“Social Distancing” (p. 2) To limit the spread of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, health experts say people should practice social distancing. But what does that really mean?

Discussion Questions
- What is the central idea of this article?
- What information does the author include to help us understand the concept of social distancing?

“Comic Craze!” (pp. 4–5) TFK’s Shay Maunz learns about a new wave of graphic novels for kids that’s changing the way people think about comics.

Discussion Questions
- Before Raina Telgemeier’s *Smile* came out, people in the publishing industry thought kids wouldn’t enjoy a graphic novel about an average girl. What do you think made *Smile* such a success? Why would a graphic novel about an average kid be as successful as one featuring superheroes?
- “Comics have this history in the United States of either being very funny and silly or having a lot of punching of things,” says Gina Gagliano, who works on graphic novels at Random House. What might the history of comic books tell us about American popular entertainment? How might comic books reflect American history and culture?
- Graphic novel author Jerry Craft says, “In certain schools, if they saw you reading a comic, they would confiscate it, because they thought it was rotting your brain.” Why might teachers have taken this view of comics? Do you agree with this view? Why or why not? Do you think graphic novels should replace or supplement traditional novels in the classroom? Explain.

“Flattening the Curve” (p. 6) One chart explains how staying home can slow the spread of the coronavirus and COVID-19.

Discussion Questions
- Why is it important to flatten the curve?
- How do visual representations such as the one featured in this article help people cope with the pandemic?
- Drew Harris says, “All of us, young and old, have a responsibility to take care of each other.” In what way is stopping the spread of the coronavirus everyone’s responsibility? How does the chart Harris worked on help communicate his message?
“Wear It Proud” (p. 7) The CROWN Coalition wants to end hair discrimination.

Discussion Questions
- What argument is being presented in this article? What claims support the argument?
- How are Esi Eggleston Bracey and Tiffany Brown working together? In what ways has their work together been effective?

“Olympics Postponed” (p. 8) The 2020 Summer Olympic Games, in Tokyo, Japan, will be postponed for about a year. This is because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Discussion Questions
- How is COVID-19 impacting the Summer Olympics?
- What does the IOC mean by the claim that keeping the Olympic flame burning until 2021 could help the world heal from the pandemic?