

Week 5: Power Teacher's Guide

English Language Arts

Week's Main Goals

1. Practice analyzing different types of writing to identify main ideas and details, and the use of figurative language to convey a message.
2. Write both formal and informal response pieces that include textual references to what has been read in this unit.
3. Reflect on the different ways that people define, protest and work towards power.

Brief summary of this week's activities

Throughout this week, students will read about how different people define, fight against and challenge Power. Students will read transcripts from podcasts, song lyrics and articles and analyze each to understand their messages and draw out main themes. Students will reflect on issues of power in their own experience and write several response pieces.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print and distribute the handouts. If allowed, there are activities for group discussion (if this is not possible at your site, you may tell students to skip over those sections).

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Handout
- Pencil

Science

Week's Main Goals

1. Learn about Renewable Energy
2. Learn about Solar Power
3. Learn about Wind Power
4. Learn about HydroPower
5. Design your own Power Source

Brief summary of this week's activities

This week, students will learn about renewable energy. Students will explore Renewable Energy, Solar Power, Wind Power, and HydroPower. Days 1 through 4, students will read information about each of these topics, answer questions about what they read, and respond to a written task. Day 5, students will design their own Power Source.

Instructions for this week's activities

Please print out the packet and distribute to students. If possible, students can discuss their written responses with the class. Students should definitely be able to present and discuss their Power Source project.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Handouts

- Paper (for Power Source project)
- Pencils
- Colored pencils, crayons or markers (if available)
- For day 5, students will need to review the lessons from earlier in the week (Mon-Thur)

Math

Week's Main Goals

On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday we will explore the theme of power in a number of historical contexts: voting and the electoral college, securing important worker and voting rights, marching as a mechanism to build power, and creating momentum around a cause. On Friday, we will take a turn and look at some of the math behind power dynamics in sports. For this work you will work with lots of charts and graphs and primarily work on data analysis.

Brief summary of this week's activities

Each day includes a warm-up, a series of word problems, many of which have charts and tables, and then some real basic worksheets/skill practice sets.

Instructions for this week's activities

These exercises are pretty self-explanatory. In many cases, there are questions where it would be good for students to be able to discuss their answers with others, if permissible.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

Students really only need pencil and paper to complete these activities.

Social Studies/Civics

Week's Main Goals

1. Explore different types of governmental power and authority
2. Understand and define types of government and provide examples of each
3. Compare and contrast pros and cons of different types of government to assess their strengths

Brief summary of this week's activities

Throughout this week, students will learn about eight forms of government and compare them through the premise of an Elite 8 playoff bracket. Students will learn about the types of government and examples from history. Students will explore who holds the power in the different types of government.

Instructions for this week's activities

Print materials and distribute to students.

Materials Needed to complete Activities

- Materials
- Pencil
- Colored pencils (optional) for day 5