

GIVING JOY



SPECIAL DELIVERY

Jordyn Perez, 15, takes gifts and smiles to kids at a Texas hospital.

LEXILE: 1060L (900L alternate reading level)

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Individuals, Groups, and Institutions

COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.3, RI.6-8.4, W.6-8.2

ENGAGE THE READER

Ask students to think of a time when they gave a gift, or when they gave their time and effort to another person or a cause. Ask: What was your motivation to give the gift or to help out? How did it feel to give, and why? Does that feeling make you want to give again? Explain. Tell students that they'll read about a 15-year-old who organizes a gift-giving campaign every year, and that their task is to understand her commitment to giving.

QUESTIONS FOR CLOSE READING AND DISCUSSION

- How did Jordyn come to the decision to donate her gifts to others? What process did she use in order to decide? Why was it effective?
- Why do you think Jordyn has continued her campaign every year? What can her example tell us about motivation?
- Jordyn says, "Giving to others, it's just a good feeling to have at the end of the day." Do you agree with this statement? Explain.

EXTEND LEARNING/WRITING

Challenge students to turn their experiences with giving into a profile article like "Special Delivery." 1) Have them return to the experience they recalled at the beginning of the lesson, and give them about 10 minutes to write down the ideas and images that come to mind when they imagine that experience. 2) Have them write a short paragraph describing the experience. 3) Pair students up to read each other's paragraph. Have them interview each other, as a journalist might. They can ask any questions they like, to learn more about the experience and to help their partner recall more details. It might be helpful to record these interviews, but students can also jot down notes and important quotes. Then have students use these notes to write *their own* profile. They should imitate the three-part structure of "The Taylor Effect," to give their profiles a beginning, a middle, and an end.

COVER STORY QUIZ + ANSWER KEY

The cover quiz can be found on page 3 of this guide.

To create a digital quiz, you can use our template [here](#).

1. **A** (RI.1) 2. **B** (RI.3) 3. **A** (RI.4) 4. **C** (RI.8) 5. **C** (RI.3)

6. **B** (RI.7) 7. **Answers will vary.** (W.8)



PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES

State caucuses and primaries are held before every presidential election. TIME Edge explains the differences between them.

LEXILE: 810L

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Civic Ideals and Practices

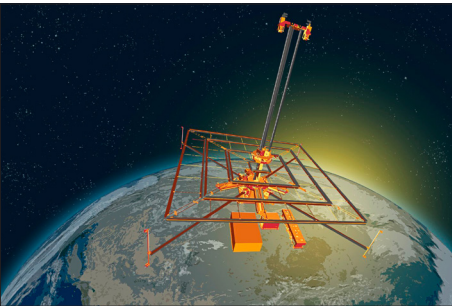
COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.3, RI.6-8.5, SL.6-8.4

BEFORE READING

Tell students that they'll read about primaries and caucuses, which are processes by which the political parties, Republicans and Democrats, choose a candidate to run for president. Ask students what they know about primaries or caucuses. Try to frame any misconceptions they have as questions they might pursue to learn more, then ask them if they have any questions of their own. Have them write down their responses to these questions as they read the article.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is one fact about primaries or caucuses that surprised you, and why?
- Which process do you think is better for choosing a candidate, a primary or a caucus? Explain.
- When is Super Tuesday, and why is it important? Do you think the results could get people more interested in participating in the November election? Explain.



GOING SOLAR

Scientists in California just got a step closer to building solar power stations in space.

LEXILE: 1000L (830L alternate reading level)

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Science, Technology, and Society

COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.3, RI.6-8.7, W.6-8.2

BEFORE READING

Ask: What is solar energy? How is solar energy gathered? What technologies are used? Why do you think solar energy has been in the news lately? Do you think more people will use solar energy in the future? Explain.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How would solar power stations in space be an improvement over current solar technology?
- Why do the Caltech scientists have to invent new materials and components? What does their work tell us about how innovation takes place?

CLOSING ACTIVITY

Challenge students to create an illustration of how solar space stations would work. They should use the images in the article as a guide to drawing the power station, and information from text for picturing the way solar power would be sent to Earth. Have students include brief textual descriptions in the illustration. The project can be done as a poster, a comic strip, or in any form the students choose.

Name _____ Date _____

Use this week’s cover story, “Giving Joy,” to answer the questions below. For questions 1–6, circle the letter next to the best answer. If you need more space to write your response to question 7, use the back of this page.

<p>1. For how long has Jordyn been donating gifts to the children’s hospital?</p> <p>A. eight years</p> <p>B. 11 years</p> <p>C. since she was a freshman in high school</p> <p>D. since last year</p>	<p>4. Why was Natalie Gutierrez included in the article?</p> <p>A. She’s a kid who received one of Jordyn’s gifts.</p> <p>B. She was inspired by Jordyn to donate to children’s hospitals.</p> <p>C. She has witnessed the impact of Jordyn’s donations.</p> <p>D. She’s one of Jordyn’s coaches, who has donated to the cause.</p>
<p>2. Where did Jordyn get the idea to donate gifts to a children’s hospital?</p> <p>A. She saw her teammates doing it.</p> <p>B. Her mom suggested it.</p> <p>C. Jordyn had received donated toys while in the hospital.</p> <p>D. The hospital was hosting a toy drive and she wanted to contribute.</p>	<p>5. What impact have Jordyn’s donations made?</p> <p>A. They have helped cure asthma.</p> <p>B. They have saved the hospital money.</p> <p>C. They have brought happiness to patients during a tough time.</p> <p>D. They have brought her a lot of stress.</p>
<p>3. Based on the context in the second section, what does <i>ailment</i> likely mean?</p> <p>A. condition</p> <p>B. injury</p> <p>C. stress</p> <p>D. breathing problem</p>	<p>6. Which detail is illustrated in the image “Gifts Galore”?</p> <p>A. For the littlest patients, gifts might include building blocks or toy trains.</p> <p>B. “We measure how much of the carpet it covers in our living room.”</p> <p>C. “Seeing other people’s happiness—that’s all that matters to me.”</p> <p>D. Jordyn’s efforts to help kids in the hospital have inspired others to follow in her footsteps.</p>

7. If you were going through a difficult time, how would you most like to be supported? Explain.