TEACHING THE COVER STORY

COMIC CRAZE!

Graphic novels are a spin on traditional comic books. Instead of featuring superheroes, they often feature realistic, relatable characters and stories. These books are growing in popularity as people start to see the value in the stories they tell.

FAST FACTS

- In 1842, The Adventures of Mr. Obadiah Oldbuck was the first comic book to be printed in the United States.
- In 2018, sales of graphic novels were $650 million.
- The Golden Age of Comic Books took place from 1938 to 1956. During this time, many classic comic books about famous superheroes, such as Superman, Batman, Captain America, and Wonder Woman, were first published.
- Seventy-four percent of children and parents agree that reading helps them understand the world.

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WITHIN THIS GUIDE

PAIRED TEXT

INTEGRATE INFORMATION
IN THE MAGAZINE: “SOCIAL DISTANCING,” P. 2
IN THE MAGAZINE: “FLATTENING THE CURVE,” P. 6

- Lesson Overview: Students will read “Social Distancing” and “Flattening the Curve” in the magazine. They’ll discuss what social distancing is and its effectiveness in an outbreak.
- Lesson Materials: Class set of this week’s magazine; online access to read paired text

WRITING

MAKING CONNECTIONS
IN THE MAGAZINE: “WEAR IT PROUD,” P. 7

- Lesson Overview: Students will read “Wear It Proud” and analyze who is being discriminated against, and why. They will then craft their own opinion about school dress codes.
- Lesson Materials: Class set of this week’s magazine; class set of “Don't Discriminate” resource, on page 5 of this guide

PUBLISHING BREAK

TIME for Kids will be on a two-week publishing break. Your next issue will be dated April 17, 2020.
Here are all the words you might teach in this lesson. Select the words that are most appropriate for your students for direct instruction within the lesson.

**confiscate** verb: to take something away from someone

**genre** noun: type; a category, such as realistic fiction, science fiction, or mystery

**impact** noun: the effect something has

**prestigious** adjective: important; respected

*Power Words not highlighted and defined in student magazine*
**INTERGATE INFORMATION**

**ARTICLE: “SOCIAL DISTANCING,” P. 2**

**ARTICLE: “FLATTENING THE CURVE,” P. 6**

- After students read “Social Distancing,” ask: What is social distancing? What are some examples that have been put in place by the government? How should individuals practice social distancing?

- Next, have students read “Flattening the Curve,” on page 6 of the magazine, to help them understand why social distancing is important.

- Have students partner up to discuss the following: What does it mean to “flatten the curve”? (To slow the spread of an infection over a longer period of time) Why is it important to flatten the curve? (So the health-care system can respond to all the cases of the infection)

- If there’s time, have students write a paragraph explaining what social distancing is, and what effect it can have on COVID-19.

**POWER WORDS**

Go to timeforkids.com for definitions and to hear the words read aloud in a sentence.

“Social Distancing,” p. 2: *mass, *transfer
“Flattening the Curve,” p. 6: pandemic, surge
“Wear It Proud,” p. 7: champion, discrimination

**OPINION WRITING**

**ARTICLE: “WEAR IT PROUD,” P. 7**

Open up the lesson by asking students to weigh in on the following question: Why is it important for people to be able to represent themselves with their clothing, accessories, or hairstyle? Tell them that today they’ll read “Wear It Proud,” an article that discusses hair discrimination.

When they’re done reading, bring students back together and ask: How are the policies in the article discriminatory? What effect do these rules have on black students? What solution is being implemented?

Have students work together to rewrite the hair policy so it is respectful of all genders, races, and religions. (For example: Hair can be styled in any way, as long as it is kept off the face and out of the eyes.)

Ask students to think about whether any of their school’s dress policies are discriminatory. Provide them with the reproducible “Don’t Discriminate,” on page 5 of this guide. Read the dress-code policies aloud. Have partners or groups discuss whom those rules might discriminate against. Have students fill out the rest of the reproducible independently.

**ANSWER KEY**

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<th>Magazine Quiz</th>
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Comic Creation

Read “Comic Craze!” (March 27, 2020). Then think about a memory to write about. Use the back of this page to draft a scene of that memory for a graphic novel. Then sketch it in the panels below.

**SCENE 1:**
Don’t Discriminate

Read “Wear It Proud” (March 27, 2020), about hair discrimination. Then take a look at potentially discriminatory dress-code policies below. Choose one and explain how it could be rewritten to be more inclusive.

**Policies:**
- [ ] No headwear will be permitted.
- [ ] Girls must wear a skirt or dress, and boys must wear pants.
- [ ] No jewelry may be worn during the school day.
- [ ] Other: __________________________

Think about why the policy is discriminatory. Rewrite it to be inclusive of all genders, religions, and races.

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

One reason the policy should be rewritten: ________________________________

Facts and details that support this reason: ________________________________

Another reason it should be rewritten: ________________________________

Facts and details that support this reason: ________________________________

How I would respond to people who disagree: ________________________________

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

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1. Which best defines social distancing?
   A. not leaving your home until the virus is eradicated, or destroyed
   B. staying inside if you are feeling sick
   C. keeping as much space as possible between you and other people
   D. not communicating with anyone who may have the virus

2. Social distancing is meant to
   A. limit the possibility of the virus being passed on.
   B. stop people from talking about COVID-19 so much.
   C. make kids lose their friends.
   D. give people time to clean public transportation.

3. In 2018, more than half of kids looked for books that would
   A. tell them a good story.
   B. make them laugh.
   C. take them somewhere they’d never been.
   D. tell them about a topic they wanted to learn about.

4. Which of the following are not traditional to comics?
   A. humorous situations
   B. pictures
   C. superheroes
   D. realistic stories

5. Which of the following most likely describes the author’s opinion of graphic novels?
   A. She thinks they’re impactful.
   B. She thinks they’re unsuccessful.
   C. She’s discouraged by graphic novels.
   D. She’s disinterested in them.

6. According to the article, what might happen if we do not take preventive measures against the coronavirus?
   A. The virus will last much longer.
   B. The health-care system may not be able to take care of everybody.
   C. Schools will have to close.
   D. The curve will flatten.

7. How did the author organize the ideas in this text?
   A. problem and solution
   B. cause and effect
   C. chronological order
   D. compare and contrast

8. What would Esi Eggleston Bracey and Tiffany Brown likely agree on?
   A. Boys should keep their hair to a certain length.
   B. Braids and dreadlocks may take focus away from learning.
   C. Kids should feel confident with whatever hairstyle they choose.
   D. Children should never violate school rules.

9. Which is true about Trolls World Tour?
   A. It is the first movie of its kind.
   B. The movie will be released in theaters on April 1.
   C. The movie is about spreading joy.
   D. The characters learn there are many different kinds of trolls.

10. Natalie Labarre wrote Incredible Jobs You’ve (Probably) Never Heard Of to
    A. introduce kids to career choices.
    B. persuade kids to become window cleaners.
    C. teach kids about what it’s like to be an animator.
    D. tell kids about the things she enjoys doing.
Graphic novelist Jerry Craft has a lot in common with Jordan Banks. Jordan is the main character in Craft’s latest book, *New Kid*. In the story, Jordan is crazy about cartooning and wants to go to art school. Instead, his parents enroll him in a fancy private school known for academics, where he’s one of the only students who isn’t white. Craft went through something similar, and he knows what it’s like to be one of the few African Americans in class. He told *TFK* Kid Reporter Maria Suarez that for him, the experience was like “being thrown in a cold swimming pool.”

Growing up, Craft wasn’t a big reader. But *New Kid*, with its imaginative drawings and relatable characters, is a book he would have liked. “A graphic novel is something between a book and a movie,” he says.

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By Maria Suarez, TIME for Kids Kid Reporter