

THE WEEK



THE WEEK MAGAZINE
EDUCATION PROGRAM

April 21, 2023
Issue 1127

The Week at a Glance



4	Judge reverses FDA approval of abortion pill	News	A legal battle over medication abortion appeared to be headed for the Supreme Court, after a conservative federal judge in Texas ruled that the Food and Drug Administration must reverse its approval of mifepristone, an abortion pill that's been in wide use for 23 years.	Legal Studies Government
5	After national uproar, ousted Tennessee Democrats return	News	Two Black Democratic Tennessee state legislators returned triumphantly to office after their expulsion by the Republican supermajority provoked a national outcry and drew condemnation from civil rights leaders.	Government Civics
7	Louisville: Another AR-15 massacre:	News	An employee of downtown Louisville's Old National Bank used an AR-15 assault rifle to kill five colleagues this week and injure eight others.	Government Criminal Justice Civics
16	Ukraine: A damaging intelligence leak	Opinion	Who leaked U.S. intelligence about the war in Ukraine and "what was the motive?" asked Morgan Chalfant in <i>Semafor</i> . These are questions officials in Washington are trying to answer, after <i>The New York Times</i> reported that a trove of more than 100 Pentagon documents had surfaced in an obscure corner of social media.	World Studies Government Technology
17	The GOP: Is Trump unstoppable?	Opinion	As Trump dominates news coverage and Republicans "rally to his defense" following his Manhattan indictment, Ron DeSantis, Nikki Haley, and other frustrated Republicans vying for the 2024 nomination are fighting a losing battle to be heard over the din of the "The Donald Trump Show."	American History Civics

BRIEFLY: Quick Questions & Ideas To Engage Students

Justice Thomas: A billionaire buddy's secret gifts PAGE 6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you know about how Supreme Court justices are nominated and confirmed? What, if anything, about the process is politically partisan? 2. What qualities are important for a Supreme Court justice to have? Should Supreme Court justices have political bias? Should there be a code of ethics for Supreme Court justices? Explain your answers. 3. Why is Justice Thomas being called "the most plainly corrupt Supreme Court justice since...well, maybe since ever"? 4. Summarize both sides of the debate about Justice Thomas' actions.
Biden proposes trans sports compromise PAGE 7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you know about the debate on transgender athletes competing on teams that align with their gender identities? 2. What rule change did the Department of Education propose last week related to trans athletes? How does that debate relate to Title IX? 3. What are the benefits and challenges of this rule change? What is your opinion on this news story?
Newport News, Va.: Mother charged PAGE 20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is the issue of gun rights vs. gun control often considered political? 2. Should parents of minors be charged if their children commit crimes using their guns? 3. How, if at all, could we prevent future school shootings like this one? 4. What, if anything, does this story reflect about our society?

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"> 1. Describe the illustration on this week's cover. 2. What story from this week's issue does the cover image represent? 3. What do you think the illustrator's point of view is about this news story? 4. What techniques does the illustrator use to represent his or her point of view?
--	--

MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #1: Based on the articles, "After national uproar, ousted Democrats return" (p. 5)	
VOCABULARY	triumphantly, expulsion, condemnation, supermajority, provoked, protesters, chamber, expelled, lenient, precedent, retaliate, disenfranchising, proportion, disrupt, sanction, rabble-rousers, martyrs, stifling, negate
DISCUSS	1. What does the role of protest play in a democracy? 2. What is an issue that you feel strongly enough about that you would join in a public protest?
DO	1. Write the following words/terms on separate, large sheets of chart paper, and hang around the room: Tennessee Three, gun control, protest, disenfranchise, expulsion, and free speech. Invite students to travel to each sheet of paper and write what they know, what they've experienced, and/or what they wonder about each word or term. Discuss answers. 2. Ask students if they know what current news story relates to all of the words or terms. Invite students to write and annotate the story, highlighting facts and opinions that support the expulsion in one color and facts and opinions that oppose it in another. Challenge them to identify how each of the words/terms on the chart papers relate to the news story. Invite them to present their answers to a partner. Then, invite each pair to form a group with another pair and share answers. 3. Direct these groups of four to create a cause and effect chart, and challenge them to list the causes and effects of Justin Jones and Justin Pearson being expelled from the Tennessee State House. Invite groups to discuss their opinions of this news story. 4. Direct students to identify one aspect of this news story that they either support or oppose. Invite them to list all of the reasons that support their positions. Then, ask them to think about different ways that they could express their positions through art. Ideas could include a mural, rap or song, poem, sculpture, poster, monologue, video, exhibition, or dance. 5. Invite students to choose and apply one of the artistic mediums to express their positions on this news story.
EXTEND	Encourage students to plan and produce a schoolwide art show that reflects their positions on this news story.

MAIN ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK #2: Based on the articles of students' choice from throughout the issue	
VOCABULARY	Constitution, amendment, right, preamble, law, amendment, founder
DISCUSS	1. Why was the U.S. Constitution amended after it was written? 2. Which amendment do you most value, and why? How would your life be different if that amendment had not been ratified?
DO	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. 2. Ask students why they think our government 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 Article V 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. 3. Invite student groups to review all 27 amendments 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. 4. 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. 5. Finally, challenge students to identify articles from this week's issue that represent or relate to as many amendments as possible
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?

* Note : On your computer or mobile device, click or tap blue links to access linked content. Visit www.theweek.com/teachers to see all our lesson guides.