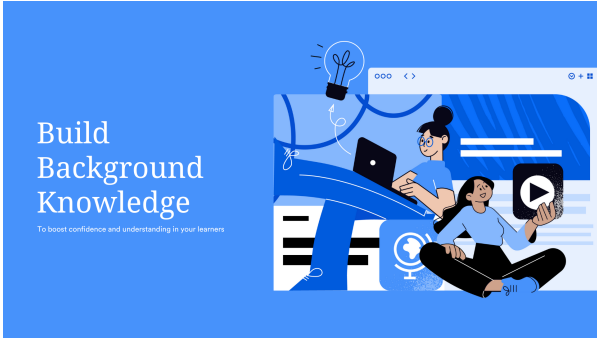
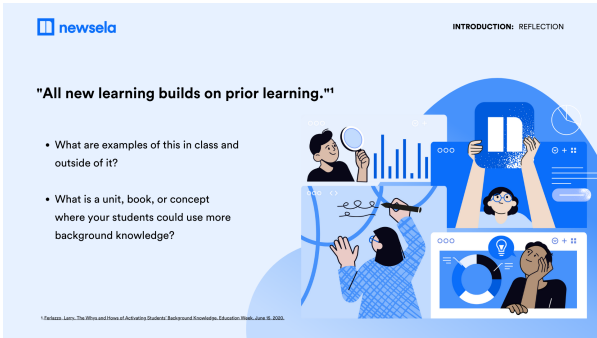
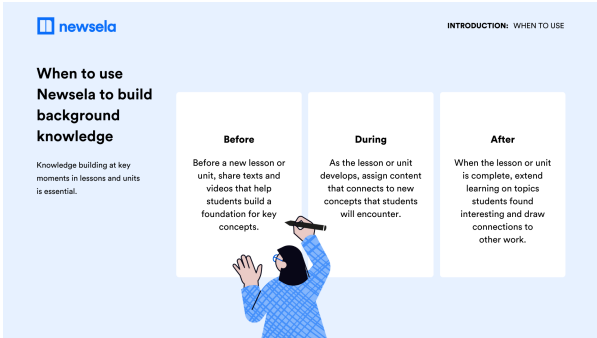


<p><b>Slide</b></p>	<p><b>Talk Track: Objective Narrative Transition</b></p>
<p>Slide 1: Welcome</p> 	<p>Welcome to our session. Today we'll share how teachers across subjects use Newsela to build background knowledge.</p>
<p>Slide 2: Reflection</p> 	<p>Research on reading comprehension dating back to the 1980s determined that background knowledge was a predictor of success on reading tasks. With that in mind, consider this statement: all new learning builds on prior learning. Think about what this means in your practice and share some thoughts in the chat.</p> <p><i>Facilitator will read two responses and connect them to literacy skills practice with Newsela.</i></p> <p>With those ideas in mind, let's think about how to use Newsela to build background knowledge.</p>
<p>Slide 3: When to use</p> 	<p>Regardless of the grade level or subject area that you teach, Newsela can be your go-to resource for helping your students build, activate, and extend knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Before a unit or lesson to introduce new concepts</li> <li>● During a lesson reinforce topics taught or read about or</li> <li>● After a unit or lesson to draw connections to future learning</li> </ul>
<p>Slide 4: Teacher tips</p>	<p>Before you begin teaching a new unit, it's helpful to know what background knowledge students are bringing with them. We can see what knowledge does exist that we can build</p>

**newsela** PRODUCT TIPS & TOOLS: BEFORE BUILDING

**Before you start building...**

Give students an opportunity to activate prior learning and get them excited to learn new information.

Try these three simple steps:

1. **Discover** what your students know about a topic
2. **Foster** discussion and information sharing
3. **Connect** to previous learning.

upon or make connections to. You might also find misconceptions that can be addressed at the outset—before they interfere with understanding later.

A practical routine that many teachers leverage for this instructional practice is to activate prior knowledge and get students excited to learn.

You can think about this in three easy steps:

- **Discover** what your students know about a topic
- **Foster** discussion and information sharing
- **Connect** to previous learning.
- t

Let's see how Newsela helps with you do this

**Slide 5: Product Tips**

**newsela** PRODUCT TIPS & TOOLS: SEARCH FOR CONTENT

**First, search for a text or video that connects to your classroom. There are thousands to choose from.**

**TIP**  
Don't forget to filter! These help you find content by type, grade, skill, Spanish/English, and more.

Then, preview the content before sharing with students.

First, finding the right content is key. When in doubt, use search and filters to help you identify the content you'll want to use to build background knowledge.

In a moment, we'll also review helpful collections that curate materials and lesson supports for building background knowledge.

**Slide 6: Discover what students know**

**newsela** PRODUCT TIPS & TOOLS: BEFORE BUILDING - DISCOVER

**Discover what your students know about a topic**

Use a simple poll or share a graphic organizer to better understand their knowledge level.

**NEWSELA TIP:**  
Find graphic organizers on Newsela by filtering your search results for "worksheets."

Discovering what students already know about a topic might look like launching a quick poll within a Newsela text or having students leverage a graphic organizer to consider what they already know. You can find worksheets like this on Newsela by using the "worksheets" filter when you search.

*Facilitator goes live into product*

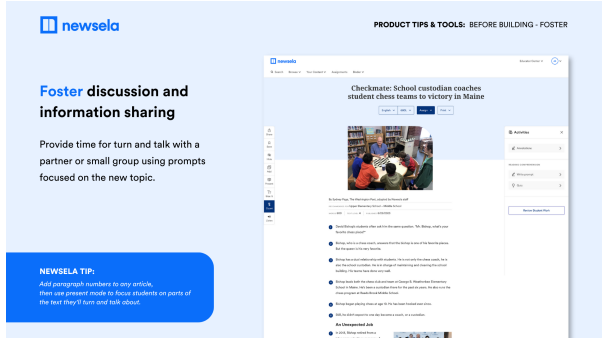
Assigning a poll with a Newsela article is a quick way to activate prior knowledge and engage students before they read.

**Product Action: Show how to craft a poll on an article.**

Simply hit the edit button, write your own poll text and answer options if you wish. Then

create an assignment and watch your students' responses come in.

Slide 7: Foster



**Product Action: Show how to enable paragraph numbers.**

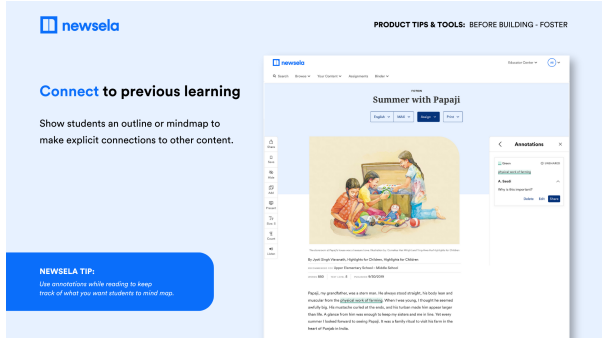
Next, you'll foster discussion. Plan for opportunities for students to discuss what they already know to share knowledge prior to deep learning.

Before or during the lesson, have students scan certain parts of the text using paragraph numbering on Newsela.

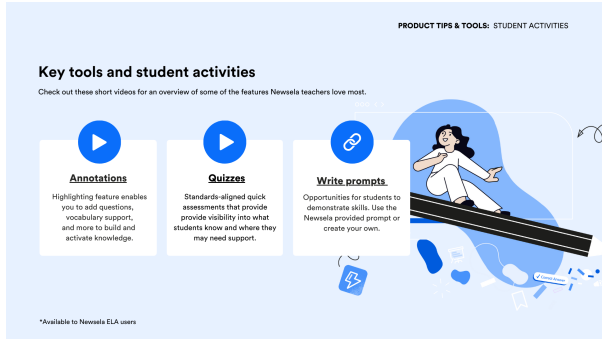
*Facilitator goes live into the product.*

You can turn on paragraph numbers in the toolbar on the left side of an article. Prompt students to read the headline and a paragraph prior to discussing the topic with a partner or small group.

Slide 8: Connect



Slide 9: Key Tools



**Product Action: Open an article.**

**Show how you highlight a key term. Save and share highlighted text.**

Step three is connecting to previous learning. Teachers should figure out what learners know and fill in gaps for the things they don't to make sure all students have a strong knowledge foundation going into a text

Teachers can guide students to use Newsela annotations to keep track of known and new concepts to create digital mind map. Annotations are located in the activities panel on the right side of every text.

Now that we've discussed the before-reading approaches you might use to build background knowledge, let's review how Newsela helps students build on known topics and learn new ideas *during* a lesson.

Annotations, quizzes, and write prompts can all help you to engage and assess students at different stages of a lesson.

*Facilitator goes live into product*

Use annotations to highlight key terms or embed questions for students to connect prior knowledge.

Assign quiz questions to determine gaps in

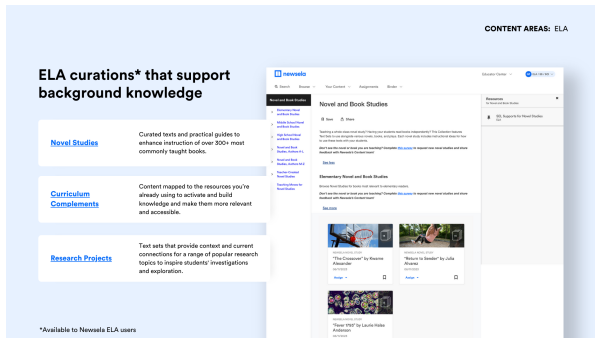
**Open the quiz and point to aligned skills and standards.**

**Open the write prompt and show how to edit and save.**

student reading comprehension vs background knowledge.

Edit the write prompt to embed a question to activate prior knowledge before reading or to connect to content knowledge after reading.

Slide 10: ELA curations



Newsela ELA supports educators in drawing connections to the novels, curriculum and topics they teach.

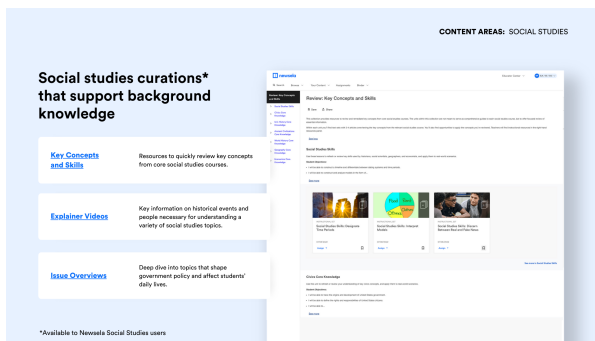
ELA teachers love our Novel Studies collection for building background knowledge and drawing connections to the characters, settings, and authors of hundreds of the most commonly taught books and novels at every grade level—both canonical texts and more contemporary works.

*Facilitator goes live into product*

**Product Action: Navigate to ELA, Novel Studies and then click tab to this link [Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men](#).**

Let's look at this example for Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men. I can see that there are explainers, cross-genre connections (take a look at the poem), opportunities to explore themes like race, sex, and ability—and the "Why these Texts" drawer will tell us all about how we might draw connections and support background and contextual understanding of the novel.

Slide 11: Social Studies curations



Newsela Social Studies has many curations available to support key moments in history or to tackle an issue key to our current social and political landscape.

Social studies teachers love our Key Concepts and Skills collection because it sources and organizes the content needed to cover important concepts ranging from the American revolution to Economics, all in one place and scaffolded to be accessible to every learner.

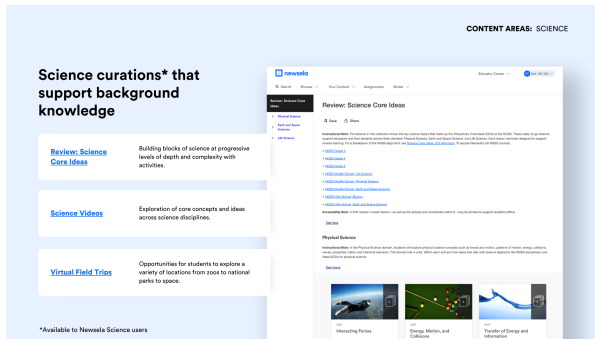
*Facilitator goes live in product*

**Product Action: Click on Social Studies, scroll to Key Concepts and Skills and [navigate to this collection](#).**

We'll navigate to a concept taught across multiple grades the development of constitutional democracy. We'll notice this includes explainers, primary sources, and

articles available in Spanish. Teachers also have an available lesson guide to consider how they structure their instruction to build the fundamental knowledge necessary for students to unpack and understand the events, decisions, and documents that are critical for understanding our country.

### Slide 12: Science



Newsela Science helps teachers review core ideas and engage students in new learning necessary to understand and explain scientific phenomena.

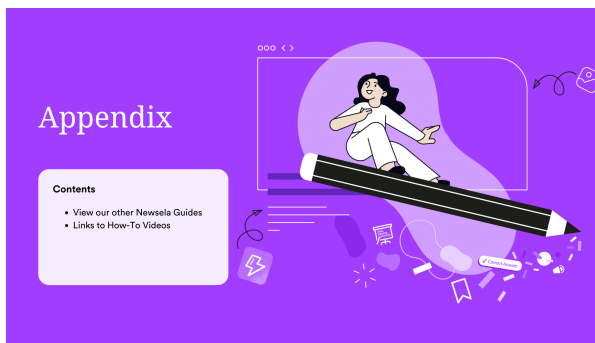
Science teachers and students love our interactive videos because they provide a quick, engaging hook for science topics and many include built-in checks for understanding.

*Facilitator goes live into product*

**Product Actions: Click Science, scroll to Science videos and select chemistry videos and [show this video](#).**

We'll navigate to the Science Videos row to view chemistry videos. Videos like this one on chemical change engage students in a practical relevant example while teaching them about the key curricular concept. Students can either watch the videos independently, or you can use present mode to watch the video as a class.

### Slide 13: Appendix



I encourage you to add questions to the chat.

As I wait for your questions, let's explore the additional resources in the Appendix that will help you get the most out of Newsela.

### Enhance your instruction with Newsela with these professional learning options

#### Practice literacy skills

Drive achievement and reading comprehension by exploring this set of goal-focused resources.

[View Resource](#)

#### Get started with Newsela

Learn the basics for long-term Newsela success with this collection of curated resources.

[View Resource](#)

#### Include diverse perspectives

Create a more lively and inclusive classroom using this selection of dedicated resources

[View Resource](#)

### Looking for more help? Try watching one of these how-to videos

- ▶ [What is Newsela?](#)
- ▶ [The student experience on Newsela.com](#)
- ▶ [How to find and save content on Newsela](#)
- ▶ [How to track student progress in your Newsela Binder](#)
- ▶ [How to assign Newsela articles to students](#)
- ▶ [How to assign content to small groups of students](#)
- ▶ [How to use article tools & activities](#)
- ▶ [How to use Lesson Sparks](#)
- ▶ [How to annotate text in articles for students](#)
- ▶ [How to find and use text sets with your class](#)
- ▶ [How to review student assignments on Newsela](#)
- ▶ [How to use and edit write prompts in your assignments](#)