

Little News Ears

Lesson Plan Suggestions

BoxerBlu & Bram – News for 4 Year-Olds

Season 1 – Episode 4 - July 12, 2019

Keywords: Central Park, castles, running



Item #1 – Title: 'A Koch Executive's Harassment in China Adds to Fears Among Visitors'

Authors: Paul Mozur, Alexandra Stevenson and Edward Wong

Source: The New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/11/business/american-businesses-china.html>

Activity – Social Studies – World Cultures The Flag of China - Ask students to name what they know about Chinese culture. Then, show the students a few flags of the world and ask the students to make a Chinese flag.



Teach: The flag of China was officially adopted on October 1, 1949. The red of the Chinese flag symbolizes the communist revolution, and it's also the traditional color of the people. The large gold star represents communism, while the four smaller stars represent the social classes of the people.

[Source](#)

Materials: crayons, marker, paper (or other appropriate materials)

Item #2 – Title: 'The World's Fastest (Old) Man'

Authors: Matthew Futterman

Source: New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/10/sports/the-worlds-fastest-old-man.html>

Activity: Physical Fitness – Do you have what it takes to exercise like Charles Allie?

Directions: 1. Time the students running a short distance.

2. For one week, practice a routine with the students that is close to Charlie Allie's routine:

- > eating healthy food
- > running a 'slow mile'
- > running in fast drills

3. Have the students run again and time them.

4. Graph any changes with a simple bar graph. Discuss.

Item #3 – Title: 'Life in a City Without Water: Anxious, Exhausting and Sweaty'

Authors: Somini Sengupta

Source: New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/11/world/asia/india-water-crisis.html>

Activity – Social Studies – Community - Make a Conserving Water Campaign

Ask the students if they think that sometimes they waste water, or if other people at school or at home do. Brainstorm signs that the students could make to encourage people to stop wasting water.

Record the students' ideas. Divide the work up.

Video: Water Conservation Campaigns

Item #4 – Title: 'Central Park's Castle Gets a \$12 Million Fairy-Tale Makeover'

Author: Winnie Hu

Source: New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/12/nyregion/central-park-belvedere-castle.html>

Activity – STEAM – Engineering - Design Your Own Castle

After going over some [parts of a castle](#), ask the students to draw their own perfect castles.

Key castle vocabulary: keep, curtain wall, bailey, moat, battlements, drawbridge, portcullis