

Little News Ears

Lesson Plan Suggestions

BoxerBlu & Bram – News for 4 Year-Olds & Up

Season 1 – Episode 64 – April 28, 2020

Keywords: tree hugging, artists, Russian parody, First book nonprofit, Neanderthals



Item #1 – **'The Virus Won't Revive F.D.R.'s Arts Jobs Program. Here's Why.'**

Author: Julia Jacobs

Source: New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/22/arts/new-deal-arts-coronavirus.html>

Activities – Music – Analyzing the Lyrics of 'Brother Can You Spare a Dime?'

1. Look at some photos from the Great Depression, such as from [here](#).
2. Use the ProjectZero Thinking Routine, '[See, Think, Wonder](#).'
3. Ask the parents what they see, what they think, and what they wonder and record this information.
4. Play the song, '[Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?](#)'
5. Discuss some of [the lyrics](#).
6. Learn the song.
7. Ask the students if they can write a song together about something that they want together, using the melody from 'Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,' or a similar melody.

Item #2 – Title: **'Iceland Encourages Residents to Hug a Tree for Five Minutes to Combat Loneliness'**

Author: Michele Debczak

Source: Mental Floss

Link: <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/623425/iceland-encourages-residents-hug-tree-five-minutes>

Activities – Physical Education – [Forest Stewardship](#)

Item #3 – Title: **'Bored Russians Posted Silly Art Parodies. The World Has Joined In.'**

Author: Anton Troianovski

Source: New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/25/world/europe/russia-facebook-art-parodies.html>

Activities – Visual Arts – [Recreating Famous Works of Art \(Pageant of the Masters\)](#)

Item #4 – **'Neanderthals Ate Sharks and Dolphins'**

Author: Paul Rincon

Source: BBC

Link <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-52054653>

Social Studies – Paleontology [The Caveman Catastrophe](#)

Item #5 - **'With Schools Closed, Bringing Books to Students in Need'**

Author: Sara Aridi

Source: New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/23/neediest-cases/first-book-school-closed-coronavirus.html>

Activity – Social Studies - Service – [Start Your Own Little Free Library](#)