America's Leading News Source For Kids™

SCHOLASTIC News®

Edition 5/6

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TEACHER'S EDITION

ISSUE DATES	Sept. 1	Sept. 8	Sept. 22	Sept. 29	Oct. 13	Oct. 27	Nov. 3	Nov. 14	Dec. 1	Dec. 8	Jan. 5	Jan. 12	Jan. 26	Feb. 2	Feb. 16	Feb. 23	Mar. 9	Mar. 23	Mar. 30	Apr. 13	Apr. 20	May 4	May 11 & 18

TEACHING THE COVER STORY

Start the Year Off WRITE!

Standard

LANGUAGE ARTS—Students should be able to use different elements of the writing process to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

Summary

It's news your students can use! Scholastic Kid Reporter Mariam El Hasan shares writing strategies to help students start the new school year successfully.

Pre-Reading Discussion

● What do you think the job of a reporter is? How do reporters research the information that they write about? How do you think reporters decide what to write first? How do they decide what to write next?

Background

● According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, learning to write well is important for all U.S. students. Even though students have varied backgrounds and experiences, the expectation for high performance in writing applies to all.

● The writing process involves five key steps: researching, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing.

Post-Reading Discussion

● How does Mariam El Hasan start the writing process? What are some things she does to make her work interesting to read? What are some things that you can consider as you begin a writing assignment?

Mini Lesson Plan

Use your students' summer vacations as the subject of the first writing prompt of the year. Ask the students to draft a timeline of their summer, beginning with the most recent event and going back to the day school let out. Ask students to highlight the most interesting details from each event. Then ask them to turn the timeline into an essay. They should show the finished product to a classmate with a list of questions: Does the story make sense? Is the information clear? Afterward, they should show a second student their work to check for spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors. The final product can be "published" by being displayed in the classroom.

Resources

● The National Writing Project is a professional development network that works with teachers of writing at all grade levels and across subject areas. It aims to boost student achievement by improving the teaching of writing and learning in the nation's schools. For resources in your area, visit the project's Web site at **www.nwp.org**.

● ***6 + 1 Traits of Writing: The Complete Guide*** by Ruth Culham (Teaching Resources, 2003).

TEACHING TIP OF THE WEEK

Using Your Guide

Teachers spoke, and we listened! The Teacher's Edition is now truly the TEACHER'S guide. Use it to SAVE TIME and easily utilize ***Scholastic News***, Edition 5/6, in your classroom. Every week, you will find helpful Pre-Reading and Post-Reading strategies, and Mini Lesson Plans. And check out this box each week for "Teaching Tips," providing useful teaching resources, ideas, and helpful explanations about how to teach ***Scholastic News***, Edition 5/6. We also have a new Web site—just for TEACHERS! Go to www.scholastic.com/sn56 for the weekly Quiz Whiz and other teaching tools. Enjoy!

Dara Sharif, Editor
dsharif@scholastic.com

CONTAINS A MINIMUM OF 10% POST CONSUMER FIBER

We are committed to your satisfaction. You can contact us at 1-800-724-6527.

ANSWER KEY

The answer key is available in the print version of this Teacher's Edition.

For answers to this issue's online Quiz Whiz, go to www.scholastic.com/sn56answerkey

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The Candidates ..... p. 6

Standard

SOCIAL STUDIES: Students should develop an understanding of how people create and change structures of power, authority, and governance.

Summary

Scholastic News introduces students to the Democratic and Republican candidates for U.S. President, as part of its yearlong coverage of Election 2008.

Pre-Reading Discussion

- Who is the current President of the United States? What does a President do? What qualities should a President have?

Background

- Americans will elect a new President on November 4.
- Presidents serve for a term of four years. They must be at least 35 and be natural-born U.S. citizens.

Post-Reading Discussion

- What are some differences and similarities between John McCain and Barack Obama?

Mini Lesson Plan

Have students write two to three paragraphs about whom they would support for President, based on information in the story.

Resources

- *The Presidency* by Christine Taylor-Butler. (Children's Press, 2008).
- Get election lesson-plans! Visit **www.scholastic.com/news**.

This Week Online

www.scholastic.com/sn56

Just for Teachers!

We have a new Web page just for you! Visit **www.scholastic.com/sn56.** Updated weekly, this Web page features lesson plans and extension activities designed to help you get the most out of *Scholastic News*.

Explore the Election

Go to **www.scholastic.com/news**. Get interactive games. Find election-specific lesson plans and reproducibles. And don't forget: **Have your class vote online for President!**

SPREAD THE WORD!

Scholastic Classroom Magazines are packed with skill-building activities and timely articles that connect to your curriculum. Plus, our special Election 2008 coverage brings real-life issues to your classroom. If your colleague orders 20 or more subscriptions, you'll both receive a **FREE Tote Bag.**

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SCHOLASTIC News Edition 5/6 America's Leading News Source For Kids
SKILLS PAGE

LANGUAGE ARTS

Name: _____

WOW! Recall What You Learned

Now that you have read this issue of *Scholastic News*, you have a chance to think about all the amazing new things you have learned. Use the activity below to help you recall some of the "wow" moments you had while reading this week's issue.

DIRECTIONS: In the "O" below, write all the things that you learned in this week's edition of ***Scholastic News*** that made you say, "Wow, I did not know that before!" After listing all your "wow" moments, write a two- to three-paragraph essay about what more you hope to learn about the new things you recently discovered. Use a separate piece of paper.

W O W

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REPRODUCIBLE SKILLS PAGE

SCHOLASTIC News Edition 5/6

SCHOLASTIC News Edition 5/6

SKILLS PAGE

Name: _____

The President's Hats

Whoever is elected in November to be the next President of the United States will have many responsibilities. The President has many hats, or kinds of jobs. Read the chart below to learn more about the job duties of a President.

Chief Executive	The President runs the executive branch of the government. He or she appoints people to head government agencies. He or she signs (approves), or vetoes (rejects), bills, or proposed laws.
Commander in Chief	The President leads the nation's armed forces.
Chief of State	The President represents the U.S. at official functions and when dealing with the leaders of other nations.
Political Party Leader	The President is the head of his or her political party.
Chief Diplomat	The President makes treaties, or legal agreements, with other nations.
Legislative Leader	The President lists his or her ideas for new programs when he or she takes office and later presents Congress with proposals on how to pay for these programs.
Economic Leader	The President sets policies to keep the country's economy strong.

1. **Which "hat" does a President wear when he or she calls military troops into action?**_____
2. **If a President helps to raise money for his or her political party, he or she is wearing the "hat" of** _____.
3. **Which "hat" does a President wear when he or she represents the U.S. at events like the opening ceremony of the Olympics?**_____
4. **When a President decides that he or she will stop a bill from becoming law, he or she is wearing the "hat" of** _____.

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REPRODUCIBLE SKILLS PAGE

ELECTION BALLOT **Vote for President!**

Your students can vote for President in the Scholastic Student Vote 2008.

1. Students can vote online until October 10. Go to **www.scholastic.com/vote**
2. Or you can mail this class ballot. Tally your students' votes, and enter the total for each presidential candidate on this ballot. Paper ballots must be postmarked by October 3. Mail to:

Election 2008
c/o Scholastic Inc.
P.O. Box 829
New York, NY 10013-0829

Results will be posted online and in a future issue.

CLASS BALLOT TALLY

John McCain Republican

Boys ☐ Girls ☐

Barack Obama Democrat

Boys ☐ Girls ☐

Other (write in) _____

Boys ☐ Girls ☐

(optional)

Grade ☐ State ☐

NOTE TO TEACHERS:

- CUT THIS REPRODUCIBLE SKILLS PAGE AT THE DOTTED LINE ABOVE BEFORE PHOTOCOPYING.
- USE THE BALLOT TO THE LEFT TO GET YOUR CLASS INVOLVED IN THE STUDENT ELECTION!