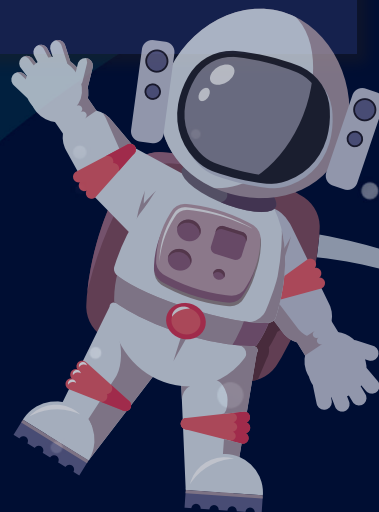
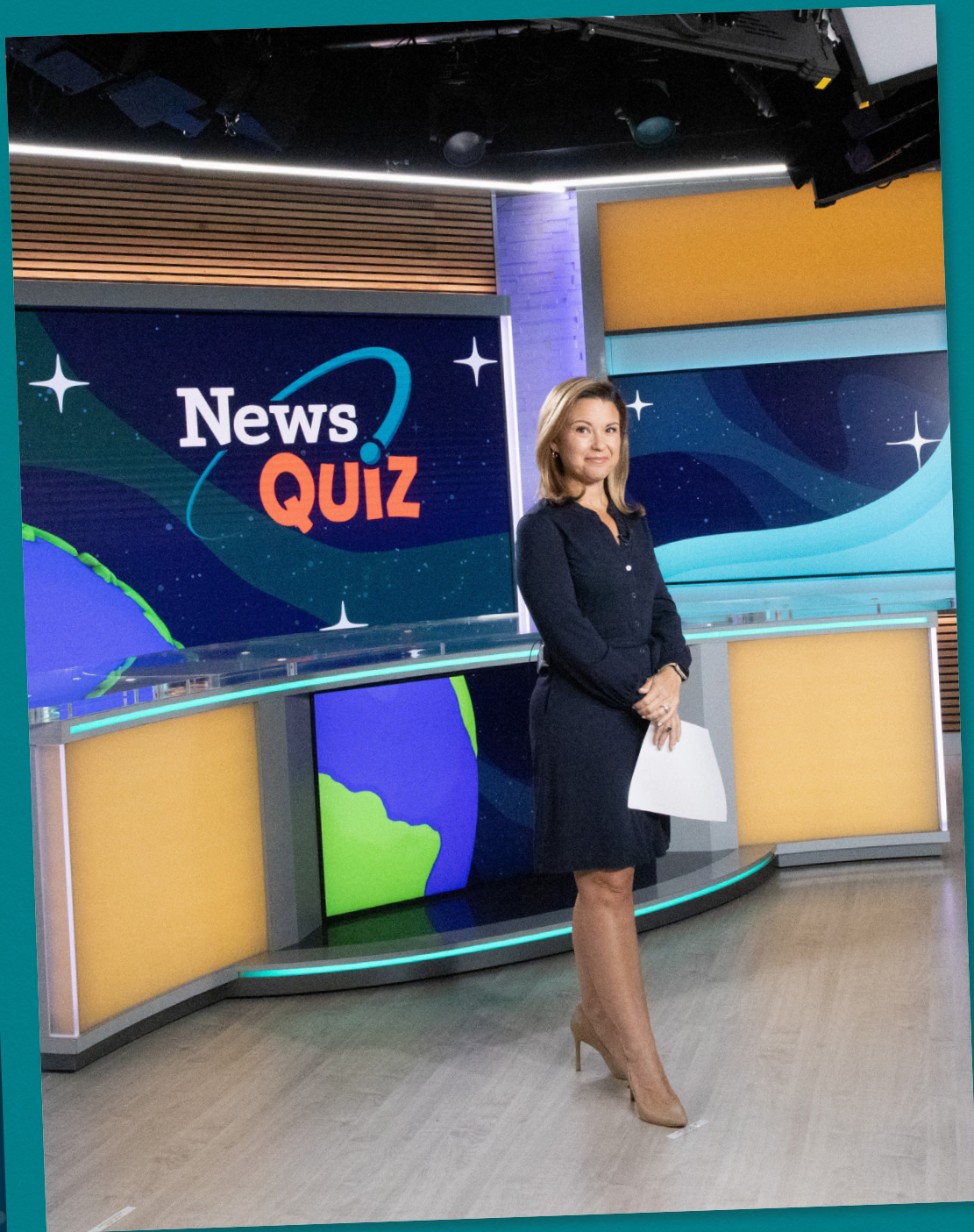


News Quiz

TEACHER GUIDE







WHAT IS NEWS QUIZ?

News Quiz is KET's Emmy award-winning weekly current events program targeted to 4th through 8th graders. The 15-minute program **features the week's top news stories and other age-appropriate content to inform students about state, national and international news.**

In addition to exploring relevant current events, *News Quiz* offers a short quiz to help students practice listening comprehension skills, opinion questions to encourage critical thinking, and writing skills and vocabulary words to expand reading comprehension skills.

News Quiz has been **a trusted classroom resource since 1984**, sharing stories from verified, credible sources such as the Associated Press and KET's independent reporting. Content is written and reviewed by KET's Education staff and advisors to ensure that it is always accurate, ethical and age appropriate.

News Quiz is produced by Kentucky Educational Television. **KET is Kentucky's largest classroom, providing lifelong learning opportunities and essential services to more than two million people each week.**



Topics covered in recent seasons of *News Quiz* include:

- International organizations and global events
- Elections and political leadership
- Medical research and scientific innovation
- Currency and economic policy
- Technology in schools
- Cultural traditions

Find *News Quiz* weekly during the school year at **[KET.org/NewsQuiz](https://www.ket.org/NewsQuiz).**

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM NEWS QUIZ

Each episode of *News Quiz* runs about 15 minutes and features 10 news stories in three segments. Each segment ends with quiz questions, and answers are revealed at the end.

News Quiz begins with a Challenge Question, asking students to come up with an answer on their own. This question is meant to be more difficult and often focuses on a vocabulary term or an event that is not necessarily included in a news story.

Each episode kicks off with five current events stories. Two of these stories are often more complex and require additional explanation and all are accompanied by multi-question quizzes to test students' listening and comprehension skills.

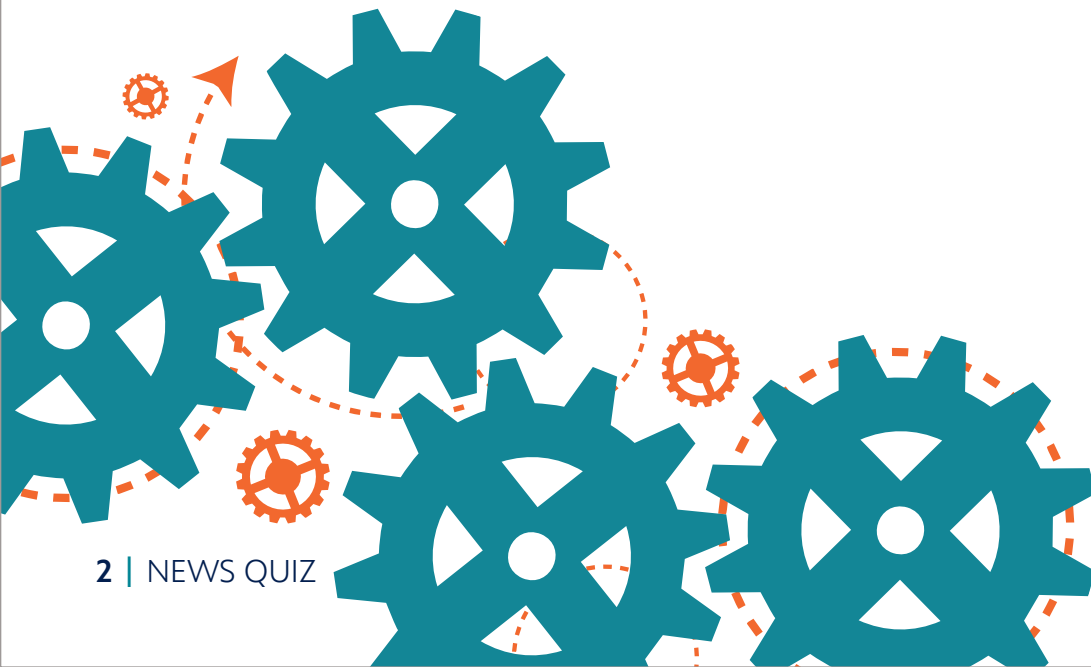
Most questions are multiple choice but true/false questions are occasionally included. Map questions are often utilized to help test students' ability to identify a region or country on a blank map.

The next segment features the popular Opinion Question, in which students are asked to write in their opinions to a specific question via email or online form. Thousands of responses are sent in from all over the world, and several are chosen each week to share on the program. Teachers are alerted in advance when their student's response is chosen to be read on-air.

Some examples of recent opinion questions are:

- What's your favorite holiday tradition?
- If you were a teacher, what subject would you teach and why?
- What activity would you add to the Olympics?

After the opinion question, it's time for students to check their quiz work against the answers provided. The show ends with a lighthearted feature often about animals, a longtime *News Quiz* favorite!



HOW IS 'NEWS QUIZ' PRODUCED?

News Quiz is produced by KET with a team of collaborators based in Louisville and Lexington, Kentucky. Team members include producers and writers, along with an editor, director, audio engineer, graphic designer and education consultant.

Each week, the *News Quiz* team meets to pitch stories from various sources. As subscription members of the independent, not-for-profit Associated Press, the team has access to stories and scripts from around the world. The organization is globally renowned for its high standard of objective, nonpartisan reporting and has earned 60 Pulitzer Prizes.

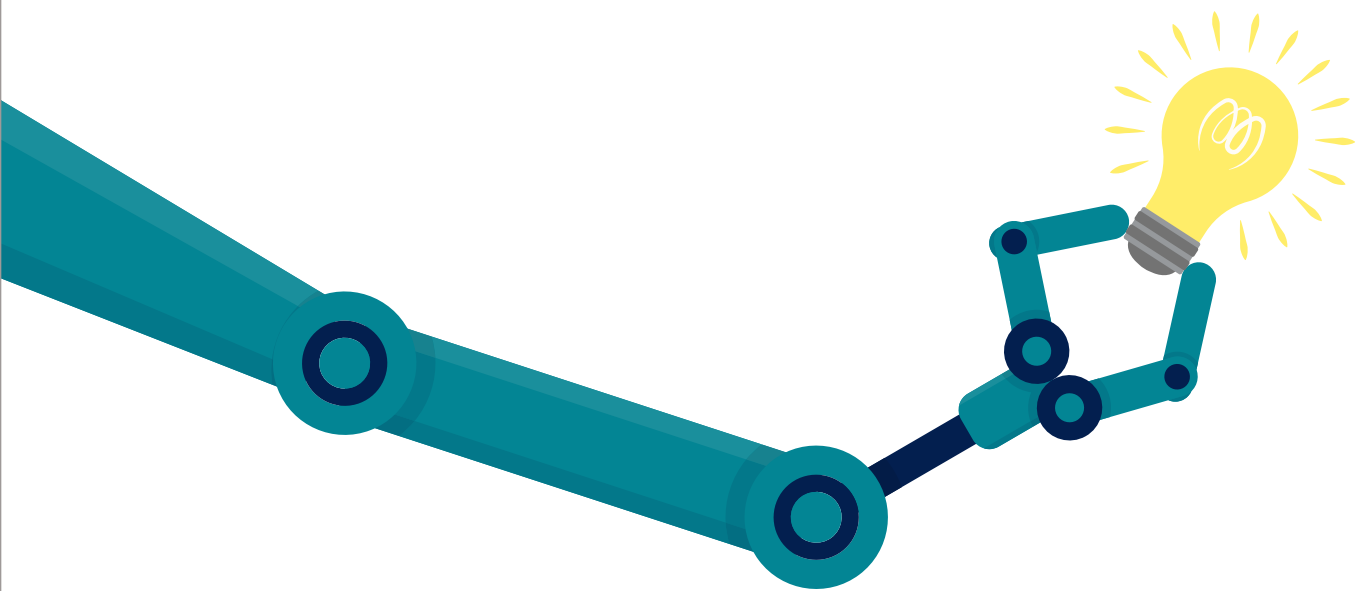
Much of the video on *News Quiz* comes from the Associated Press, but KET's independent reporting is also used for content. Visual assets in the public domain (i.e., NASA, Smithsonian, Library of Congress) are also utilized when necessary.

The stories shared on *News Quiz* are highly vetted to ensure they are accurate, newsworthy and age appropriate. The team also focuses on sharing stories that pique the interest of our age demographics like space, animals and technology.

Stories are all independently written using facts provided by the Associated Press or other agencies. **Each episode is reviewed by a KET education content specialist to ensure it is factual and aligns with curriculum standards for our target grade level (4-8).**

News Quiz is recorded weekly in KET's Louisville studio and edited before being sent for review and approvals in Lexington. The program is published on Thursdays during the school year. An average of 33 episodes are produced between September and May, including topical episodes (i.e., technology, severe weather).





WHY INCORPORATE 'NEWS QUIZ' INTO YOUR CLASSROOM?

Every student will grow up to be a consumer of news. Learning to think critically about current events is a lifelong skill that develops from a young age. ***News Quiz* is an educationally sound, age-appropriate way to inform students about the world around them.**

News Quiz focuses not just on what happened this week, but on how it happened. How does Congress pass laws? How did food aid get to those in need? How does the United Nations work? Each episode encourages curiosity and lays the foundation for a lifelong interest in current events.

***News Quiz* is designed to easily fit into an existing classroom routine, whether you use it as part of a current social studies curriculum or as a stand-alone unit.** In just 15 minutes, your students will learn about current events while sharpening their

writing, listening comprehension, and critical thinking skills. Integrating *News Quiz* gives elementary and early middle school students the foundational civics knowledge to become informed citizens for life.

News Quiz is also designed to be a jumping-off point for further classroom discussion. By discussing current events after viewing an episode, teachers can reinforce basic facts like the three branches of government, how elections are run, citizen responsibility and more.

Learning about news of the day and how government works are important parts of *News Quiz*, but the program includes much more. **Episodes regularly feature geography, animal life, the latest technology, arts and music, and different world cultures** — offering your students educational enrichment across the curriculum.



HOW TO INCORPORATE 'NEWS QUIZ' INTO YOUR CLASSROOM

It's easy to prepare for a showing of *News Quiz*. The brief description on the episode website explains the topics that will be covered. Plus, the website includes a transcript of the program, making it easy for teachers, parents or administrators to review. Each episode features a quiz and a list of vocabulary terms prepared for the classroom.

Follow up in the classroom with discussion questions. Discussion gives students more context for news stories and develops their ability to reflect and analyze. When you include discussion after viewing, you help students apply the knowledge they've gained from watching *News Quiz*.

To expand on the topics in a program, you might **prepare a list of trusted educational resources to share with students so they can get more information about topics.** Your school library media specialist is a great resource for these materials.

We encourage you to make *News Quiz* a regular feature of your week. Consistent viewing lets students build critical thinking skills throughout the school year.

Find *News Quiz* weekly during the school year at [KET.org/NewsQuiz](https://www.ket.org/NewsQuiz).

TAKING A DEEPER DIVE WITH 'NEWS QUIZ'

Comprehension and Summary

The 10-question quiz tests students' listening skills and comprehension. Here are some ideas to guide class discussion afterward.

- What is the core issue being discussed in this story, and who are the key people involved?
- If you had to explain this story to a classmate, how would you summarize it in one sentence?
- What additional history or information do we need to understand why this event is happening?

Personal and Global Connections

Encourage students to reflect on what they've seen. Students may be able to relate to the news story in a personal way that they might like to share. It can also be helpful to ask students to imagine other perspectives.

With students of any age, it's important to emphasize how people work together and help others. Class discussion can include pointing out how people cooperate and make things better.

- How does this current event directly or indirectly impact our community?
- What problem is presented in this news story? How would you go about creating a solution?
- How are citizens working to influence or change a situation?
- What does this issue mean for the future of the larger community (or nation or region or world)?

Citizenship in a Democracy

News stories often feature community problem-solving and highlight how citizens interact with each other and with governments. Guide students to notice how communities, states, and even nations work together on problems. Help them identify the many different groups of people who make up a community. Begin to introduce them to the varied roles that governments play at local, state and national levels. Use the following questions to help lay a foundation for civics education.

- Which community institutions are involved in this issue (examples include city councils, courts, community action clubs, environmental groups, news media, churches, mosques, synagogues, libraries, booster clubs, neighborhood associations, local charities, food banks, advocates for those with disabilities, arts groups, humane society)?
- What role does government play in this issue? What limits are there on what government can do in this case?
- How are citizens interacting with government in this case?

Critical Thinking and Perspective

News Quiz presents stories that are appropriate for the youngest members of our audience. In class discussions, older students may want to go beyond what they see on *News Quiz*. Help them explore the news on a higher level by teaching them about the larger context behind the news.

Because older students may have more awareness of conflicting perspectives, class discussion can be informed by an overview of the different ideas behind conflicting views, such as individual rights and community rights. Guide students toward respectful dialogue and analysis with the following sample questions:

- What values of democracy are at issue in this news story (for example, equality, majority rule, civil liberties, tolerance of other opinions)?
- If you were directly affected by this event, how would your view change?
- Why do you think people feel the way they do about this situation?
- What do you think would help make things better? Why would someone disagree with you about that?
- Do you think there's a way that everyone can get something that they want in this situation? How so? Or why not? Is there room for a compromise?

News Literacy



News Quiz is likely not your students' only source of information about current events. Students may be aware of news stories from other sources and have questions. Have a class discussion about trustworthy journalism. Explain that trustworthy news sources like the Associated Press follow a set of rules called a code of ethics that requires them to be fair and truthful.

It is also helpful to have a list of reliable news sources for children that you can share with your class. Such a list might include your local newspaper or TV and radio stations. Many parent advocacy groups like Common Sense Media aggregate reliable news sources for children that are easily found on the internet.

For news stories that are grabbing a significant amount of attention, you may want to discuss them more in-depth with students, depending on their age and the appropriateness of the topic.

- Have you seen this news story from somewhere besides *News Quiz*? If so, what were the similarities and differences in the way the story was told?
- Is there any more information you would like about this news story? How can you find out that information?

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

The *News Quiz* team reached out to super users around the country about how they incorporate the program into their classrooms! Here are just a few of their expert ideas:

Making the News

Teams of students or the entire class begin by choosing a story that sparks interest. Students then research their story online, using reputable sources and practicing fact-checking to confirm their information. From there, they transform into a newsroom team, taking on roles like camera operator, on-air reporter or even an eyewitness!

Students write a script for their news segment, including dialogue for each role. If tablets are available, students can elevate their work by putting their scripts on a teleprompter app. To wrap it all up, students can either perform their news segment live for the class or pre-record their report to share as a video.

Note: Instead of choosing a *News Quiz* story, students could report about a school event.

Create a Public Service Announcement



Have students choose a story from a *News Quiz* episode and create a public service announcement (PSA) about it. The story should be one that informs people of something relevant to their lives, such as an early start to flu season, protection from the heat or use of social media. Once a topic is chosen, students may need to do additional research to have enough information for their PSA. This activity could be done either individually or in a small group.

Students could choose from a variety of formats for their PSA: social media post, physical poster to hang up in the classroom or hallway, announcement over the school intercom, actual PSA over a local radio station, or any other format.

Identifying Different Points of View

Students get into groups of 3-5 and pick one news story from that week. Students are assigned to take on different “community member” roles within their group, such as parent, local government official, scientist, military member, etc. Teachers can assign roles pertinent to the selected news story. Students then express their experience/view on the story from the perspective of that individual in a presentation to the class, allowing students to practice debate skills and persuasive speaking. This activity could also be extended into an individual writing assignment or a group poster.

Put Yourself in Their Shoes

Ask students to choose one of the news stories from *News Quiz* and imagine themselves as part of the story. Hold a class discussion: What would you be thinking and feeling? What concerns might you have? What ideas do you have related to the topic?

Create a Research Journal



Have students create a research journal covering one or two stories from each episode of *News Quiz*. For each story, students will do research to find out more information about the topic. By the end of the school year students will have a journal that includes research on a wide variety of topics. Students should also gain an understanding of how news reporting works as well as how to conduct proper research and check for credible sources.

The Five Ws News Challenge



Have students analyze a current events segment of their choosing, identify the main idea and supporting details, and collaborate to present their own mini-broadcast summary. Watch the episode and then transition students into groups. Assign one of the following newsroom roles to each: Anchor (keeps the group on task and leads the final presentation), Reporter (writes down the group's main ideas and notes), Investigator (ensures the facts match what they saw in the video) and Timekeeper (keeps track of time and helps design visual aids).

Next, provide each group with a large piece of chart paper or a worksheet. Working together, the group must answer the five Ws about the main news story they just watched.

- Who was the story about? (People, groups or countries involved)
- What happened? (The main event or issue)
- Where did it take place? (Locate it on a classroom map if possible)
- When did it happen? (Past, present or an upcoming event)
- Why does it matter? (Why is this important for us to know?)

Finally, the teams turn their notes into a performance. Each group has 10 minutes to prepare a 60-second “Breaking News” broadcast to present to the class or to another group.

The Art of Persuasion

While journalists aim to write news stories without bias, the goal of a newspaper editorial writer, social media influencer or opinion columnist is to persuade others of their point of view about an issue in the news.

Have students write a persuasive opinion piece based on a *News Quiz* story. Require students to find two or more sources that align with their perspective to back up their persuasive argument. After students view or read the persuasive arguments, ask them to identify language in the persuasive argument that is biased in favor of one side. Discuss these questions: How is a news story different from a persuasive argument? When is an argument not persuasive? How can research make persuasive arguments better?

NEWS QUIZ THROUGHOUT THE CURRICULUM

A diverse group of teachers incorporate weekly episodes of the program into their curriculum. Get inspired by just a few of the ways the program can align to what you're already teaching.

In Social Studies and Geography

Students can begin to learn how government works, what lawmaking bodies do and how citizens try to make life better in their communities.

News Quiz also expands their world by regularly featuring stories about world cultures, highlighting festivals, games, food, schooling, religion, the arts and more.



Maps and *News Quiz* were made for each other! Maps are often a main feature of news stories, telling students where a nation is located, who its neighbors are, and what its capital is.

In Language Arts

Students can work on their writing skills by sending answers to our Opinion Questions. This activity offers an engaging, low-pressure way for students to practice writing down their thoughts and the reasoning behind them.

In Math

News Quiz offers opportunities for students to apply math to real life. Whether they are learning to measure distances in geography, considering rising and falling prices, or being awestruck by a new Guinness World Record, they will see how they can use math in daily life.

In Science and Technology

A favorite feature on *News Quiz* is animal life. Many episodes feature fun, informational stories from zoos all over the world, and examine plants, weather and ocean life. News stories also show scientists at work in labs and in the field. Episodes also let students see what their futures may be like as technology advances.

VOCABULARY

A list of terms is available for each episode of *News Quiz*. It features names of people, places and organizations, plus a few vocabulary words that might be unfamiliar to your students. Help students expand their vocabulary with this list of commonly used words from *News Quiz*.

GOVERNMENT

alliance - an agreement between nations to back each other up in case of conflicts and work together on issues

bipartisan - involving both political parties

constitution - a document with the rules for how a government is run

federal - having to do with the national government

general election - the U.S. election held in November

international - having to do with several nations

nonpartisan - having no preference for one party over the other

primary election - the U.S. election held in the spring/summer to narrow the field of candidates for the November election

political party - a group of people who believe in the same ideas about how government should work and who work together to elect their people to office

majority - one more than half of something

treaty - an agreement between nations that can describe what each nation is expected to do to achieve a goal, for example, ending a war, reducing fossil-fuel emissions, or defending a territory

GEOGRAPHY

archipelago - a group of islands

border - an imaginary line separating one place from another

continent - one of the very large areas of land on Earth (Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Australia)

equator - an imaginary line around Earth marking the midway point between the poles

island - land surrounded by water

peninsula - an area of land with water on three sides

polar - having to do with the North Pole or South Pole

tropical - having to do with the tropics, a zone just north and south of the equator

volcano - a mountain with an opening where smoke pours out and lava erupts

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

artificial intelligence - a computer system that can perform tasks that previously only humans could do, such as drive a car

emission - a substance that is created and released into the air, harming the environment

fossil fuels - sources of energy like oil, coal and natural gas that were created over millions of years when plant and animal remains were buried and changed by pressure and heat into fuels

hydroelectric - electricity that is produced by using the movement of water

renewable energy - energy that comes from sources that can be used over and over again and will not run out, such as solar, wind and water

robot - a machine that is programmed by humans to operate automatically in some way

satellite - a body that orbits around another body in space, either natural, like the moon, or man-made, like the space station

sensor - a device that receives and responds to changes in the environment, such as a thermostat for temperature

sustainable - a resource or practice that humans can keep using or doing without taking away what is needed for future people.

ANIMAL LIFE

amphibian - a cold-blooded animal with a backbone that is born in water

carnivore - an animal that eats meat

extinct - a species that no longer exists

habitat - the home where an animal lives its life

herbivore - an animal that eats plants

hibernation - to spend the winter in an inactive, dormant state

invertebrate - an animal without a backbone

mammal - a warm-blooded animal with a backbone that gives birth to live young

omnivore - an animal that eats both meat and plants

pollen - tiny grains produced by seed-bearing plants that contain cells to make new plants

pollinator - something that spreads pollen from one plant to another

vertebrate - an animal with a backbone

VERBS TO KNOW

adapt - to change based on new situations

commemorate - to remember and honor

decipher - to calculate, or to figure out from clues

fluctuate - to change from one extreme to another, for example, from rain to sunshine

generate - to cause something to happen, or to produce something

integrate - to include with everyone or everything else

navigate - to find your way around in a place

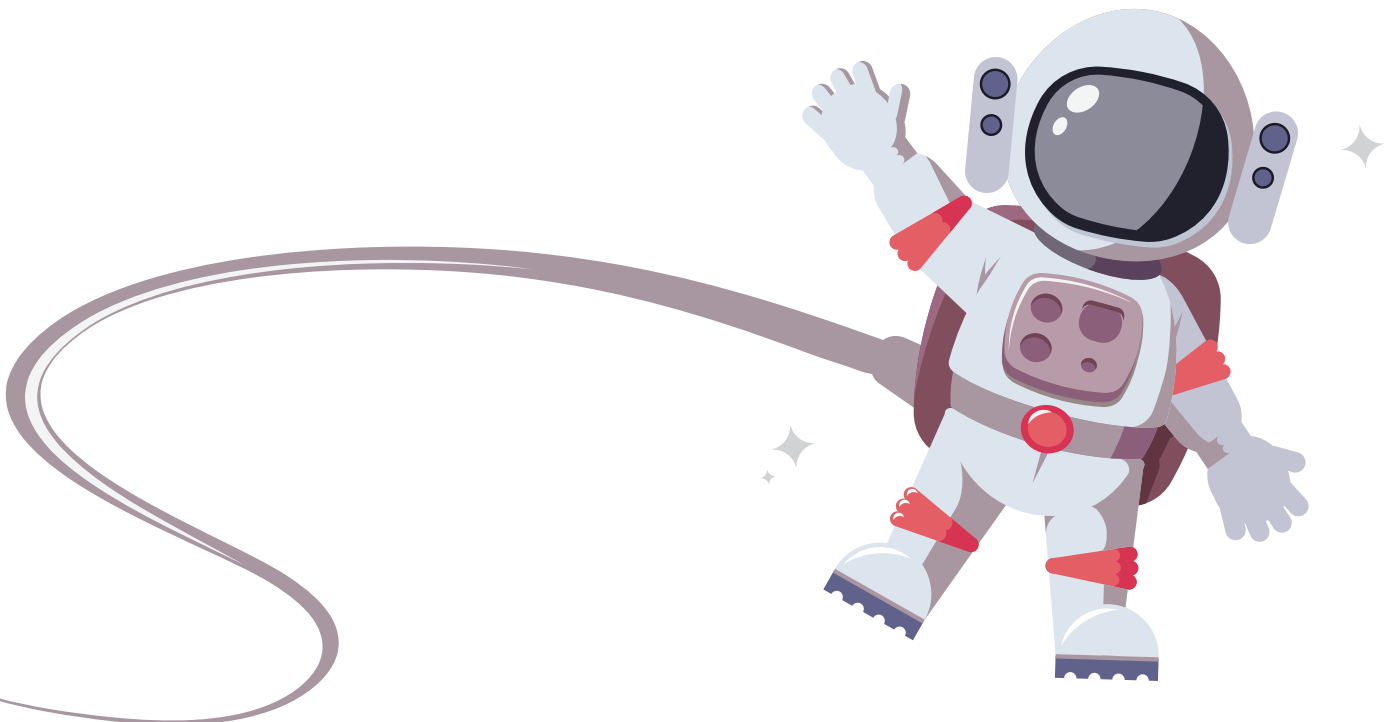
observe - to look closely at details

preserve - to keep something the way it is

restrict - to limit something, or to stop something from happening

ramp up - to increase something

revamp - to change something





**Special thanks to the *News Quiz* teachers
who provided ideas and inspiration for the
activities found in this guide:**

Kathy Bess, St. Patrick Catholic School, *Kentucky*

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Paula Vensel, St. Peters School, *Rhode Island*



Classrooms across the country are learning with *News Quiz*, KET's weekly current events show.

This student-friendly program features a 10-question interactive quiz-based on each week's stories, ensuring your class stays fully engaged while improving their listening skills and knowledge of current events.

Your students will stay up to date with state, national, and international stories. There's something for everyone – from election coverage and technology innovations to inspiring artists and enchanting animals. And many stories include maps that help strengthen geography skills.

Find new episodes of *News Quiz* each week at [KET.org/NewsQuiz](https://ket.org/NewsQuiz)