



Page	Title	Summary and Discussion Points	Content Area
2	Activist mourned, free speech debated	A debate over the right to free speech has intensified across the US following the assassination (killing for political reasons) of prominent conservative activist Charlie Kirk. What does free speech mean? Why is free speech important?	Social Studies
4	Hispanic Heritage month is celebrated	The US is celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 through October 15 to honor and recognize Hispanic communities. What is the theme of this year's celebration? Why is it important to learn about and celebrate different cultures?	Social Studies
11	Saving rare, beautiful snails	Scientists are racing to save some of the world's most beautiful snails from extinction. Why are Polymita tree snails in danger of extinction? What is being done to try to save them?	Science
15	AI beats goalies at predicting penalty kicks	Stonehenge is the most famous prehistoric stone circle in the world. What is Stonehenge, and how was it built?	Social Studies
19	Dino teeth shed light on past climate	Scientists have used dinosaur teeth to gain new insight into what Earth's climate was like millions of years ago, according to a new study. What methodology was used by the researchers? Why might someone be curious about the Earth's climate millions of years ago?	Science

FEATURE OF THE WEEK JUNIOR: Around the world (pages 6 and 7)

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

1. Can you find all of the featured places on a world map?
2. Which place would you most want to visit, and why?
3. Which news story are you most curious about, and why?
4. Which news story most connects to your life?
5. Why is it important for us to learn about news stories around the world?

	DEBATE	CREATE
ARTICLE	"Are poems better than books?" (page 8)	"Building for others" (page 9)
VOCABULARY	sonnet, haiku, ode, limerick	ramp, visibility, accessibility, donations
ACTIVITY	Have students use the "MVP criteria" to identify the statement from the article that most influences their position on the issue presented. Display the prompt, "Poems are better than books." Ask students to read the article and identify a statement that makes them agree or disagree with the prompt. Have students evaluate the statement against the following: M (the statement is connected to the text's main idea); V (the statement creates a clear mental image that reinforces the position,); and P (it's a "phrase that stays" with a student and resonates with them to influence their stance). Invite students to share their MVP statements.	Ask students how they would describe the work of the "Lego Grandma." Explain that many inventions and innovations were created to solve a problem. These include the wheel, Post It Notes, and the magnifying glass. Invite student groups to identify a problem in your classroom, school, or community they would like to solve. Challenge them to discuss possible solutions to their problem that could be invented. Then, further challenge them to identify, sketch, and build a prototype of their solution using Legos or other building materials.
EXTEND	Watch poetry readings by famous poets.	Learn about 22 inventions that changed the world .

	ACT	CONNECT
ARTICLE	activist mourned, free speech debated (page 2)	Hispanic Heritage month is celebrated (page 3)
VOCABULARY	assassination, free speech, activist, prominent	heritage, descended, salsa, immigration
ACTIVITY	Write the phrase "freedom of speech" on a large sheet of butcher paper in the center of the room. Distribute markers, and invite students to write or draw definitions, explanations, questions, or thoughts about this phrase. Invite students to walk around the paper to see what classmates wrote. Explain that freedom of speech is our right to share our thoughts and ideas without getting in trouble by the government (as long as those words don't cause danger). After reading the article, invite students to have a WOW moment by explaining why free speech is important, their opinion on Jimmy Kimmel's suspension, and what they can do to help protect free speech in their school or community.	Invite student groups to listen to songs from traditional Hispanic musical genres such as salsa, merengue, cumbia, flamenco, and Latin rock. Challenge them to identify similarities and differences in instrumentation, rhythm, patterns, and how the music makes them feel. Challenge each group to create a music map by creating a visual representation of where these musical genres originated on a world or Latin America map. Then, invite them to share what they learned in an original song, inspired by one of the genres.
EXTEND	Read a transcript of the Bill of Rights.	Visit the Molino Family Latino Gallery.

* Note: On your computer or mobile device, click or tap blue links to access linked content.