select, and why?

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