



Page	Title	Summary and Discussion Points	Content Area
2	US captures Venezuelan leader	On January 3, US armed forces captured Nicolas Maduro, the president of Venezuela, and his wife, Cilla Flores. They are being held in the US. What, if anything, do you know about the Venezuelan government? Why do you think the US did this?	Social Studies
4	Coins for US anniversary released	On January 5, the US Mint, which makes the nation's coins, began releasing quarters, nickels, and dimes that have new designs honoring the 250th anniversary of the founding of America in 1776. What designs would be best to celebrate the founding of America? Why does the US mint create commemorative coins?	Social Studies
5	Flu surges across the country	A new flu variant, nicknamed the "super flu," is taking off faster than usual this season, with cases considered "high" or "very high" in 32 states. What causes the flu? Why do you think this variant is called the "super flu"?	Science
14	Woolly mammoth clue discovered	The remains of a 40,000 year-old creature found in Siberia, Russia, have offered scientists an exciting glimpse into the past. Why might scientists want to study the remains of a 40,000 year-old animal? What questions about this creature are you most curious about?	Science
15	How being a sports fan affects the brain	To learn what emotions sports fans go through when viewing their favorite teams, scientists studied the brain activity of soccer fans while they were watching a match. Why might scientists want to study this? What do you predict the study revealed?	Science

FEATURE OF THE WEEK JUNIOR: Book of the week... (page 23)

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

1. What do you think the book, *Alice with a Why* might be about?
2. After reading the review, how would you describe the book in just six words?
3. Does the review make you want to read the book? Share specific examples of why or why not. Which featured book would you most want to read, and why?

	DEBATE	CREATE
ARTICLE	"Should the US minimum wage be raised?" (page 8)	"Coins for US anniversary released" (pages 4)
VOCABULARY	minimum wage, territories, economy, federal	tribute, liberty, depicting, minted
ACTIVITY	Direct students to read the article to identify what a minimum wage is, why there is one, what the minimum wage is in the US, how the minimum wage could be raised, and how most Americans feel about raising the minimum wage. Then divide students into five groups. Two groups will argue in favor of raising the minimum wage, two groups will argue against raising the minimum wage, and one group will act as the state or local leaders who must decide whether or not to raise the minimum wage, based only on the strength of the arguments and the evidence presented. Each group will have one minute to present their arguments.	Challenge students to list anything they know about images, symbols, dates, or people on US coins. If possible, have a quarter, dime, and nickel available for students to check their answers. Invite students to read the article. Then, have them imagine that they have been asked to design coins to commemorate a famous event in US history. Event ideas can be found here . Once events have been selected, invite them to research and list dates, images, people, and symbols that could represent their events. Direct them to create sketches of a commemorative quarter, dime, and nickel for their events. Have each student reveal their sketches, and challenge other students to guess which event they selected, and why.
EXTEND	Find your state's minimum wage.	Learn about the different parts of a coin.

	CONNECT	ACT
ARTICLE	"US captures Venezuelan leader" (p. 2)	"Give a day of service" (page 24)
VOCABULARY	civilians, criminal, corrupt, illegitimate	legacy, civil rights, equitable, community action
ACTIVITY	Challenge students to find Venezuela on a world map and to share what they know about why it is in the news. Ask students to draw an iceberg with a tip, water line, and large area below the surface. Ask students to read the article and list important facts about the US capturing Nicolas Maduro in the "tip" area of the iceberg. They should list what happened, choices that were made and by whom, who was affected, and when and where it happened. Then, challenge students to think about what caused this event and to list that information in the space below the surface. Finally, above the iceberg, invite students to list at least three effects of this event to either Venezuelans, the US, or others around the world.	Invite student groups to select one of these Martin Luther King, Jr. quotes to analyze. Challenge groups to explain the meaning of their quotation, describe the kind of change the quote is describing, determine what the quote was challenging people to reflect upon, describe how the quotation is still relevant today, and describe how the quote relates to their lives. Invite groups to share information with the class, and challenge the class to draw conclusions about how Martin Luther King, Jr. felt about the importance of service to others and how service is a pillar of his legacy. Direct students to read the article and identify how the National Day of Service honors Dr. King. Challenge them to complete the "How I'll Help My Community" feature on p. 25 and to work with their teacher or other adults to implement their ideas.
EXTEND	Learn more about Venezuela.	Submit your forms to this site to possibly be featured in an upcoming issue.

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