

Newsela Summer Learning Resources

Engaging, standards-aligned content to prevent summer slide and support every learner.



Learning doesn't stop after 180 days.

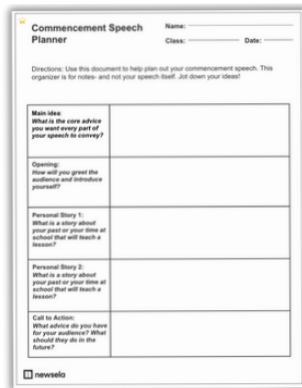
Whether in the classroom or at home, **summer learning allows students to take ownership of their studies** and explore the topics and ideas that interest them.

We've curated a collection of ELA, social studies, science, and writing activities your students can use all summer long to **build background knowledge, practice skills, explore new worlds**—and have fun doing it.

Teachers can make summer take-home packets a breeze by **printing or sharing pages marked with a star symbol (★)** to give students and parents all the activities and information they need to keep learning this summer.



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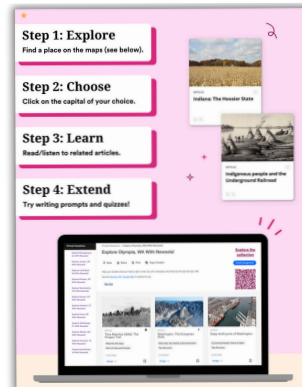


Commencement

Speech Activity

Summer Reading

Reflection Activity



30 Day Writing

Virtual Vacations

30 Day Science

Science Checklist



Content Calendar

Caregiver English

Caregiver Spanish

...and more!





Take our 12-week summer reading challenge!

Read articles across different engaging topics and complete activities to earn tokens and badges.

Reading Challenge Part 1: May 1 - May 31

 newsela ELA	 newsela Social Studies	 newsela SEL
AI and a Changing World	AAPI Leaders and Trailblazers	Magic of Movies
Graduation	Jewish American Heritage Month	Behind the Screens: Social Media
AAPI Fiction and Poetry	National Military Appreciation Month	All-Star Stories

*You'll have access to the topics that align with your school's Newsela license i.e. ELA Topics will be included with any Newsela ELA License.

Reading Challenge Part 2: June 1 - July 15

 newsela ELA	 newsela Social Studies	 newsela SEL
LGBTQ Stories and Storytelling	Summer Fun	Hooked on Hobbies
Sensational Soccer Stories	Great Outdoors	Mental Health Matters
Summer Camp and Camping	Great Buildings of the World	Fun in the Sun

Reading Challenge Part 3: July 15 - August 31

 newsela ELA	 newsela Social Studies	 newsela SEL
Roblox in the Real World	Cowboys, Cowgirls, and Vaqueros	Career Exploration
American Stories	The 1960s	Back to School
Beach Activism	Countries in Continents: Asia	Secrets to Success

To access our reading challenges, scan the QR code or visit newsela.com/challenges



Tracking our progress!

[illegible]

ELA Summer Learning Resources

Keep students' reading skills sharp with novel studies for summer reading, assignments for summer school, research projects, debates, and more fun activities. Assign or print to share directly with students.





Craft a Commencement Speech

What make a compelling commencement speech?

Whether you deliver a graduation speech this year or not, you can practice writing one to improve your skills with the following lesson:

Read Steve Jobs' Commencement Speech

First, read the text of Apple Founder Steve Jobs' 2005 commencement address at Stanford University.



Read Megan Red Shirt-Shaw's Commencement Speech

Next, read the text of Megan Red Shirt-Shaw's 2017 Harvard commencement speech and compare the structure and message to Jobs' speech.



Practice Writing a Commencement Speech

Finally, have use the commencement speech planner graphic organizer to develop your own graduation speech.



Extend the lesson

After reading Red Shirt-Shaw's speech, complete an interactive activity on Formative to check your comprehension and practice speech analysis skills.

Don't have Formative?

Sign up for FREE to use this **activity** and explore other assessments, practice sets, and activities in the Formative Library.

Try the activity





Commencement Speech Planner

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Use this document to help plan out your commencement speech. This organizer is for notes- and not your speech itself. Jot down your ideas!

Main idea: <i>What is the core advice you want every part of your speech to convey?</i>	
Opening: <i>How will you greet the audience and introduce yourself?</i>	
Personal Story 1: <i>What is a story about your past or your time at school that will teach a lesson?</i>	
Personal Story 2: <i>What is a story about your past or your time at school that will teach a lesson?</i>	
Call to Action: <i>What advice do you have for your audience? What should they do in the future?</i>	



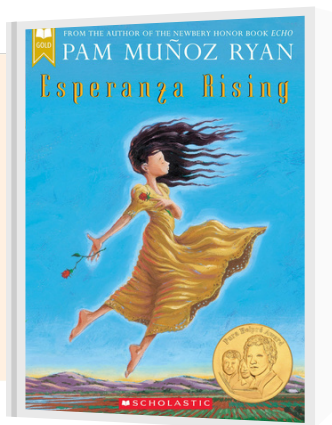
Summer Reading With Novel Studies

Practice your literacy skills and read about diverse characters all summer by diving into summer reading with Newsela's novel studies.

Discuss

Which character do you relate to most? Why?

Upper Elementary: Grades 3-5



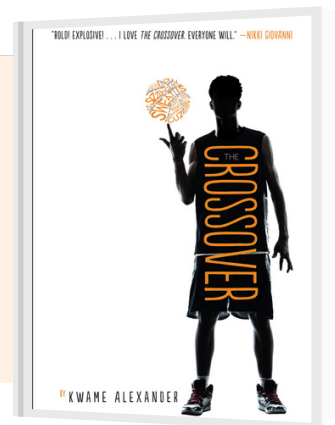
"Esperanza Rising" by Pam Muñoz Ryan

After her father's death, Esperanza's family must escape danger in Mexico. Esperanza must adapt to a new life of poverty and hard labor as a migrant worker in California during the Great Depression. Students can build background knowledge on the topics and themes of this story with articles, videos, and activities.

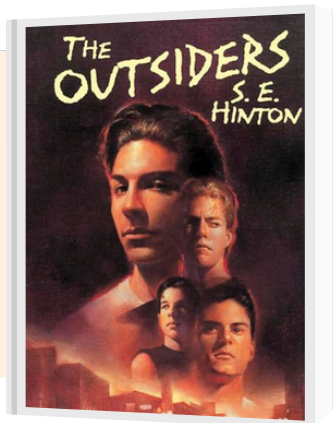
Middle School: Grades 6-8

"The Crossover" by Kwame Alexander

Josh Bell, a 12-year-old basketball player, must navigate challenges like growing up, sibling rivalry, and family loss. His love for basketball is a way to connect with himself and his twin brother, Jordan. Students can better understand this novel in verse with the articles, videos, activities in our novel study.



High School Grades 9-12



"The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton

Set in 1960s Oklahoma, this novel follows a young man, Ponyboy Curtis, and his group of "Greasers" as they navigate class conflicts, teenage violence, and the search for their identities. Students can build background knowledge of the setting and themes with articles, videos, and activities on related topics.

[Browse all novel studies](#)



Writing Summer Learning Resources

Help students practice writing across subjects with prompts and activities that stretch their reflection and creative thinking.





Write Your School Year Reflection

Practice long-form narrative writing

Follow these steps to complete a school year reflection narrative [on Newsela Writing](#):

#1

Read “How to write a personal narrative” to learn about the narrative writing process.

How to write a personal narrative

By ThoughtCo., adapted by Newsela staff

The personal narrative essay can be the most enjoyable type of assignment to write. That's because it lets you share a meaningful event from your life. After all, how often do you get to tell funny stories or brag about a great experience and receive school credit for it?

#2

Review the prompt and use what you learned from the article to brainstorm ideas.

PROMPT: What is something you learned or experienced during this school year that taught you more about yourself and the world?

Make sure to remove things like name, date, essay title, prompt, etc. This page should only be used for your response to the prompt.

#3

Write your first three paragraphs to activate the rubric meters and check your progress.



Let's Grow

To improve your writing, focus on varying your sentence structure and using more descriptive language. Currently, many of your sentences are quite similar, such as “School is great” and “This school year was great.” Try combining ideas to create

ences. For
d say, “This school
cause I loved
my friends.”
repetition of
and “super” by
more specific
will make your
ging and



Organization/
Purpose



Development/
Elaboration



Conventions

#4

Click into each rubric meter to get “Glows” or “Grows” feedback.

30-Day Write Prompt Challenges

Practice writing across subjects and topics this summer

Encourage students to participate in the 30-Day Write Prompt Challenge to practice their writing skills this summer. Print the right prompt list for your grade band and send it home with students or assign the text sets digitally!

Elementary School - Grades 3-5

Day 1

[Print](#) | [Digital](#)

Imagine you wake up tomorrow with a silly superpower. What is it? How does it make you world-famous?



ARTICLE

“Brave Young Heroes” comic books bring hope to kids with prob

Middle School - Grades 6-8

Day 7

[Print](#) | [Digital](#)

Do you make friends slowly or quickly? Describe how one of your important friendships evolved or changed over time.



ARTICLE

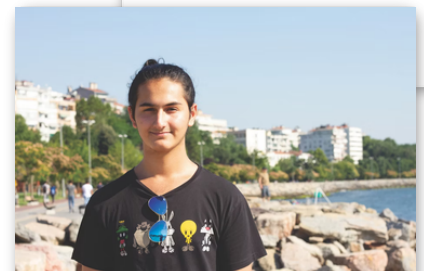
Research shows close relationships can mean better

High School - Grades 9-12

Day 19

[Print](#) | [Digital](#)

What’s the worst thing about the internet? Describe it and propose a solution to improve it.



ARTICLE

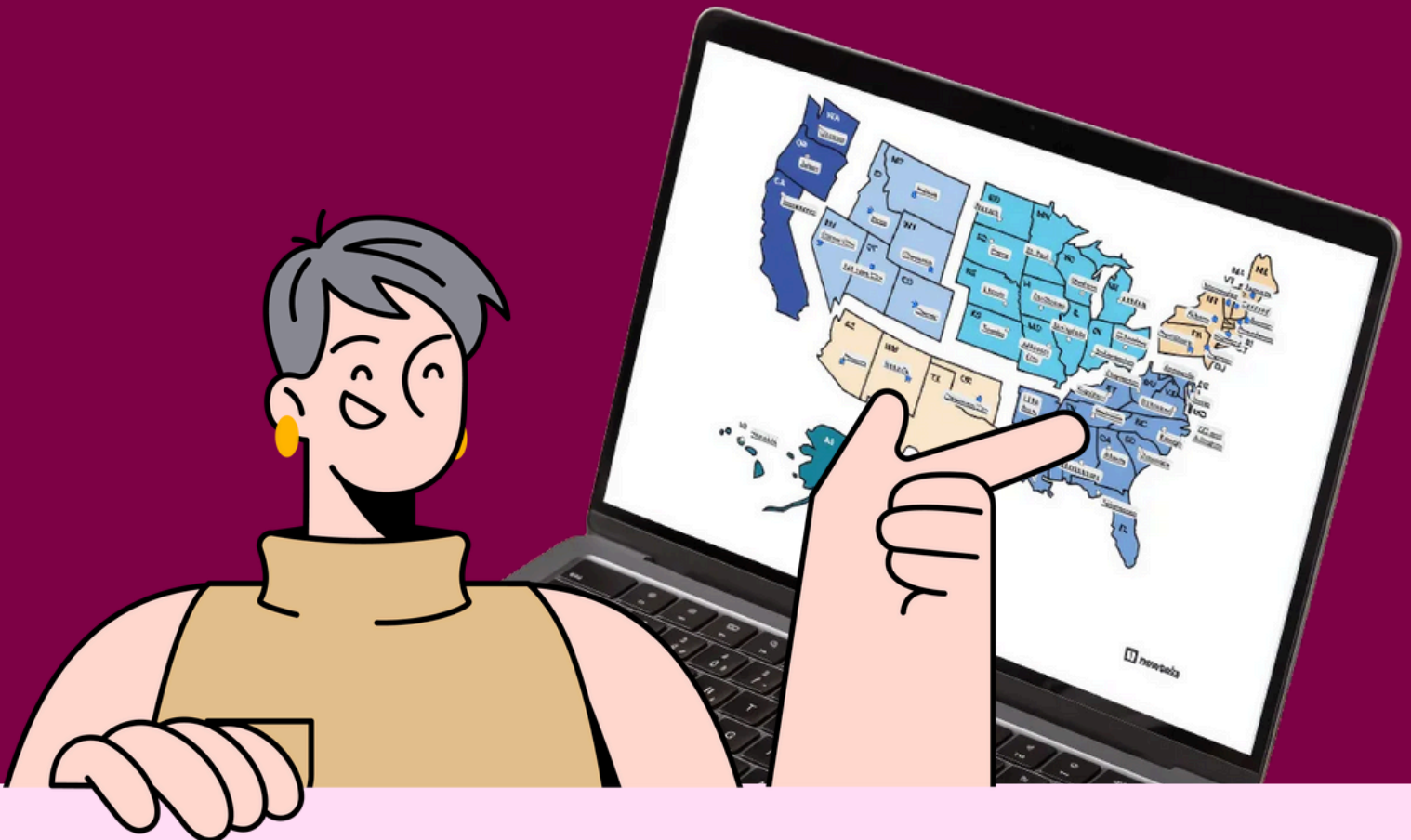
Exploring the role of the Internet in the lives of teens abroad



[Explore the
collection](#)

Explore Newsela's Virtual Vacations

Take a virtual vacation to one of the 50 state capitals or Washington, D.C. Use a curated Google Map to visit historic landmarks and explore articles, videos, and other resources to teach students more about key moments in our country's history.





Step 1: Explore

Find a place on the maps (see below).

Step 2: Choose

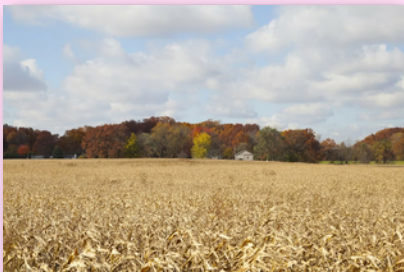
Click on the capital of your choice.

Step 3: Learn

Read/listen to related articles.

Step 4: Extend

Try writing prompts and quizzes!



ARTICLE
Indiana: The Hoosier State



ARTICLE
Indigenous people and the Underground Railroad

Virtual Vacations

Explore Montgomery, AL With Newsela!

Explore Juneau, AK With Newsela!

Explore Little Rock, AR With Newsela!

Explore Phoenix, AZ With Newsela!

Explore Sacramento, CA With Newsela!

Explore Denver, CO With Newsela!

Explore Hartford, CT With Newsela!

Explore Dover, DE With Newsela!

Explore Tallahassee, FL With Newsela!

Explore Atlanta, GA With Newsela!

Explore Honolulu, HI With Newsela!

Explore Des Moines, IA With Newsela!

Virtual Vacations / Explore Olympia, WA With Newsela!

Explore Olympia, WA With Newsela!

Save

Share

Print

Copy Content

Help your students discover history right in their city with a Newsela virtual field trip through Olympia, WA!

Use the [Olympia, WA, Google Map](#) to explore the city.

[See less](#)

ARTICLE

Time Machine (1845): The Oregon Trail

What the Text Says

Point of View and Purpose

07/24/2016

Assign

ARTICLE

Washington: The Evergreen State

Main Idea, Key Details, & Summarization

Text Structure

07/24/2017

Assign

ARTICLE

Deep-draft ports of Washington

Connecting People, Events, & Ideas

Text Structure

05/31/2018

Assign

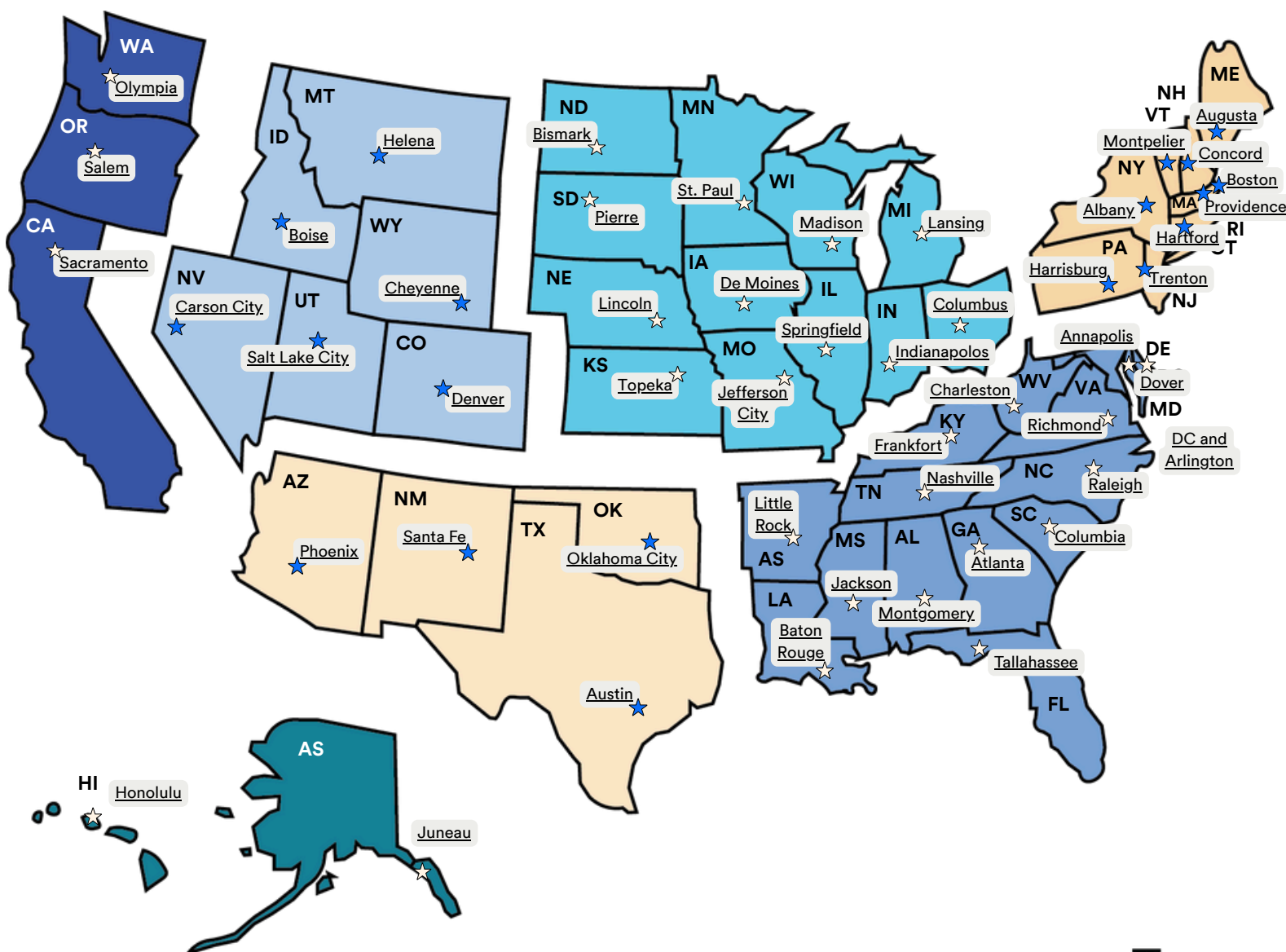
[Explore the collection](#)

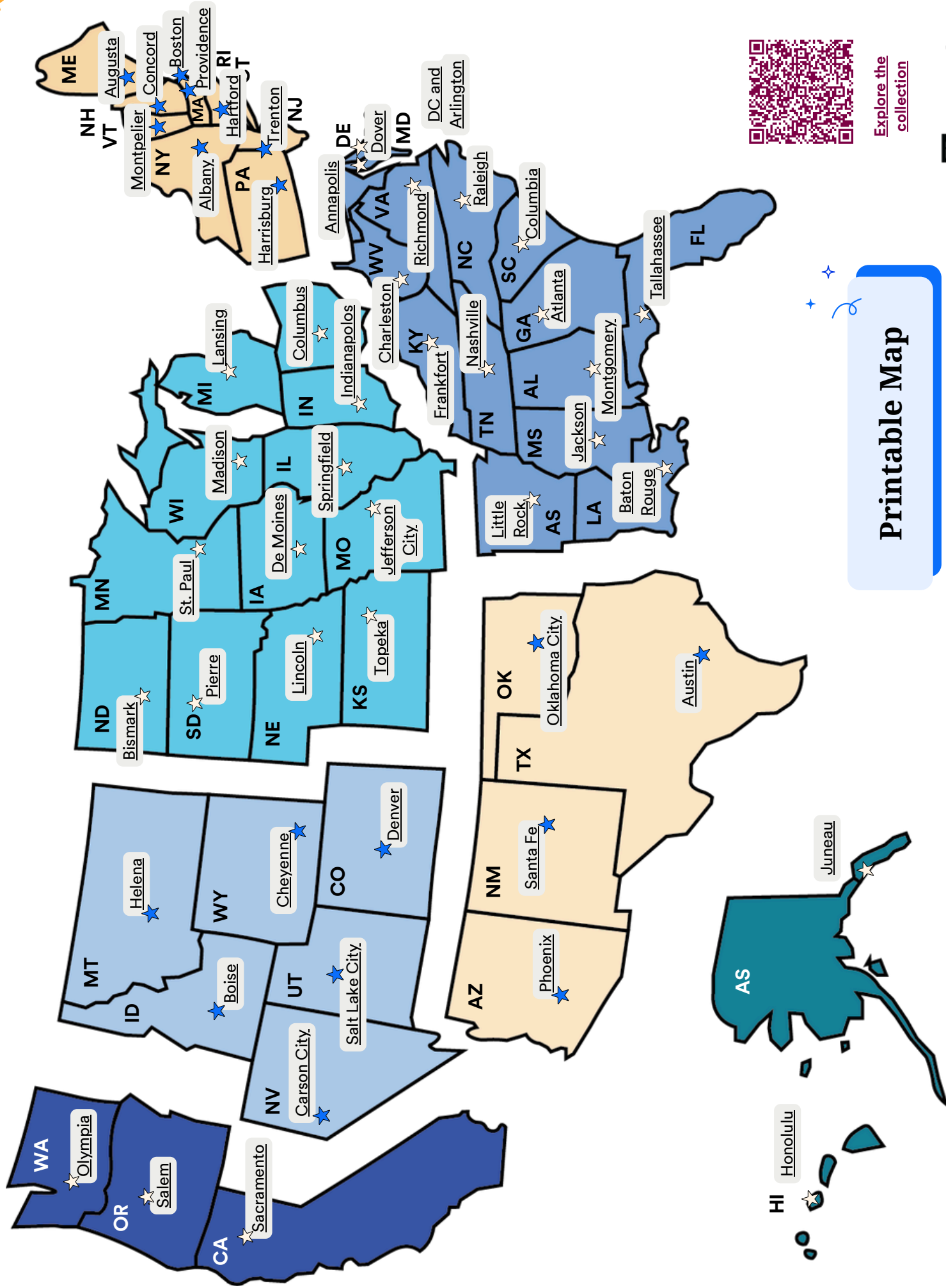
Create Assignment



[Explore the collection](#)

Digital Map

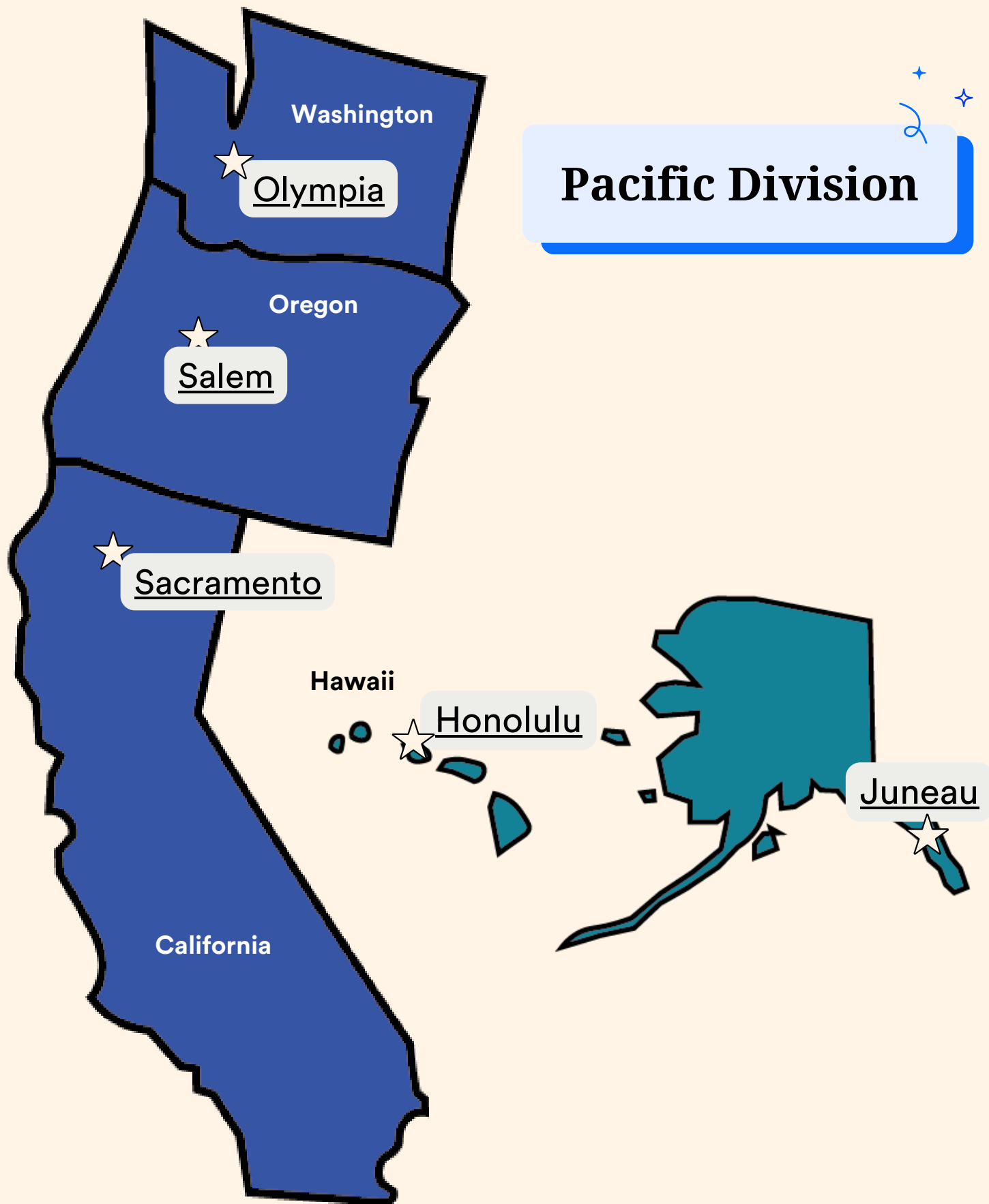




Explore the
collection

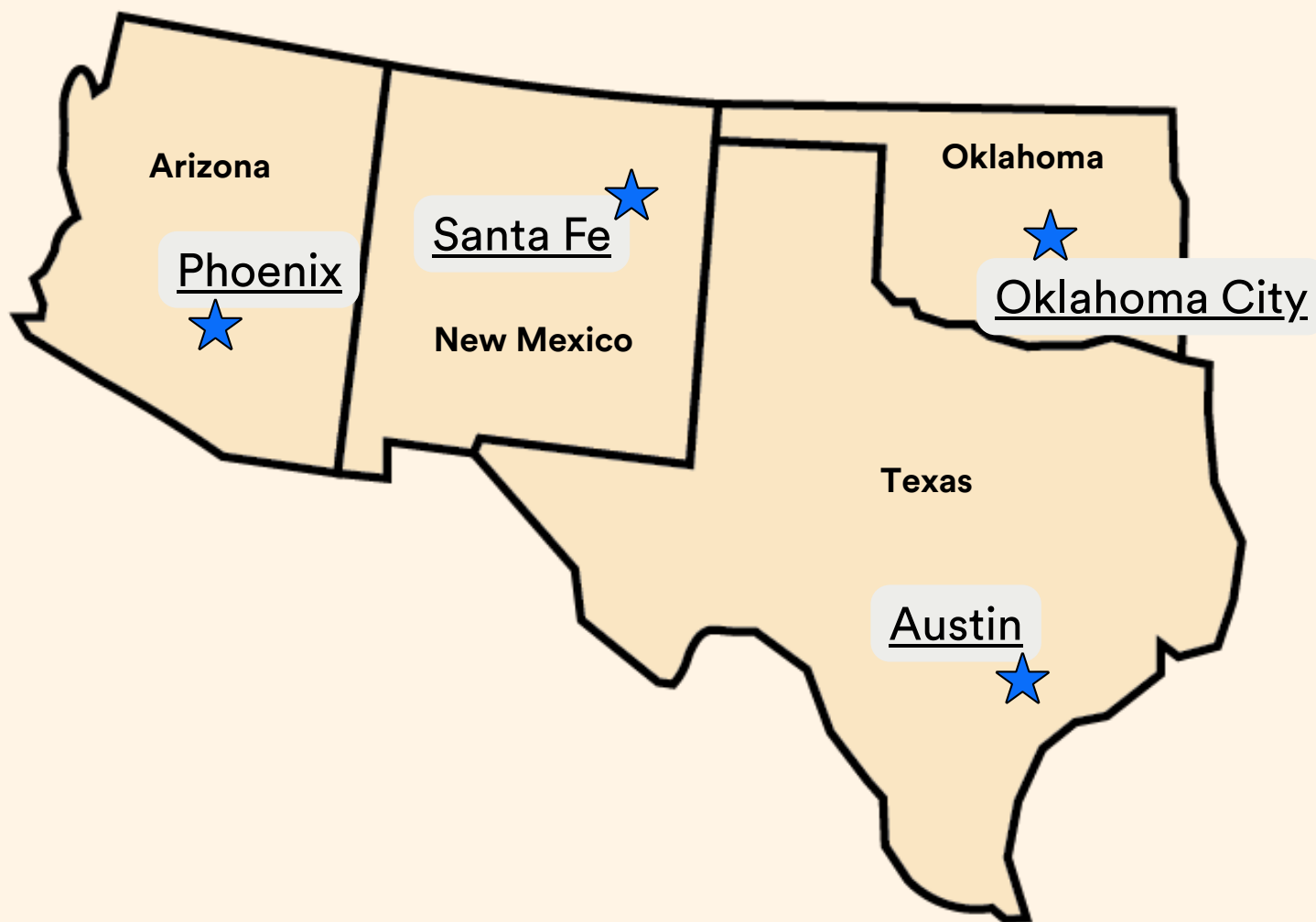
Printable Map

Pacific Division





Mountain Division



Mountain and West South Central Divisions



Midwest Region



South Region



Northeast Region

Science Summer Learning Resources

These STEM activities will help your students think like scientists and explore the world around them during summer break.





30-Day Summer Science Challenge

Discover the world around you with science activities

Each day features a new **science-based prompt** designed to spark **curiosity** and keep students **engaged** over the summer. You'll also find related articles to help **deepen their understanding** of each topic. Encourage your class to **track their progress** using the downloadable challenge chart!

Day 5

Activity: Egg drop

[Print](#) | [Digital](#)

Compare How Different Objects Fall

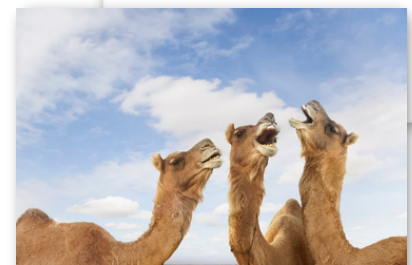


Day 7

Some animals laugh

[Print](#) | [Digital](#)

Identify Animal Calls



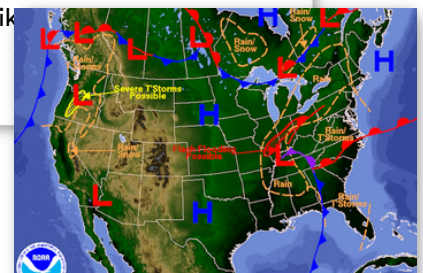
ARTICLE
Some animals laugh, but not just like

Day 9

Read a weather map

[Print](#) | [Digital](#)

Predict the Weather



ARTICLE
How to read a weather map



Science At Home 30-Day Challenge

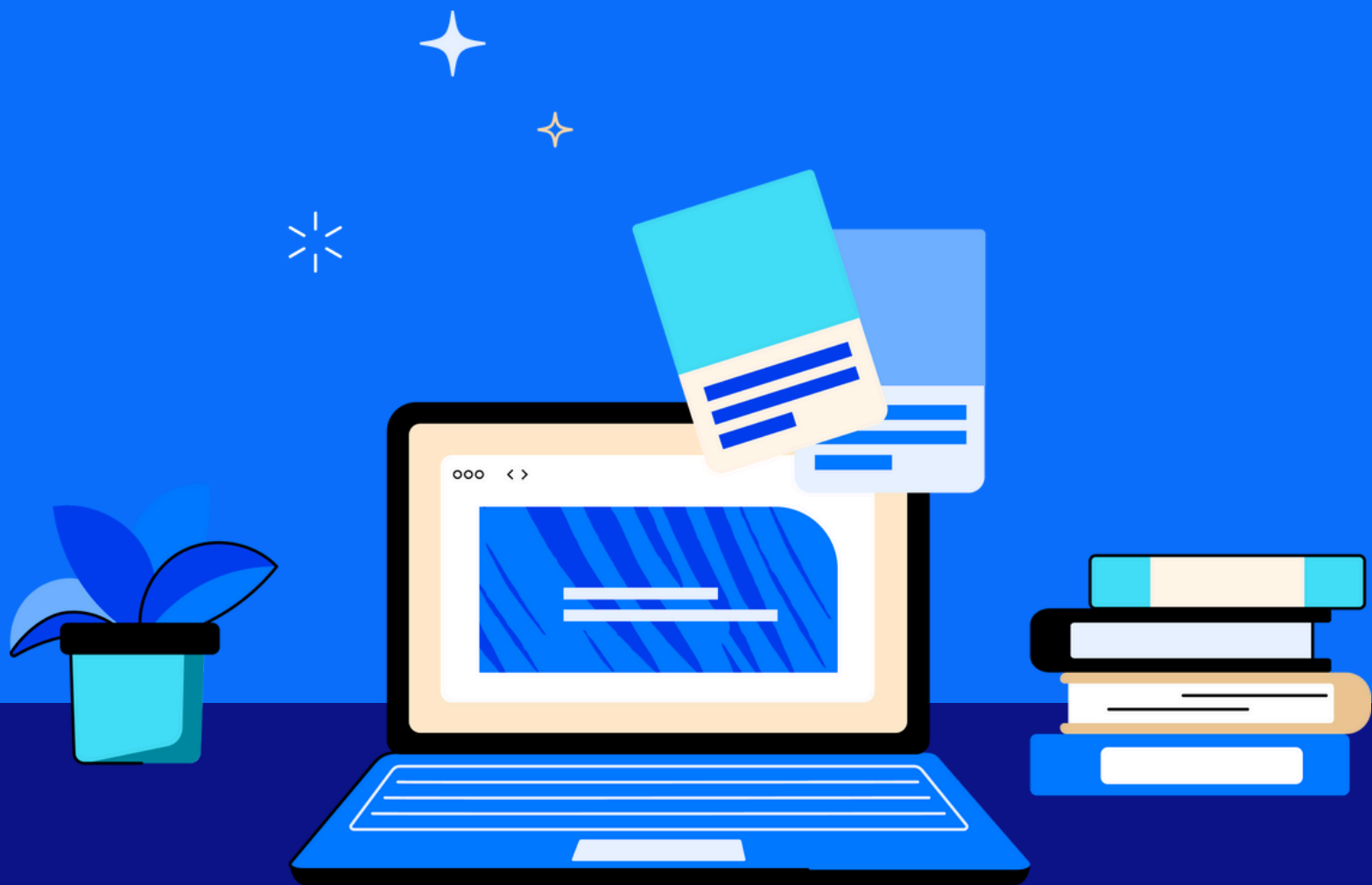
Sharpen your science skills. Can you:



- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ Dissect a flower | ☐ Chart animal observations | ☐ Conduct an interview |
| ☐ Observe an insect | ☐ Question your observations | ☐ Solve an everyday problem |
| ☐ Examine patterns in nature | ☐ Design paper airplanes | ☐ Rank renewable energy sources |
| ☐ Make a rock collection | ☐ Observe animal interactions | ☐ Plant a seed |
| ☐ Compare how different objects fall | ☐ Create a new constellation | ☐ Draw a map |
| ☐ Develop a new recipe | ☐ Evaluate different sides of an issue | ☐ Imagine space travel |
| ☐ Identify animal calls | ☐ Test the melting rate of ice on different surfaces | ☐ Plan an experiment |
| ☐ Record a cloud journal | ☐ Measure the strength of different materials | ☐ Explore magnets |
| ☐ Predict the weather | ☐ Create a vibrating instrument | ☐ Invent new uses for old items |
| ☐ Detect the source of smells | ☐ Estimate groups of objects | ☐ Learn a scientific “magic trick” |

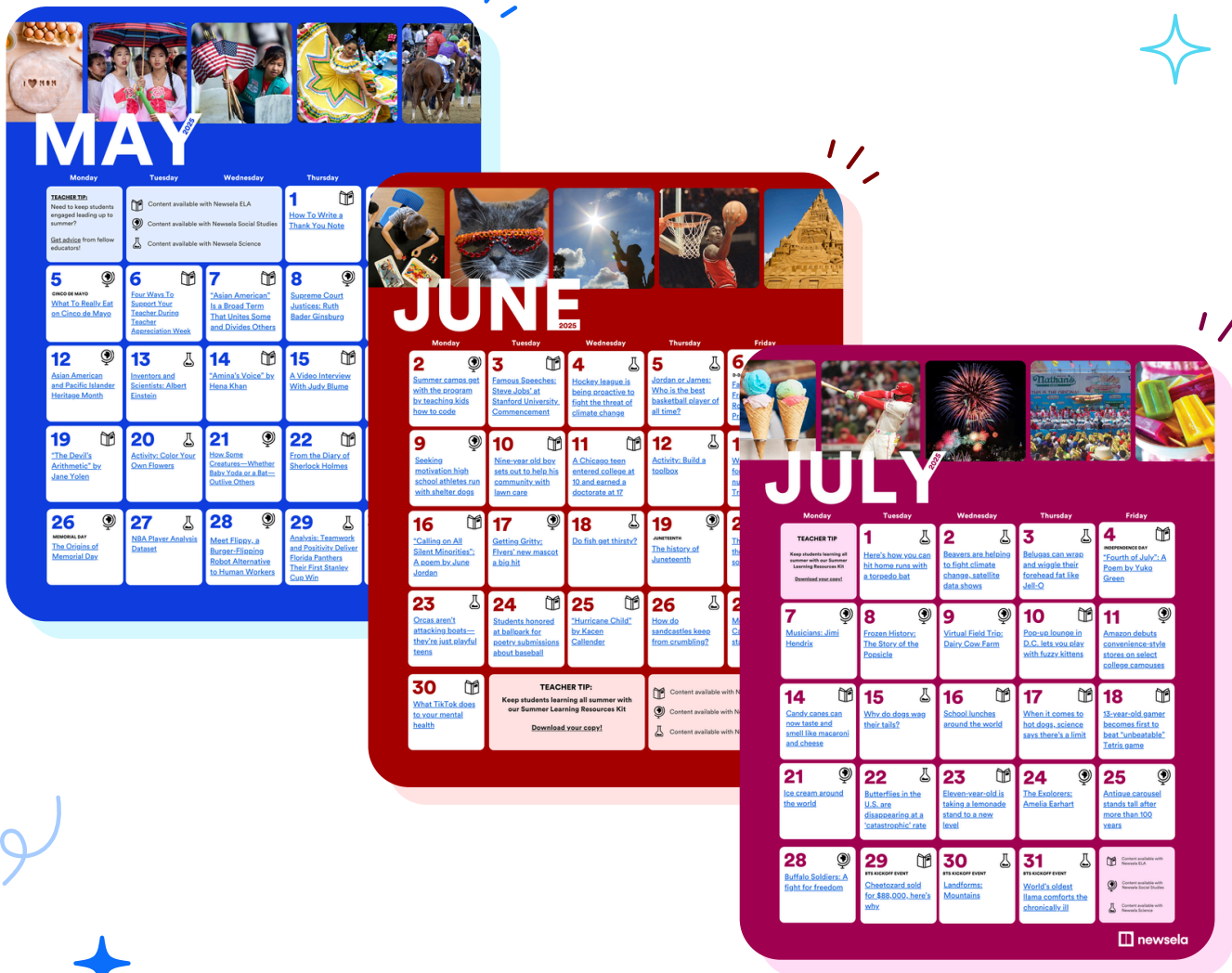
Seasonal resources for caregivers

Help your students' parents and caregivers prepare for the end of the school year and a summer filled with self-guided learning and exploration with informational and content resources to guide them through the break.



Daily Content Calendar

Newsela's monthly calendars provide premade resources students can do at home or in summer school to keep building knowledge and skills. Each day's content is relevant, engaging, and diverse, with something for every grade band for ELA, social studies, science, and writing.





MAY

2025

Monday

TEACHER TIP:

Need to keep students engaged leading up to summer?

Get advice from fellow educators!

Tuesday



Content available with Newsela ELA



Content available with Newsela Social Studies



Content available with Newsela Science

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

1



[How To Write a Thank You Note](#)

2



[Winning the Triple Crown: Narrative Writing](#)

5



CINCO DE MAYO

[What To Really Eat on Cinco de Mayo](#)

6



[Four Ways To Support Your Teacher During Teacher Appreciation Week](#)

7



[“Asian American” Is a Broad Term That Unites Some and Divides Others](#)

8



[Supreme Court Justices: Ruth Bader Ginsburg](#)

9



[The Surprising History of Mother’s Day](#)

12



[Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#)

13



[Inventors and Scientists: Albert Einstein](#)

14



[“Amina’s Voice” by Hena Khan](#)

15



[A Video Interview With Judy Blume](#)

16



[Training Citizen Scientists To Save Forests in the Philippines](#)

19



[“The Devil’s Arithmetic” by Jane Yolen](#)

20



[Activity: Color Your Own Flowers](#)

21



[How Some Creatures—Whether Baby Yoda or a Bat—Outlive Others](#)

22



[From the Diary of Sherlock Holmes](#)

23



[Where Do the Turtles Go?](#)

26



MEMORIAL DAY

[The Origins of Memorial Day](#)

27



[NBA Player Analysis Dataset](#)

28



[Meet Flippy, a Burger-Flipping Robot Alternative to Human Workers](#)

29



[Analysis: Teamwork and Positivity Deliver Florida Panthers Their First Stanley Cup Win](#)

30



[Famous Speeches: Megan Red Shirt-Shaw’s Harvard Commencement Speech](#)



JUNE

2025

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

2



[Summer camps get with the program by teaching kids how to code](#)

3



[Famous Speeches: Steve Jobs' at Stanford University Commencement](#)

4



[Hockey league is being proactive to fight the threat of climate change](#)

5



[Jordan or James: Who is the best basketball player of all time?](#)

6



D-DAY

[Famous Speeches: Franklin D. Roosevelt's D-Day Prayer, 1944](#)

9



[Seeking motivation high school athletes run with shelter dogs](#)

10



[Nine-year old boy sets out to help his community with lawn care](#)

11



[A Chicago teen entered college at 10 and earned a doctorate at 17](#)

12



[Activity: Build a toolbox](#)

13



[What is the word for fear of the number 13? Triskaidekaphobia](#)

16



["Calling on All Silent Minorities": A poem by June Jordan](#)

17



[Getting Gritty: Flyers' new mascot a big hit](#)

18



[Do fish get thirsty?](#)

19



JUNETEENTH

[The history of Juneteenth](#)

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[The longest day of the year: The solstice!](#)

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[Orcas aren't attacking boats—they're just playful teens](#)

24



[Students honored at ballpark for poetry submissions about baseball](#)

25



["Hurricane Child" by Kacen Callender](#)

26



[How do sandcastles keep from crumbling?](#)

27



[Meet Sunglasses Cat, an Instagram star](#)

30



[What TikTok does to your mental health](#)

TEACHER TIP:

Keep students learning all summer with our Summer Learning Resources Kit

[Download your copy!](#)



Content available with Newsela ELA



Content available with Newsela Social Studies



Content available with Newsela Science



JULY

2025

Monday

TEACHER TIP

Keep students learning all summer with our Summer Learning Resources Kit

[Download your copy!](#)

Tuesday

1



[Here's how you can hit home runs with a torpedo bat](#)

Wednesday

2



[Beavers are helping to fight climate change, satellite data shows](#)

Thursday

3



[Belugas can wrap and wiggle their forehead fat like Jell-O](#)

Friday

4



INDEPENDENCE DAY

[“Fourth of July”: A Poem by Yuko Green](#)

7



[Musicians: Jimi Hendrix](#)

8



[Frozen History: The Story of the Popsicle](#)

9



[Virtual Field Trip: Dairy Cow Farm](#)

10



[Pop-up lounge in D.C. lets you play with fuzzy kittens](#)

11



[Amazon debuts convenience-style stores on select college campuses](#)

14



[Candy canes can now taste and smell like macaroni and cheese](#)

15



[Why do dogs wag their tails?](#)

16



[School lunches around the world](#)

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[When it comes to hot dogs, science says there's a limit](#)

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[13-year-old gamer becomes first to beat “unbeatable” Tetris game](#)

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[Ice cream around the world](#)

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[Butterflies in the U.S. are disappearing at a ‘catastrophic’ rate](#)

23



[Eleven-year-old is taking a lemonade stand to a new level](#)

24



[The Explorers: Amelia Earhart](#)

25



[Antique carousel stands tall after more than 100 years](#)

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[Buffalo Soldiers: A fight for freedom](#)

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BTS KICKOFF EVENT

[Cheetozard sold for \\$88,000, here's why](#)

30



BTS KICKOFF EVENT

[Landforms: Mountains](#)

31



BTS KICKOFF EVENT

[World's oldest llama comforts the chronically ill](#)



Content available with Newsela ELA



Content available with Newsela Social Studies



Content available with Newsela Science



Newsela Caregiver Support

Welcome Caregivers! We're excited to introduce you to Newsela so you can best support your student and read and learn alongside them this summer.



What is Newsela?

Newsela is an online platform that takes articles, videos, and other content and makes it accessible and engaging for students. Texts are available at five reading levels, many in both English and Spanish.

How can my student log in to Newsela?

Students can **access** Newsela through their school portal or by following the instructions provided by their teacher.

Students can **log in** from the Newsela website or **sign up** if they don't have an account yet.



Log in

How can my student access their assignments?

Students can **access articles and activities** from teachers on the Assignments page.

Students can **log in** to their accounts to access the Assignments page.



Turn summer learning into an opportunity to spark meaningful connections and conversations by talking with your student about what they're reading and learning.

Sentence starters for great conversations:

To spark conversation:

Before Reading

- ★ Why did you select this article?
- ★ What do you think this article is going to be about?

During reading:

- ★ What do you think will happen next?
- ★ If you were the person in this article, what would you have done differently in that situation?

After reading:

- ★ What was the most interesting thing you learned from the article?
- ★ Why do you think the author wrote this article?

To spark connection:

- ★ **Can you relate** to the person or people in the article? How?
- ★ Have you ever **felt the way** the person in the article felt? When?
- ★ Does the article **remind you** of anything else you've already read or seen?
- ★ **Would you be friends** with the person or people in the article?
- ★ What **surprised** you from this article?



Apoyo para Cuidadores de Newsela

¡Bienvenidos, Cuidadores! Nos emociona presentarles Newsela para que puedan apoyar a su estudiante de la mejor manera y leer y aprender junto a ellos este verano.



¿Qué es Newsela?

Newsela es una plataforma en línea que convierte artículos, videos y otros contenidos en materiales accesibles y atractivos para los estudiantes. Los textos están disponibles en cinco niveles de lectura, muchos de ellos tanto en inglés como en español.

¿Cómo puede mi estudiante iniciar sesión en Newsela?

Los estudiantes pueden acceder a Newsela a través del portal escolar o siguiendo las instrucciones proporcionadas por su maestro(a). También pueden **iniciar sesión** desde el sitio web de Newsela o **registrarse** si aún no tienen una cuenta.



Iniciar sesión

¿Cómo puede mi estudiante acceder a sus tareas?

Los estudiantes pueden **acceder a los artículos y actividades** asignados por sus maestros en la página de Tareas.

Pueden **iniciar sesión** en sus cuentas para acceder a la página de Tareas.



Convierte el aprendizaje de verano en una oportunidad para generar conexiones y conversaciones significativas hablando con tu estudiante sobre lo que está leyendo y aprendiendo.

Frases para iniciar grandes conversaciones:

Para iniciar una conversación:

Antes de leer

- ✦ ¿Por qué elegiste este artículo?
- ✦ ¿Sobre qué crees que tratará este artículo?

Durante la lectura

- ✦ ¿Qué crees que va a pasar después?
- ✦ Si tú fueras la persona del artículo, ¿qué habrías hecho diferente en esa situación?

Después de leer

- ✦ ¿Qué fue lo más interesante que aprendiste en el artículo?
- ✦ ¿Por qué crees que el autor escribió este artículo?

Para generar conexión:

- ✦ ¿Puedes **identificarte** con la persona o las personas del artículo? ¿Cómo?
- ✦ ¿Alguna vez te has sentido como la persona del artículo? ¿Cuándo?
- ✦ ¿Este artículo **te recuerda a algo** más que ya hayas leído o visto?
- ✦ ¿Serías **amigo(a) de la persona** o las personas del artículo?
- ✦ ¿Qué te **sorprendió** de este artículo?

The top section of the page features a dark blue background with the 'newselaverse' logo in white. The logo consists of a stylized 'N' made of two blue squares with a yellow ring around it, and the word 'newselaverse' in a white sans-serif font. Surrounding the logo are several white line-art icons: a checkmark in a circle, a beaker, a book, a globe, and a wavy line. There are also small white dots scattered across the background.

newselaverse

Join us in the Newselaverse!

The Newselaverse is our inclusive educator community for those passionate about creating meaningful learning experiences for all students. Join us in a place where learning and collaboration thrive!

Where to Join:

- [Newsela Community](#): This is the primary educator community group. Find a variety of voices from teachers, administrators & instructional coaches here. All Newsela users are welcome to join & collaborate.
- [Newsela Certified Educators](#): Have you completed the NCE course & want to connect with other NCEs? This is a group specifically for users who have completed the NCE course. Haven't completed the NCE course? [Get started today!](#)

Not on Facebook? Not a problem! You can still be a part of the Newselaverse by following us across all social media platforms and by subscribing to the [Weekly Planner Email](#).