

Teacher Instruction Guide

What is the weekly theme?

Environment

English Language Arts

Week's Main Goals

1. Identify words, images, and details that construct setting
2. Explain multiple significances of setting in a literary piece
3. Write about how the recycling program works and be able to critically analyze the costs and benefits of recycling
4. Understand when they can describe the economical and environmental effects of recycling programs in U.S. cities

Brief summary of this week's activities

Students will first consider fictional literature and explore setting. They will read passages and short stories to analyze the importance of setting. Students will then consider nonfictional texts, and read an article to learn about the cost, effectiveness, and ethics of recycling programs in the U.S. After reading that article, students will choose a side on the debate of whether to continue recycling programs, and write a persuasive speech about their position.

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).

Special note: Students will need their day 4 packet in order to complete Day 5 activities.

Optional: During Day 2, students will read the song "The Town is Lit" by Toni Morrison. 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

- Printed packet
- Pencil
- Colored pencils/crayons/markers

Week's Main Goals

1. Explore how the Coronavirus shutdown is impacting the Earth
2. Compare satellite data from multiple cities
3. Explore global warming's impact on the Earth

Brief summary of this week's activities

This week, students will learn about the Coronavirus shutdown's impact on the Earth. Students will compare satellite data from multiple cities. And, students will also explore global warming's impact on the Earth. Each day, students will read articles and provide some form of analysis and/or respond to questions about what they read.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print out the packet and distribute to students. If possible, students can share their written responses with the class.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Handouts
- Pencils
- Colored Pencils (if available)

Math

Week's Main Goals

This week we are focusing on using math to help students assess a series of challenges they will face in the late teens and early 20s -- selecting cell phone plans, car buying, apartment hunting, credit cards...The goal is to help students have a better grasp on what factors to consider when making these choices.

Brief summary of this week's activities

Each day includes a warm-up, a series of word problems, many of which have charts and tables, and then some real basic worksheets/skill practice sets.

Instructions for this week's activities

These exercises are pretty self-explanatory. In many cases, there are questions where it would be good for students to be able to discuss their answers with others, if permissible.

There is an additional file with math worksheets for students who may complete the activities in this packet too quickly. You can choose to have the additional worksheets available as needed for students. Perhaps print out a few copies each day and be prepared to pass out to students who excel in math.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Packet
- Pencil
- Additional Math worksheets as needed

Week's Main Goals

- Examine and interpret the theme of environment through multiple perspectives
- Summarize the key accomplishments of environmental activist Wangara Matthai.
- Provide examples of environmental racism using data and maps.
- Compare and contrast the public health implications of social distancing in two American cities during the influenza pandemic of 1918 and make recommendations for how leaders should respond to a similar crisis today.

Brief summary of this week's activities

Throughout this week, students will explore the theme of ENVIRONMENT through the lenses of history, sociology, culture and the arts.

- Lesson 1 introduces a woman environmental activist from Kenya (remember March is Women's History Month!).
- Lesson 2 provides historical context to help students make sense of the current public health crisis, looking at how two different urban environments dealt with the influenza pandemic in 1918
- Lesson 3 uses data and maps to explore the issue of environmental racism.
- Lesson 4 tells the positive story of how music and the arts are creating a virtual environment for people to come together during this time of social isolation.
- Lesson 5 is summative and allows for more personal interpretation of the themes and topics.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print and distribute the handouts. If allowed, and when possible, some activities suggest students discuss an idea with a peer or an adult.

NOTE: Day 5 Lesson includes an optional extension activity that, if permissible, would require technology/internet access.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Handouts
- Writing utensil

Week's Main Goals

1. Explore sleeping patterns
2. Discover how to improve sleep

Brief summary of this week's activities

This week, students will learn about sleep health. They will consider things that can interfere with sleep and they will learn how to improve sleep.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print out the packet and distribute to students. If possible, students can share their responses with the class.

Materials Needed to Complete Activities

- Handouts
- Pencils
- Colored Pencils (if available) for day 4