

Teacher Instruction Guide

What is the weekly theme?

Strength

English Language Arts

Week's Main Goals

1. Practice analyzing different types of writing to identify main idea and message
2. Identify inferences from texts and support conclusions about inferences
3. Use evidence from texts to support a claim
4. Reflect on how people respond to challenging times by calling on their inner strength

Brief summary of this week's activities

Throughout this week, students will read about three historical women who showed strength and courage during times of social challenges. The focus is on women figures, as March is Women's History Month. Students will read about Harriet Tubman, Frances Harper, and Victoria Woodhull. They will read letters, articles, songs, poetry, and speeches and analyze each to understand their messages and draw out main themes. Students will reflect on their own strengths, write a short speech, and write a short essay.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print and distribute the handouts. If allowed, there are activities for group discussion (if this is not possible at your site, you may tell students to skip over those sections).

Optional: During Day 1, students will read the song "Stand Up" by Cynthia Erivo. If possible, you can play the song for students so they may hear the lyrics being sung and get a better feeling of the tone of the song.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Handout
- Pencil

Science

Week's Main Goals

1. Explore different types of bridges and their characteristics
2. Hypothesize and carry out tests to assess
3. Construct a paper bridge and assess its strength

Brief summary of this week's activities

This week, students will learn about bridges. Students will read about different types of bridges and learn how to identify them. Students will learn about the strength of bridges and how different designs are stronger than others. Students will be asked to construct their own bridges out of paper and test their strength. Students will reflect on the theme of strength.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print out the packet and distribute to students. If possible, students can share their bridge designs with classmates and work together to design paper bridges.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Handouts
- Paper
- Pencils

Math

Week's Main Goals

1. To understand what it means to be strong and to have 'growth mindset' -- and to encourage students to adopt that mindset during this difficult time
2. To help students understand the strength of numbers and percentage increases decreases
3. To look at the strength of exponential growth - and to see how exponential growth can have positive or negative consequences

Brief summary of this week's activities

See above.

Instructions for this week's activities

For this week, supporting student learning should be fairly straightforward

- Pass out the math activities each day
- Encourage all students to take a few minutes to complete the daily warm-up. If you choose to, have a student explain the warm-up, on the whiteboard or from their seat
- Have students get started on the day's exercises.
- You will see that there are opportunities for students to work alone and work in small teams or pairs. Encourage students to team up or pair up for those exercises.
- If you are comfortable, move about the room, see how students are doing with the exercises.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

For this week's math exercises, students will need pencil and extra paper to use. They do not have to have a calculator, but if those are provided, they might be helpful.

Week's Main Goals

1. Practice critical thinking around issues dealing with WWI
2. Illustrate and explain key events and terms of WWI, demonstrating mastery
3. Use creativity to help organize understanding of WWI concepts

Brief summary of this week's activities

Throughout this week, students will explore the history of WWI, it's key players, outcomes, and key vocabulary. Students will read scholarly articles and respond to questions about the text. Students will be asked to think creatively, put themselves in the shoes of a WWI soldier, and demonstrate their understanding of the material. In coordination with the weekly theme, students will reflect on what it means to be strong during wartime, for individuals and for countries, and will have the opportunity to identify personal strengths.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print and distribute the handouts. If allowed, there are activities for group discussion (if this is not possible at your site, you may tell students to skip over those sections).

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Handout
- Pencil
- Markers or Colored Pencils (Day 3)