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SCHOLASTIC SCOPE

TEACHER'S GUIDE September 2025

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Important Info!

A simple back-to-school checklist for a great year with Scope

Dear teachers.

We couldn't be more excited to start a new school year with you! As you prepare to welcome new students to your classroom, be sure to follow these simple steps to get ready for a great year with Scope.



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Join the Scope Facebook group to connect

with other Scope teachers, share ideas, and be inspired.

As always, we are standing by to support your classroom needs. Please reach out anytime. We'd love to hear from you!

Warmly, Mackenzie



Mackenzie Carro Editor, Scope MCarro@scholastic.com

Let's Connect!

Meet other Scope teachers in the Scope Community for Middle School ELA Teachers.

Email us at scopemag@scholastic.com.

Staff Picks

"Our telling of the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur in an action-packed play (p. 26) is a great way to dive into Greek mythology."

-Adee Braun, Managing Editor



"Pat Mora's poem (p. 12) beautifully captures first-day jitters-ideal for sparking conversation

at the start of the year."

-Natalie Hughes, Associate Editor

"Yamile Saied Méndez's 'Island Rodeo Queen' (p. 18) is a wonderful story for exploring identity and grit.

—Sona Charaipotra, Senior Editor

Turn the page to see what comes with your issue!

A SUPPLEMENT TO SCOPE

Minotaur illustration by Allan Davey; Poem illustration by Dave Wheeler, Magnia/Shutterstock.com (background); osbkin/Shutterstock.com (checkmark); Shutterstock.com

■ Story	Summary	Skills and Standards**	Multimedia	Skill-Building Activities	More Resources
Grammar, pp. 2-3 "The Power of Color"	Students practice using there, their, and they're while learning about several colorful creatures and how their colors help them survive.	Featured Skills: grammar, usage, and mechanics CCSS: L.1	Video: Grammar Hack: There, Their, or They're?	• There, Their, and They're: Anchor Chart and Practice Activity • In-Magazine Activity: Interactive Version	✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
Narrative Nonfiction, pp. 4-9 "After the Flood"	Last September, western North Carolina was ravaged by torrential rains and deadly flash floods. This is the true story of a teen who survived the disaster.	Featured Skill: key ideas and details CCSS: R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.7, W.2, SL.1, SL.2	Audio: Article and vocabulary Video: Behind the Scenes	• Featured Skill: Key Ideas and Details • Discussion Questions • Choice Board • Vocabulary: Definitions & Practice • Quiz* • Core Skills: Summarizing* Text Features, Nonfiction Elements	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Lower Lexile ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Spanish version ✓ Answer key
Debate: Scavenger Hunt, pp. 10-11 "Finders Keepers?"	If you found \$100 on the street would you keep it? Students read arguments on both sides of the debate and take a stand.	Featured Skill: analyzing arguments CCSS: R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, R.8, W.1, SL.1, SL.3	() Audio: Debate and vocabulary	• Scavenger Hunt* • Essay Kit • Vocabulary: Definitions & Practice • Persuasive Appeals: • Ethos, Pathos, Logos Anchor Charts: Transitions & Argument Essay Checklist	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
Poem, p. 12 "My Rock"	A poem by Pat Mora about the power of a special place	Featured Skills: analyzing and writing poetry CCSS: R.1, R.2, R.4, W.4, W.5	(Audio: Poem	• Poetry Analysis • Writing Planner	✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
Paired Texts, pp. 13-17 "The Rise of the Internet" <i>and</i> "The Print Revolution"	Two nonfiction articles each explore the history of a revolutionary technology: the internet and the printing press.	Featured Skill: synthesis CCSS: R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, R.7, R.9, W.2, SL.1	Audio: Articles and vocabulary Video: 5 Inventions that Changed the World	• Featured Skill: Synthesis • Definitions & Practice • Discussion Questions • Choice Board • Core Skill: Text Structures	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Lower Lexile ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
Fiction, pp. 18-23 "Island Rodeo Queen"	Coralí, who was born in Puerto Rico, wants to become her Utah town's rodeo queen more than anything. But will this tight-knit community accept her?	Featured Skill: narrative writing CCSS: R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, W.3, SL.1	Audio: Story and vocabulary	• Featured Skill: Narrative Writing • Discussion Questions • Choice Board • Vocabulary: Definitions & Practice • Quiz*	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
Short Read, pp. 24-25 "Bringing Back the Dire Wolf"	This bite-sized article explores the debate over de-extinction.	Featured Skill: constructed response CCSS: R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, W.2	(Audio: Article and vocabulary	• The Short Write Kit • Vocabulary: • Core Skill: Definitions & Practice Central Ideas & Details*	✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
Drama, pp. 26-31 Into the Maze of Doom	This exciting play is based on the ancient Greek myth of Theseus and the Minotaur.	Featured Skill: character CCSS: R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, W.3, SL.1	Audio: Vocabulary and pronunciation guide	 Featured Skill: Character Discussion Questions Choice Board Genre Exploration Vocabulary: Practice Quiz* Core Skill: Inference 	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
Root Power, p. 32 "The Terrestrial Settlement"	Students learn about the root <i>terr</i> through a graphic-novel-style story.	Featured Skill: vocabulary acquisition CCSS: L.4	Audio: Story	• Root Power: terr	✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key

^{**} Common Core Anchor Standards. For grade-level-specific Common Core standards as well as Texas State Standards, go to Scope Online.

^{*} Available on two levels

What to Love This Month at Scope Online

Explore these resources—and more—at scope.scholastic.com.





Behind the Scenes

Get a behind-the-scenes look at how Allison Friedman researched and wrote her narrative nonfiction about last year's devastating floods in North Carolina.



Find everything you need to dive into the new school year with *Scope*.



Discover our collection of powerful stories that celebrate Hispanic/Latine heritage.



The Middle School Student Advisory Board is looking for thoughtful and creative new members!

Find out more at: scope.scholastic.com/MSSABoard

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