Dear Teachers,

We know how stressful testing season can be, so we’re here to help you and your students prepare. Here are 3 easy ways to make test-prep season as painless as possible.

1. Your subscription includes access to our online library of Reading Skills Practice Tests. You’ll find seven tests that include the same engaging informational texts you find in Scholastic News, along with multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions.

2. Did you know we model our multiple-choice questions after those we see on state tests? Use the back-page questions and Quiz Whiz to help students get used to the structure and language of standardized-test questions.

3. Our online collection of text sets includes writing tasks that ask students to synthesize information from multiple sources. These tasks prepare students for standardized tests by guiding them to write informative paragraphs.

What else can we do to make test prep easier for you? As always, you can reach out to me anytime at EQuagliarello@scholastic.com.

Elena Quagliarello, Senior Editor, Education
Twitter: @ElenaQSN
Preparing to Read

Watch a Video: Coming to America
As students watch, have them list reasons immigrants come to the U.S.

My Story: Tani Adewumi
After students watch, discuss the meaning of Tani’s quote: “Hard work beats talent if talent does not have hard work.”

Preview Words to Know
Project the online vocabulary slideshow and introduce the Words to Know.
- terrorists
- novice

Close-Reading Questions
Go online to download a Skill Builder with these questions.

1. Why did Tani and his family leave Nigeria? Nigeria is a war-torn nation where terrorists have been launching deadly attacks for years. Tani’s family was constantly afraid for their lives, so they escaped in search of a safe place to live. RI.4.3 EXPLAINING EVENTS

2. How did playing chess help Tani? Chess helped Tani find a group to connect with. It also helped people around the world learn his story, which resulted in numerous donations to help his family. RI.4.2 KEY DETAILS

3. How are refugees and immigrants different? Refugees are forced to leave their country to escape danger. They leave behind their homes, family, and most of their belongings. Immigrants choose to leave their homes to settle in a new country with more opportunities. Unlike refugees, they usually have time to pack their belongings. RI.4.3 COMPARE/CONTRAST

Skill Building
FEATURED SKILL:
Form a Reading Club
Use the Skill Builder “Reading Roles” to have students form reading clubs to discuss the article. Download the Skill Builder at scholastic.com/sn4.
SL.4.1 COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSIONS

About the Article
Learning Objectives
Students will read and discuss the ways in which chess helped Tani and his family.

Text Structure
Sequence

Content-Area Connections
Social Studies: Immigration

Standards Correlations
CASEL: Perspective-Taking; Empathy; Recognizing Strengths
NCSS: People, Places, and Environments

WRITE ABOUT IT!
Describe a time someone helped you or a time you helped someone else. How did it make you feel?
Preparing to Read

Watch a Video: Invasive Species
As students watch, have them take notes on different invasive species in the U.S. Then play the video a second time. Have students choose one species and note the main problem it causes and how experts are trying to solve it.

Preview Words to Know
Project the online vocabulary slideshow and introduce the Words to Know.
- humane
- aquatic

Close-Reading Questions
Go online to download a Skill Builder with these questions.

1. Why are goldfish considered invasive species? Invasive species move into an area and harm the native species there. Goldfish are native to Asia. When they are released into waterways across the U.S., entire ecosystems can be negatively affected. RI.4.4 DOMAIN-SPECIFIC VOCABULARY

2. Do you think it is humane or irresponsible to release goldfish into the wild? Support your response with evidence.
Sample response: I think it is irresponsible to release goldfish into the wild. Goldfish can multiply quickly and end up harming native species. RI.4.6 POINT OF VIEW

3. How are goldfish similar to Burmese pythons? Use details from the article and sidebar to support your response. Both goldfish and Burmese pythons were imported from Asia to be sold as pets. Pet owners often end up releasing both species into the wild, where they become harmful to native species. RI.4.7 INTEGRATE INFORMATION

Skill Building
FEATURED SKILL: Analyze Text Structure
Use the Skill Builder “Causing Trouble” to have students analyze the cause-and-effect relationships in the article. Download the Skill Builder at scholastic.com/sn4. RI.4.5 CAUSE/EFFECT

About the Article
Learning Objectives
Students will explain the effects goldfish can have on ecosystems.

Text Structure
Cause/Effect

Content-Area Connections
Science: Life Science

Standards Correlations
NGSS: Ecosystems
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Content-Area Connections</th>
<th>Standards Correlations</th>
<th>Online Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Place to Call Home</td>
<td>Social Studies; Social-Emotional Learning</td>
<td>CCSS: RI.4.1, RI.4.2, RI.4.3, RI.4.4, RI.4.5, RI.4.6, RI.4.7, RI.4.8, RI.4.10, L.4.4, SL.4.1</td>
<td>Vocabulary Slideshow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Unicorn Puppy</td>
<td>Life Science</td>
<td>CCSS: RI.4.5, RI.4.7, RI.4.10</td>
<td>Video: Meet Narwhal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ANSWER KEY**

**Student Edition**

**Page 8: News Infographic**

1. C
2. False

**Page 8: News Review**

1. C 4. C
2. B 5. D
3. B 6. D