



Topics Preview

2026-2027

September 2026

Online Spotlight Videos

- ✓ Animal Friends
- ✓ What Is Realistic Fiction?
- ✓ Meet a Robo-Dolphin!
- ✓ Leaves Through the Seasons

Featured Collection

- ✓ Celebrating Hispanic Heritage
- ✓ Celebrating Friendship

Mini Read: UnbeLEAFable Art
Featured Skill: Grammar

A teacher in Japan has a creative way to welcome students to school

Big Read (Narrative Nonfiction):

How to Save a Baby Rhino

Featured Skill: Main Idea and Supporting Details

A little rhino was hurt and alone. Could a friendly sheep change her life?

Fiction: Find a Buddy
Featured Skill: Character

The last person Taryn wants to be with on her field trip is Wes. What will it take to change her mind?

Paired Texts: Which Is the Robot Dolphin?

Featured Skill: Compare and Contrast

Learn more about dolphins—and why a company created a look-alike of this amazing animal!

Background Builder: What Is a Myth?

Featured Skill: Key Ideas and Details

Four facts you should know before reading a play that's based on a myth from long ago

Play: The Bee and the Gods

Featured Skill: Genre

In this myth from ancient Rome, a brave bee asks for a powerful weapon—but it comes with a price

Past to Present: The History of the School Bus

Featured Skill: Sequencing

The fascinating story of how kids have been riding to school

Debate: Summer vs. Fall

Featured Skill: Supporting an Opinion

Summer is Grant's favorite season. Olivia prefers fall. Whose side are you on?

Poem: Friendship Starter Kit

Featured Skill: Elements of Poetry

A delightful poem about making new friends

October/ November 2026

Online Spotlight Videos

- ✓ Here We Glow!
- ✓ What Is a Ghost Story?
- ✓ Experiments in Space!
- ✓ Inventors
- ✓ Spooky Celebrations

Featured Collection

- ✓ Stories for Halloween
- ✓ Celebrating Native American Heritage

Mini Read: A Light in the Night

Featured Skill: Grammar

Many creatures glow in the dark. Why?

Paired Texts: The Code That Changed the World/PJ's For All

Featured Skill: Synthesizing

The story of braille inventor Louis Braille is paired with an article on a visually impaired kid who invented pj's with braille labels.

Past to Present:

The History of Jack-o'-Lanterns

Featured Skill: Sequencing

The fascinating story of this beloved Halloween decoration

Big Read (Narrative Nonfiction):

The Mystery of the Moon Trees

Featured Skill: Text Features

More than 50 years ago, hundreds of tree seeds were flown around the moon and planted back on Earth. Where are those trees now?

Background Builder: What Is a Folktale?

Featured Skill: Key Ideas and Details

Four facts you should know before reading a play that's based on a folktale from Ghana

Debate: What Should Zoe Do With Her Birthday Money?

Featured Skill: Supporting an Opinion

Zoe wants to spend it right away. Her mom thinks she should save it. Whose side are you on?

Fiction: The Ghost of Mouth House

Featured Skill: Plot

Can Fizzy learn what it means to be a good friend?

Play: The Impossible Challenge

Featured Skill: Character

In this folktale from Ghana, a spider named Anansi dreams of riches. Can a clever trick help him get them?

Poem: Jack-o'-Lanterns

Featured Skill: Elements of Poetry

A fun poem written from the POV of jack-o'-lanterns

December
2026/
January 2027

Online Spotlight Videos

- ✓ Ice Hotel
- ✓ Searching for the *Titanic*
- ✓ All About Character
- ✓ Dogs With Jobs

Featured Collection

- ✓ Spread the Joy!

Mini Read: Would You Spend a Night Here?

Featured Skill: Grammar

Welcome to a hotel made of ice!

Paired Texts: Buried in Snow/I'm an Avalanche Dog

Featured Skill: Synthesizing

The story of a 12-year-old boy who was rescued by an avalanche dog in France is paired with a story written from the POV of an avalanche dog.

Past to Present: The History of Harry Potter

Featured Skill: Sequencing

The story behind one of the most popular children's book series ever written

Big Read (Narrative Nonfiction):

Into the Dark Water

Featured Skill: Author's Craft

The incredible story of a how a 17-year-old boy survived the sinking of the *Titanic*

Background Builder: Life in England 180 Years ago

Featured Skill: Key Ideas and Details

Four facts you should know before reading the play, which is set in England in 1843.

Debate: Are Group Projects Unfair?

Featured Skill: Supporting an Opinion

Katie thinks so, but her older brother Jackson disagrees. Whose side are you on?

Fiction: The Rivals

Featured Skill: Character

Can two friends turned enemies find each other again?

Play: A Christmas Carol

Featured Skill: Theme

Can a rich, selfish man change his ways before it's too late?

Based on the famous story by Charles Dickens

Poem: It Never Snows in Florida

Featured Skill: Elements of Poetry

A delightful poem about warm winters